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FEATURE DEPARTMENT

Section Devoted to Attractive Magazine Material



MR. FOX AND HIS RIVAL

ONCE there lived in some deep woods a fox who had gathered during his years of roaming about the country a great deal of wisdom.

"Surely all the things I know are worth something," he reasoned. "I have learned many things through experience. Some I paid for by suffering and other things I learned by keeping my ears and eyes alert."

"Therefore I should be paid by those who care to profit by my teachings and I shall today post a sign on my door telling the woodfolk where they can listen each night to words of wisdom."

Mr. Fox was busy all one morning painting a sign and that evening as the woodfolk wandered along they stopped and read, "Words of wisdom spoken each and every night, rain or



Mr. Turtle Left Mr. Fox Wallowing About in the Mud.

moonlight to those who wish to hear them, for a small fee."

Those who first saw the sign ran to tell others and pretty soon a crowd had gathered around the door of Mr. Fox, which made his eye twinkle, for the larger the crowd the more he would get in fees.

Old Mr. Turtle was stretching his neck, but he could not see well enough to read, so he asked Mr. Rabbit, who was nearest to him, to read what was printed on the sign.

"The next day the woodfolk saw on Mr. Turtle's door this sign: 'Mr. Turtle, who for over a hundred years has been gathering wisdom, will lecture each night to those who care to improve their minds. A collection will be taken to meet expenses.'"

"A new broom sweeps clean," quoted Mr. Fox when he heard about Mr. Turtle's sign, and then he added "but too many cooks spoil the broth," so I must use my wits to get ahead of my rival, Mr. Turtle."

Mr. Fox was running along when he

happened to see a bed of nice mushrooms; and knowing that Mr. Turtle liked mushrooms, Mr. Fox had an idea.

He turned right about and ran back to the woods, but he did not stop at his own home. Oh, no; he kept right on until he reached the home of Mr. Turtle.

Mr. Fox said: "Mr. Turtle, I saw a bed of fine mushrooms over the hill; thought you might like to know, as you are fond of them."

Mr. Turtle thanked him and said he would go right over and look at them.

Mr. Turtle had stayed late in the mushroom bed, and when he started for home he knew he would never be able to reach there in time for his lecture unless some one gave him a lift and when he saw Mr. Fox trotting along, he remembered his ancestor who had won that famous race hundreds of years before from Mr. Hare.

Mr. Fox ran over to the farm, got his supper and was running back at a pretty fast rate of speed; so he did not know when Mr. Turtle reached out his hand and grasped the tip of his tail and held fast to it.

Mr. Fox was thinking of getting home, and how Mr. Turtle must be wallowing along somewhere far from home, for he was very certain he went to the mushroom bed. So he was not as careful as he usually was to look where he was going.

Over a stone wall leaped Mr. Fox, and the next thing he knew he was deep in a pond of mostly mud.

A mud bath to Mr. Turtle was fun, and if he had not been in a hurry to reach home he would have liked nothing better than to stay there; but he crawled out and left Mr. Fox wallowing about in the mud.

Before Mr. Fox had come along, Mr. Turtle had had time to think, and it had entered his wise old head that Mr. Fox had reasons for being so kind in telling him about the bed of mushrooms.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT By F. A. WALKER

UPLAND SOLITUDES

IT IS becoming a mooted question among observing educators as to whether our present-day diversions do not often dwarf the budding intellects of the young and carry them far afield in the wrong direction.

With the possible exception of music, the universal language, our entertainments, as a rule, have become

mere frivolities, appealing to the baser passions, the redeeming features in almost all cases being the superb stage settings.

With their deft brushes the scenery painters seem to be doing more for the elevation of the mind than the writers of the stage pen.

Without the exquisite scenes many of our popular plays would indeed become miserable makeshifts, incapable of holding the boards a fortnight.

The fine art of acting is being relegated to the past. There is a craving for the gross, glaring, flagrant and thumping, rather than for the refined, uplifting and ennobling, doubtless due to perverted tastes and cravings for sensationalism and excitement.

The intermediate colors and fine shadings of the older school have given way to lighter tones whose intensities and limits have about been reached.

Just what to hint cannot be guessed, except to hint in a vague way that this modern tower of Babel will some day suddenly topple over, tumble noisily at our feet and leave us babbling in strange tongues, wondering what confusion means!

There is in the human heart an everlasting yearning for something new, and no one apparently knows what to suggest.

It is just possible that we need now, more than anything else, the upland solitudes, where we may get in the pure, clear atmosphere and reflect awhile without molestation from the crude scarlet letters and blinding lights which have warped our judgment and dulled our finer sensibilities.

