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Ye Smudge Pot

(By Arthur Perry)

Prof. Einstein, the eminent mathematician, reports "there are no uninteresting phases in life." It appears that Prof. Einstein has never gazed upon a county fair stud-horse race.

A number of local folks are contemplating driving down to southern California to starve to death in the near future.

Miss Claire Morgendorfer took Mr. Charles M. Goate's name Thursday, the two being married at the Presbyterian parsonage.—(Mercyville, Iowa, Banner.) There goes his "Nannie."

One nice thing about the Los Angeles gent, now safe in San Quentin prison for stealing $8,000,000, is that he never spent any of the loot for liquor or tobacco.

The administration was assisted in the Arkansas hungry belt, by a series of cyclones, floods, lightning, drouth and grasshoppers.

The 4ds were all feeling their gasoline yesterday—cutting corners, ignoring crossing stops, and streaking by the schoolhouses.

PLAIN ENOUGH
(Kennett, Mo., Democrat)

Notice: I understand there are a few old, long tongued, tattling women and some half raised men telling that I have deserted my family and run off with another woman. I want to say it is a lie and the people that are talking it are more apt to do that than I am. I have not deserted my family nor never will. You can find me at the Hampton and Allen Livery barn at all times.—J. P. Hampton.

What has become of the interpid ladies who used to straddle the rear seat of a motorcycle, and thus perilously perched, roar through the countryside?

The Kiwanians shook the festive hoof last eve right merrily. Kiwanian Kidd was present and hated to see the boys and girls wear out their shoes.

At Christmas in 1925, we had in our stockings two feet. This year, by a stroke of good fortune, we still have the tops, and that is all the public is interested in anyway.—(Centralia Guard.) The optimist sees the doughnut again.

"I am a working girl, age 24. I am deeply in love with a man three years my senior, and he reciprocates my admiration. He is married and has two children, and his wife does not understand him. Tell me, dear Nancy Lee, should this be a detriment to our happiness"—(Love Agony Col.) What's a wife and a couple of kids among lovers?

The Fancy Furnace Owners of the City, will meet tomorrow evening around an old fashioned heating stove and describe how they just could not exist without a furnace in the house.

Several of the Older Girls are beginning to look like they were going to start spring housecleaning.

All the postal clerks have recovered sufficiently from the Yule rush to describe how hard they worked.

The legislature meets next Monday. It will take them until Wednesday to look at each other like a couple of autoists with crumpled fenders. It will then be necessary to find out which way the wind is blowing, so they will have to adjourn to Portland until the following Tuesday, to determine which way the wind is blowing.

O. S. C. AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS RELATIONS OF FARMER TO HIS WIFE.—(O.S.C. Bulletin.) It takes a college man to think up things to talk about in a learned manner.

"Lost—Irish terrier dog, playmate of child now broken-hearted. Return for reward. Last seen in front of Ogle and Ogle butcher-shop"—(Anaheim Bulletin.) The police have no clues.

AMERICAN NEAR DEATH FOLLOWING REVOLUTION

PANAMA CITY, Jan. 6—(AP)—Gorgas hospital physicians feared today that Hartwell F. Ayres, American newspaperman who was wounded in fighting incident to the overthrow of the government Friday, could not live much longer. His condition was very low all yesterday.

QUILL POINTS

Congressional relief appropriation: Giving it back.

The Russians blame all of their troubles on eight engineers instead of one.

The remarkable thing about a riot is the cop's uncanny ability to pick out the head of an innocent bystander.

Another gangster has been arrested in Chicago. Probably for parking his machine gun in front of a fire plug.

France has one-fifth of the world's gold, but of course she won't use it to settle her debts while brass serves as well.

You can still hear the same bum singing in a hick town barber shop, but it comes out of a radio now.

If he bores people by talking about himself, he's an ass. If he entertains and amuses them, he's a columnist.

As a rule you can estimate the idiocy of a proposition by the size of the congressional appropriation it requires.

Nina Wilcox Putnam says men don't like college girls. Now let's have some male writer explain what women don't like.

Hard times: A period when most of the automobiles you see on the street are paid for.

Correct this sentence: "There's an automobile wreck," said the man's wife, "but let's not stop."

The capital grain tax is wicked. You see, people hold their stock to avoid paying tax on the profit, and thus the gamblers have nothing to play with.

Americanism: Making such a loud hurrah for righteousness that you can't hear the still small voice of conscience when your acts don't agree with your preaching.

The way to determine your social class is to get killed by a fool driver. If you're upper class, it's homicide; if you're lower class, it's an unavoidable accident.

Not that it matters especially, but we've often wondered if runt golfers are required to use runt cusswords such as "Tut, tut," and "Oh, pshaw."

Football has its good points, but the bleachers can't really enjoy a game when it isn't good form to throw things at the referee.

The big banker who says he can't understand how men retire to private life might ask Senator Simmons and Senator Heflin.

New York undertakers are selling hooch. Surely it is the height of efficiency to make a man circulate his own embalming fluid.

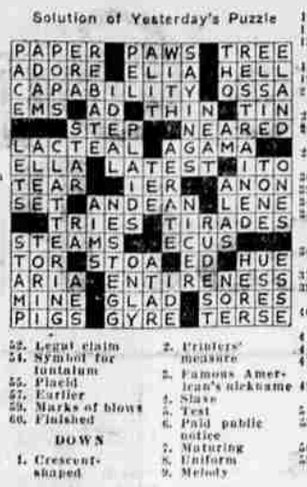
FRENCH HONOR R-101 VICTIMS

Associated Press Photo

An elaborate funeral ceremony in which high French and British dignitaries participated was held in the town hall of Beauvais, France, for victims of the R-101 disaster. The above picture shows procession leaving the town hall for the railway station where the coffins were placed on a train to be returned to England.

MAIL TRIBUNE DAILY CROSS-WORD PUZZLE

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

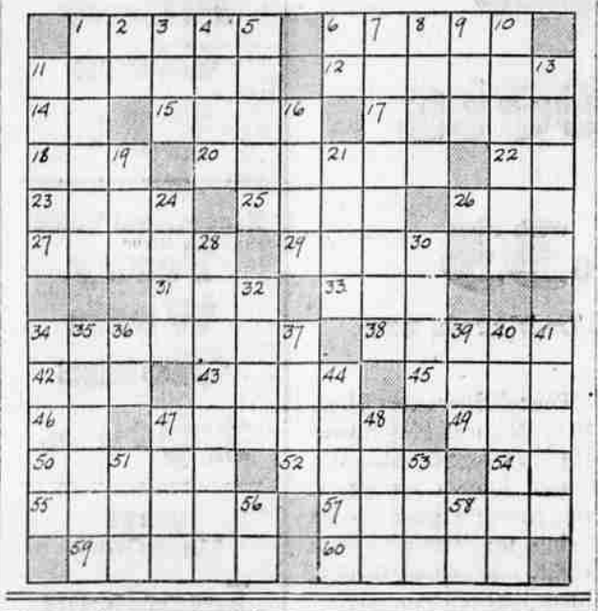


ACROSS

1. Slightest
6. Regions
11. Enumerate
12. Godlike
14. Along
15. Goddess of discord
17. Danger
18. Knock
20. Make fleshy
22. Hebrew letter
23. Pierce with a pointed weapon
25. Fish-eating diving bird
26. Side of a triangle
27. Fisher for lampreys
29. First
31. Catnip
32. Southern cuckoo
34. Stammer
38. Eats away gradually
42. Circuit of a race track
43. Metal
45. Pull
46. 100 square meters
47. Rattle
49. Ibsen character
50. Newly married woman
52. Legal claim
54. Symbol for tantalum
55. Plaid
57. Earlier
59. Marks of blows
60. Finished