We need these upland solitudes far more often than we may suspect, for it is among them that we gather new strength for the higher duties of life, a keener conception of our infirmities, a keener realization of our lack of human kindness and a sickening sense at the loss of our faith in the good, the clean, the noble and in humanity itself!

As its name implies, it prevented the grain, the body of the corn-spirit, from sliding out when the chaff flew away at the threshing time. It was that part of the entrance to the house over which all must pass that entered it. Consequently there was a constant struggle to facilitate the entrance of good influences and keep out the spirits of evil by "doctoring" the threshold. Cattle were buried under their neighbor's thresholds, personal relics calculated to facilitate the entrance of malign influences. A large nail was driven into the threshold to keep death from entering.

On Walpurgis night the German peasant still plays flowers and braches upon his thresholds to keep out the witches; and chips from a threshold used to be thought a valuable ingredient in making smoke for the fumigation of cattle. So evil no one knows what witches or evil spirits may have done to a threshold it is better that a bride, at the critical moment of her entrance to her new home, should be lifted over it to avoid contagion from the malign influences from touching the possibly-infected door-sill.

Robert Agnew



This familiar "movie" actor was born in Kentucky twenty-five years ago. He spent his early boyhood days in Texas. After much experience in vaudeville he entered motion pictures and has been seen with some of the leading players, usually in juvenile leads. He is a relative of the late President McKinley.

rooms, so he called to him as he waddled away: "There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," Mr. Fox. I shall remember to explain that saying to my audience tonight and tell them, too, how you are unavoidably detained."

Mr. Fox knew that his rival would reach home in time to give his lecture, and he knew, too, that he would be the laughing stock of all the wood folk by morning; so, when he ran last got out of the mud he hid for home and pulled down his sign, and then out of the woods he went, to make a home so far away, that Mr. Turtle would have to crawl years in telling him about the bed of mushrooms.

By McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

ROAD BUILDING

JOHN LISKA WROTE BEST ROAD ESSAY

John Liska, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., wrote the best essay in the 1924 national good roads essay contest for the Harvey S. Firestone four-year university scholarship. The subject of his essay, which told in simple form the epic story of a country crossroads, was "The Relation of Improved Highways to Home Life." Liska is the fifth high-school student to earn this honor and award.

The contest is conducted each year under the auspices of the highway education board, Washington, D. C., of which the United States Commissioner of education is chairman. It is strictly educational in character and in the several states is sponsored by one of the leading universities, or by the state department of education.

Mr. Liska is the primary cause of the ignorance so evident in rural communities. Poor roads, more than anything else, have forced the farm home into a demoralizing isolation. The improvement of highways, making the consolidated school and social center possible, is injecting new life into homes formerly hopelessly isolated. Home life is broadened and enriched. Boys are willing to stay "down on the farm." Girls cease to envy their city cousins and to leave home for "the bright lights."

Just a few minutes of travel, on a particular road leading out of the city of Wisconsin Rapids, will convince the most doubtful skeptic of the value of good roads and their influence upon home life. About two miles from the city this road branches. One branch is called "the left road"; the other "the right road." The left road is almost always in a deplorable condition; the right road is hard-surfaced. The homes on the left road are dilapidated, the front yards scarcely recognizable among the tangle of broken machinery, old wire and various other objects placed "out of the way." The land has been cropped until it is impossible for even quick grass to flourish. The stock, descendants of some grand-dad's scrubs, is now so degenerated that scarcely any characteristics of a high-producing, profitable animal are evident.

Can you expect the boy or girl to remain on the farm under these conditions? Not one boy or girl living on the eighth grade, and very many have not even progressed that far. These young people, many of them lying about their ages, have had to seek a "job" at the store, mill or factory, instead of completing their education. Can home life be pleasant and happy where these conditions exist?

The road to the right leads through land slightly more fertile, but more fertile only as a result of better farm management. No farm home on this road, for a distance of twenty miles, is without at least one modern convenience. Several farms are equipped with every modern convenience, both in and out of the home.

The esthetic influence a good road exerts is very evident. Often it stimulates latent self-respect into practical expression. These people are continually adding some improvement in an honest attempt to beautify their home surroundings. Through diversification and rotation of crops they have succeeded in bringing their land to a high degree of fertility, resulting in a more stable income each year. They are sending their children to high schools, agricultural schools and universities. A better education is teaching these children to realize the value of a true home.

In a large measure, on the road to the left, the average farmer has lost his self-respect, has allowed his home to fall below the standard, and has failed to keep in stride with the times. He is considered inferior to those on the right road, are again placing the farm home upon the pinnacle where it should rest, "The True Home of Man."