DOWN

1. Crescent-shaped
2. Printers' measure
3. Famous American's nickname
4. Slave
5. Test
6. Paid public notice
7. Maturing
8. Uniform
9. Melody
10. Sharpshooter
11. Norwegian
13. Poem of lamentation
16. Desist
19. Crony
21. The Law of Moses
24. Not straight
26. Note of the scale
28. Uncommunicative
30. Intellect
32. Saucy
34. Thick pieces
35. Covered with a thick black liquid
36. To a higher point
37. Vex
39. Southern constellation
40. Applied uselessly
41. Take oath
44. Clamor
47. Arabian seaport
48. Inert gas of the air
51. Wrath
53. Token of assent
56. Plural ending
58. Former negative



Personal Health Service

By William Brady, M. D.

Signed letters pertaining to personal health and hygiene, not to disease, diagnosis or treatment will be answered by Dr. Brady if a stamped self addressed envelope is enclosed. Letters should be brief and written in ink. Owing to the large number of letters received only a few can be answered here. No reply can be made to queries not conforming to instructions. Address Dr. William Brady in care of The Mail Tribune.

NEBRASKA ATTEMPTS HEALTH EDUCATION by LEGISLATION

A lot of moral mentors tell us these days that you can't mould a people's character by legislation, or something like that. Stephen Douglas used some such argument with equal effect before you and I were born. The great state of Nebraska make an ambitious attempt to establish health education in the public schools by act of legislature. Sec. 6446, School Laws of Nebraska: "Provision shall be made by the proper local school authorities for instructing the pupils in all schools supported by public money, or under state control, in physiology and hygiene with special reference to the effects of alcoholic drinks and other stimulants and narcotics upon the human system."

That specific mention of alcohol suggests the strong hand of the W. C. T. U., and I, for one, wish 'em more power. My mother was a member of the W. C. T. U. and it was a mighty good thing for us kids, I'll tell the world. Still, some of the methods of education employed by the organization then and now, seem questionable. One vivid lesson the good women taught us kids somehow failed to impress the youngsters who were destined to be whipped by booze. They poured out some alcohol in a dish and touched a match to it, and as it burned they told us beer and whiskey and wine burned the drinker's stomach just like that. Fortunately for us kids at home, Mother never tried to feed us such fairy tales, but it was not so fortunate for other kids who didn't get the right instruction at home.

A Nebraska friend sends me the Physiology and Hygiene syllabus of the Normal Training High Schools. The outlines therein laid down for the guidance of teachers are indeed imposing; to my mind they are forbidding. I'd say the courses of study for high school teachers in Nebraska would do well enough for Professors in the Medical Colleges and universities!

Altho this Nebraska Bulletin E purports to deal with Physiology and Hygiene there is a lot of the usual filler in the syllabus, stuff about histology, psychology, pathology, bacteriology, and probably phrenology, astrology and theology—I fell asleep somewhere deep in the chapter on Tobacco. Here and there in the syllabus Anatomy bobs up. It would seem that the high school normal teachers in Nebraska are born with a sufficient knowledge of Anatomy, just as Tom, Dick and Harry are born with a clear comprehension of what "the common cold" is.

The Syllabus includes the familiar old tables of average heights and weights for men and women at all ages, and a curious table giving the "average normal systolic blood pressure for persons at various ages. Silly-tilly business, but we must remember these outlines of instruction are prepared by educational authorities who are generally a bit shy on health education themselves. If the Nebraska authorities are at all different from such authorities in other states, their official health education syllabus does not betray the difference.

There are "ten health commandments" included in the work. The Moses of these "commandments" is not identified, but one suspects he is not a doctor; his name is F. M. Gregg, and he is professor of something or other in Nebraska Wesleyan university. I must hand it to the professor for his sheer courage in one respect: throughout his ten commandments, which are about ten times as wordy as the original Ten, he never utters a word of caution about brushing your teeth. Now let the Nebraska Dental association deal with the professor—and let him summon me if he wants a witness.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

When to Fire the Doctor

My mother, aged 74, has had a physician, Dr.———, call on her weekly or oftener for more than three years. She feels well enough most of the time and she thinks it unnecessary for him to come every week unless she calls him. But he insists if he can't come regularly every week he will not come at all, and that a telephone call will not bring him if mother once refuses to receive his visit. This worries her . . . (Mrs. S. E.)

Answer.—You give no hint as to what, if anything, ails mother. If the doctor is unwilling to explain to you why he should attend your mother regularly, why not fire him and employ a physician who is less mysterious? There are still too many old quacks in our profession who work the changes on trusting patients, "visiting chronics," as some of them call it.

Softening of the Brain

Please explain what is softening of the brain? What causes it? Is it hereditary? Do any except elderly people ever have it? (M. P. B.)

Answer. — "Softening of the brain" is a term commonly applied to paresis, general paralysis of the insane, which is in most cases a late effect of syphilis. This develops in middle life, sometimes in early adult life. It is not hereditary. Then there is a different condition which doctors formerly called "softening of the brain," namely, clotting of blood in the brain substance, a condition akin to a stroke of paralysis from apoplexy (cerebral hemorrhage). This most commonly occurs in elderly persons and is an accidental result of ordinary arteriosclerosis (hardening of the arteries). This cerebral thrombosis (clotting) is not hereditary, unless you assume that premature hardening of the arteries runs in families. I do not believe so.

Child Manifests Psychotic or Neurotic Trait

My son aged 6 years, eats the excretion from his nose. We have to keep stockings on his hands at night . . . (Mrs. C. R. H.)

Answer.—Better put his arms in cuffs such as are used to keep children from biting their nails or sucking their thumbs. The habit is rather a manifestation of predisposition to mental or nervous abnormality. Why not consult a good psychiatrist whom your family doctor recommends, about the care and training of the child?

Silver Stains

Lately my silverware turns brown whenever my skin touches it . . . (T. O. A.)

Answer. — Normal sweat and sebum contains sulphur compounds which react with silver to form a brown or black sulphide of silver. This explains the staining of the skin by good gold jewelry (either silver or other metal in good alloys). I know of no remedy, except to change to other ware.

Talks To Parents

SANTA CLAUS

By Alice Judson Peale

Along with fairies, witches and giants poor Santa Claus is now sternly ruled out of the lives of many modern children. The idea is that children should be told nothing but the truth.

There is, of course, much to be said in favor of telling children only the truth. It helps them to learn early the distinction between fact and fancy, between truth and falsehood.

These are sound arguments for telling the truth about even so pleasant a fancy as that of Santa and his toy shop located vaguely either in heaven or at the north pole.

But is the literal truth always necessary? Must the distinction between fact and fancy be made mercilessly clear to every child about everything whether he likes it or not?

Certainly when a child quite definitely asks for the truth on any subject, it cannot be withheld without shaking his faith in the person who has evaded his question. But most little children accept without question certain fictions which satisfy their conscious or unconscious wishes.

They enjoy animal stories and fairy tales without for one moment troubling themselves as to their truthfulness.

Only those fictions are harmful which later cause feelings of guilt and emotional confusion. A child should have the pleasure of believing in Santa Claus until such a time as his critical intelligence makes him discard it. He will hold no grudge against his parents for he will understand that their deception was all part of a scheme for giving him pleasure while he was yet a small child a year or more ago.

Salem—Federal government approved appropriation of $1,320,000 for construction and improvement on Oregon highways for year.

CAN OPENERS TO FORE AT CONFAB

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 6.—(AP)—Adepts with can openers could have a big day here.

Nine hundred cans of apples, pears, cherries, beans, beets, pumpkin, carrots, tomatoes, blackberries, raspberries, prunes, loganberries, spinach, peas, parsnips, asparagus and gooseberries were opened—but were not eaten.