How necessary to that home is a good road! What a relief it must have been to those simple folk in Whittier's "Snow Bound" to have the road opened and the foundering carrier being the village paragon to the door!

The left road may be compared to the snow-bound road, impeding progress, forcing isolation. The right road may be compared to the opened road, offering new opportunities, new possibilities and new happiness.

The right road is, in the true sense of the word, the "right road." We must build more of them. Until this is accomplished home life in isolated sections will, in the future, simply exist; but when all roads are "right roads," these same communities, these same homes, will live.

Much Road Building

An interesting feature of this year's road building is the evident willingness of both counties and states to assume building through issuance of highway bond issues. Sixty millions of dollars have been spent since 1913 on the Lincoln highway alone for improvements, and many millions more will be spent during the few years just ahead on this great 3,100-mile transcontinental road, which stretches from the Hudson river to San Francisco bay.

New Record for Roads

The year 1924 hung up a new record for the construction of concrete roads, when the equivalent of 6,071 miles of 18-foot concrete was laid by states and federal aid. This mileage, added to the total already paved for the benefit of the 17,000,000 motor vehicles now in daily use over the highways, makes approximately 32,000 miles of permanent highways. Illinois led all other states with 1,200 miles of new pavement, exceeding its record made in 1923 by nearly 1,000 miles.

J. P. FINLEY & SON MORTICIANS advertisement with contact information.

STEWART-SCHNEIDER CO. MENS WEAR advertisement for hats, neckwear, and shirts.

Levi P. Jones Post No. 118 advertisement for a meeting and club information.

YELLOW TAXI advertisement with contact number and service details.

Advertisement for a service or business with contact information.

C. GEE WO CHINESE MEDICINE CO. advertisement for various medicines.



STRAIT-TEX TRADE-MARK

HAS GAINED SUCH UNEXPECTED SUCCESS IN THE PAST YEAR THAT WE HAVE DECIDED TO ADD A FEW MORE BEAUTIFYING PREPARATIONS TO OUR LIMITED BUT EFFECTIVE LINE

The following is our complete list

Strait-Tex Hair Refining Tonic 25c Retines kinky, frizzy, coarse hair to medium; medium hair to good.

Strait-Tex Hair Growth 25c Not only promotes growth of the hair, but makes it soft, pliable and lustrous. An excellent pressing oil.

Gloss-Tex Brilliantine 50c Makes the hair soft and glossy and keeps it in good condition without leaving it oily or gummy.

Strait-Tex Herbs 31.00 Is a vegetable preparation that actually straightens and restores the original color to gray or faded hair. Color permanent—positively will not rub off, no matter how often the hair is shampooed. Three shades: Black, Brown and Chestnut-Brown.

Kokomo Shampoo 40c Is made from pure coconut oil; cleans the scalp and roots of the hair in a natural, healthy manner.

Bronze Beauty Vanishing Cream 50c Is a soothing, greaseless vanishing face cream that will not grow hair.

Bronze Beauty Lemon Cream 50c Is nourishing, softening and stimulating to the skin; is filled with a triple strength of oil of lemon—making it a mild, bleaching cream.

Bronze Beauty Face Powders 50c Are suited to all complexions. Can be successfully used on dry or oily skins. The shades: High Brown and Bronze Glow are favorites.

Mollyglossoc 31.00 Is a special hair straightener for men; positively guaranteed to straighten the most stubborn hair in from 10 to 20 minutes without the use of hot irons. Will not injure the scalp or turn the hair red.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

STRAIT-TEX Chemical Company 600 FIFTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH, PA., U. S. A.



DEEP POINTS OF FASHION

The mode points the way to everything that is smart in the way of fabric, line and trimming in this frock. The clever placing of the sash bow at the left side accentuates the color contrast, which is one of the points of smartness to be featured. Crisp satin, printed velvet or any of the novelty silks may be used to develop the dress. Medium size requires 5 yards 48-inch material and 2 1/2 yards of wide ribbon. Sizes, 34 to 46 inches bust. Price, 35 cents.

REPP & SON STAPLE and FANCY GROCERIES 816 Union Avenue at Failing Garfield 7019 We Deliver

'What's in a Name?' advertisement for Mildred Marshall.

FAITH

FROM A Biblical source comes the charming Faith, which sprang into popular usage during the vogue of Puritanism names. The prevalence of appellatives which denoted abstract virtues marked the beginning of Puritanism in England, and many such names came under the ban from other classes because of the widespread dislike of the "Round Heads."