It was the annual cutting demonstration of the Northwest Canners's association, in annual session here. The 900 cans represent the production items of the member canneries of the association, and the demonstration is designed to improve the pack.

Quill Points

There is some encouragement in the thought that as many as three million Americans really want to work.

Alas! The bank examiner never seems to notice that anything is missing until the cashier is.

States are smaller political divisions that solve all problems by adding another cent to the gasoline tax.

Judge Lindsey suffered almost as much indignity for interrupting a preacher as a preacher would suffer for interrupting a judge!

Maybe Congress would spend half a billion for the city jobless if they would put on boots and chew straws.

Driving Signal No. 46: Crooking the right arm around a neck is a sign the driver is going to an emergency ward.

The relatively small number of railway wrecks probably is due to the fact that the engineer never hugs the fireman.

Supporting bootleggers isn't unusual. America never has had a war without some citizens helping the enemy.

Another peculiarity about peace, Dr. Einstein, is that the less you care for it the more you get.

Americanism: Rejoicing in the fact of freedom; meekly surrendering your own preference when somebody sets a fashion.

And yet, if exactly the same stories had appeared in the public prints in 1929, everybody would have talked hard times then as now.

Here lies Bill Smith. Because he thought the other workers were watching for signs of a yellow streak, he hadn't the courage to be careful.

If one generation could learn wisdom from another there might be no more war, but what about matrimony?

A hick town is a place where a woman endures any kind of husband rather than lose her house and a place to entertain the bridge club.

The sad part of it is that some stocks, slowly declining toward their actual worth, can't get any nearer than zero.

The chief disadvantage of a free country is that the only people who know how to run it haven't time to do anything but whittle.

In the last great crisis the President wrote notes. We can at least be thankful that the one in the White House isn't a stationery engineer.

In Russia everybody works for the government and depends on the government for support and it's called communism. Here it is called taxes and relief.

Correct this sentence: "If Sinclair Lewis had made fun of Swedes instead of Americans," said the critic, his books would have won the Nobel prize anyway."

Do You Remember?

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY
(From files of the Mail Tribune.)
January 6, 1921

City is covered with a thin coat of ice, and the foothills are covered with a light fall of snow.

Strychnine barley urged as the best poison for digger squirrels.

President Harding favors a smaller army.

Page theater gets a new advertising curtain, "which will be a pleasant relief from the old one, which patrons have looked at so long, they know all the ads "by heart."

Oil gusher expected in Klamath county soon.

After six years without a fire department, Gold Hill forms a new one.

Medford postoffice to be rated as a first-class office soon.

TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY
(From files of the Mail Tribune.)
January 6, 1911

City election starts to warm up.

Medford library asks Carnegie for $2000 donation.

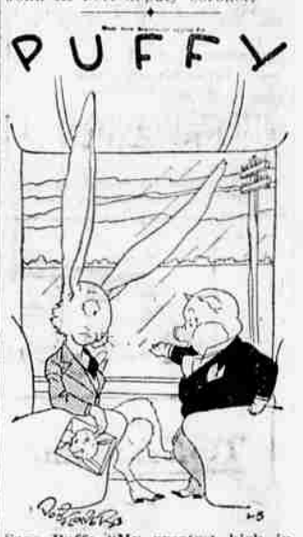
County tax levy for year will be 22 mills.

Medford "white slaver" caught in Grants Pass.

"Oregon points the way," says Robert M. LaFollette to the nation.

John T. Sullivan, former Spokane police chief, shot through window of his home by assassin while reading.

Coroner A. E. Kellogg appoints John A. Perl deputy coroner.



Says Puff: "My greatest kick in life is ridin gon a train:
To me the clatter of the wheels is like a sweet refrain.
The work of a conductor I would choose as a career
Except that taking tickets would become a bore, I fear."

SUNDOWN STORIES

SNOWFLAKE PLANS

By Mary Graham Bonner

King Snow sat on an old stump, and soon it became so covered with snow that you could hardly have told that a stump was there at all.

Around him sat all his Snowflake children, and as he talked more and more of his children kept flying down to join the others.

"You have been splendid," the Snow King said. And as he praised them the Snowflakes smiled. Sometimes you will notice how very bright and dazzling the snow looks? When the Snow King is praising the Snowflakes they look like that.

"Yes," he continued, "you have come down to the earth so quietly and so gently that people will be puzzled. They will wonder how you come forth as you do, how you are joined so quietly but steadily by your playmates.

"Now you must always do this way. Perhaps few will notice each one of you. They will think of lots and lots of you rather than of one or two or three or four.

"But still I want you all always to look your best, and each to be a little different. Then, when some one takes the trouble to notice, such a person will be able to say:

"How perfect each snowflake is!

"Then on days when we give big blizzard parties you may all add slushy coats and icy hats to your costumes if you wish, but always you must come forth and fill the air suddenly so that people who think they can guess when there is to be a snowstorm will be surprised and marvel at the way you come."

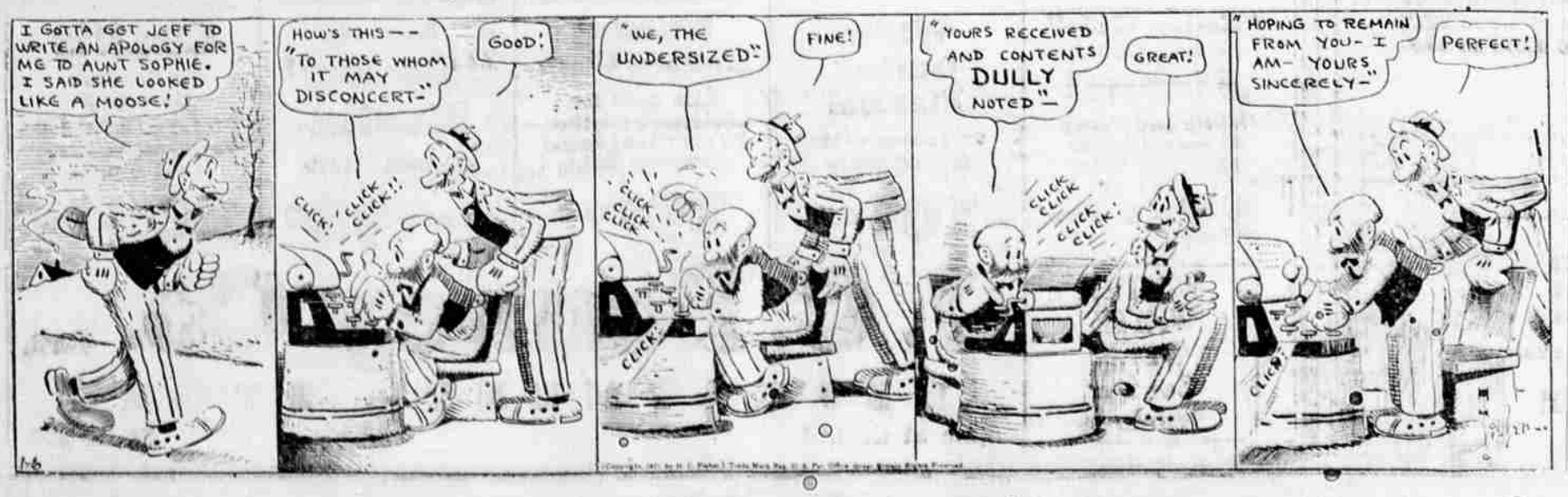
The Snowflake children nodded their heads and whistled their agreement with what the Snow King said.

And as they did this John and Peggy noticed that the Snowflakes started skipping over each other—skipping across the snowy ground, running races, laughing and shouting.

"Whew-yes-yes, we will always do as you say, Snow King."

And they always have.

Norway—H. F. Tedson making improvements to service station in this city.

MUTT AND JEFF—Jeff Wrote An Apology to Aunt Sophie

By BUD FISHER