But the simple virtue of Faith, as well as the divine virtue for which the name was symbol, kept her popularity undimmed. For was she not one of the trio with St. Paul comments to the Corinthians, saying: "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

The Puritans brought Faith to New England when they migrated from

A LINE OF CHEER

By John Kendrick Bangs.

A WORD FROM SPRING

A GENTLE breeze came whispering by today, and paused a moment on its laughing way.

"I'm just in from the South," it said, "and I would tell you that the spring is nigh, and all her styles are based on smiles; and when she comes her banners will be full of blossoms fragrant and delectable; and in her train a gay and choral throng of happy birds will wing their way along; and brand new leaves to clothe the naked trees; she'll bring and spread as lavish as you please; and all the country o'er her floor will dance as on a ballroom floor. That all may know in these dark days of dread that Youth and Grace, and Beauty are not dead. But with us still, For man to make such use of as he will."

By McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

THE WHY OF SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

THE THRESHOLD

IN A much talked-about recent novel the doctor of Gopher Prairie says to his bride, "There! I meant to have you lifted over the threshold." Which shows that the old custom of lifting first enter their new home still lingers among us, as it is also, a feature of rural weddings in England and Scotland. The mixing up in the minds of our remote ancestors of spiritual and material things caused the threshold to be regarded in a peculiarly mystic manner.

As its name implies, it prevented the grain, the body of the corn-spirit, from sliding out when the chaff flew away at the threshing time. It was that part of the entrance to the house over which all must pass that entered it. Consequently there was a constant struggle to facilitate the entrance of good influences and keep out the spirits of evil by "doctoring" the threshold. Cattle were buried under their neighbor's thresholds, personal relics calculated to facilitate the entrance of malign influences. A large nail was driven into the threshold to keep death from entering.

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Common Sign Language.

Travelers in the interior of South America, although knowing little or nothing of the language of the Indians, claim that an astonishing amount of communication may be held by means of a sign language. The different Indian groups of Brazil, for instance, while speaking each a different language, have a more or less common language of signs.

State Named from River.

Wisconsin derived its name from the principal river, named Mascoussin by Pere Marquette, translated wild, rushing channel. The present spelling is derived from a misprint. All early French documents have Ouisconsin or Misconsin.

Down on the Farm.

"The only worker I ever knew who would work when the boss was away was the old-fashioned American hired man," declared a professor at Grand Rapids. We have known a couple of them to sit on a fence at such times and work until their jaws were totally exhausted.

Already Free.

During the Sunday School lesson the teacher made reference to a passage of Scripture reading, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." A little girl in the front row exclaimed: "I'm already free. I'm free and a half."

One Way to Reduce.

A rather robust woman recently asked a doctor what she should do to reduce. "Take a certain kind of exercise," said he. "What kind of exercise, sir?" she asked. "Push yourself away from the table three times a day," replied the doctor.—Topeka Capital.

Meat Distribution.

Two-thirds of the live stock used for food is raised west of the Mississippi, while two-thirds of the consumers live east of the Mississippi. This accounts for the 1,300 packing houses occupied in converting live stock into meats and transferring them to markets.

Remark Left Impression.

A man and his wife were buying a horse. "How could such a lovely creature have a temper?" asked the woman. "My dear, that is exactly what passed through my mind when I married you," answered the man, and he has not heard the last of it yet.

Word for the Cyclone.

About the only good thing that can be said about cyclone is that it doesn't cost the taxpayers anything for an investigation as to who was to blame.—Des Moines Register.

Slight Accident Fatal.

A young man in London was struck on the head by a chicken bone used as a missile died of septic pneumonia set up by the slight wound he had received.

Dream of the Future.

In a few generations, it is said, the dream of breaking the atom will be realized. Then gold and platinum will be mere by-products and a gram of coal will do the work tons now do.

Qualities Somewhat Rare.

He who sedulously attends, pointedly asks, calmly speaks, coolly answers and ceases when he has no more to say, is in possession of some of the best requisites of man.—Exchange.

Final Judication.

Though reading and conversation may furnish us with many ideas of men and things, yet it is our own meditation must form our judgment.

Oxalic Acid in Rhubarb.

Rhubarb, when eaten in excess, has been known to act as a powerful poison on account of its natural content of oxalic acid.—Science Service.

Must Move Fast.

The lowest speed at which it is possible for an airplane to fly is 31 1/2 miles an hour.

Mankind's Duty.

Life is a problem; mortal man was made to solve the solemn problem, right or wrong.—J. Q. Adams.

Very well—Take the Accountancy and Business Management, Private Secretarial, Calculator, Comptometer, Stenographic, Penmanship, or Commercial Teachers' Course at

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