

How Not to Invest.

In the Woman's Home Companion for March, Alexander Dana Noyes, Financial Editor of the New York Evening Post, gives some sound advice how to women regarding investments. Among other things he says:

"First, never invest in anything on the basis of an advertising prospectus, and especially avoid such propositions when they are announced in glaring and sensational form, with a liberal use of capital letters to attract attention. Second, never invest in anything which makes the promise of very large profits with no risk; if the profits are real and sure, the fact that the investment is offered to you at a low and apparently attractive price measures the largeness of the risk. Third, never invest in a mining scheme or in any joint-stock enterprise of which you know nothing, on the representations of a promoter or a friend that knows no more about it than you do. Fourth, never invest in a private business enterprise unless its soundness and profit earning capacity are demonstrated to your satisfaction and to that of conservative men to whom you submit the data. Fifth, never invest in a security because someone has heard that its price is going up; the story may have been circulated by some one who knows something wrong about the investment and is anxious to sell what he holds himself. Sixth, never invest in anything—mining stock, railway stock or manufacturing stock—simply because its price is low. It may possibly be a bargain, but its price may also be low because it is worthless, or because it is doubtful whether the stock will ever pay any return whatever on the investment."

What It Is to Be Drunk.

An authoritative definition of what constitutes drunkenness has long been needed, and the want is now supplied by testimony of the fitness of a juror who habitually uses intoxicants. Judge Hart ruled that "a man is drunk when he is so much under the influence of liquor that he becomes a nuisance to the general public."

An old view of drunkenness which has had wide acceptance was that a man is not drunk so long as he can lie down without holding on. A British justice has recently held that a man can not be regarded as drunk if he can find his way home alone. These precedents are now further amplified through the Nashville decision is subject to appeal and review by the higher courts.

It is obvious that between the extremes of "drunk as a lord" and "sober as a judge," a wide latitude of indulgence in stimulants is allowable. The question of capacity enters into the case, as between Poe, for whom one glass was too much, and Pitt and Dundas, who divided seven bottles of port between them in an evening. But it is made clear that any amount of tacking and filling in getting home and any number of stabs of the keyhole are permissible, the one restriction being as to interfering with the public peace.

The Nashville decision is against boisterous intoxication; "won't go home till morning" and the "rolling, reeling" kind—the condition of noisy inebriation described as "gloriously drunk." It is in favor of a state of gentlemanly exuberance which does not interfere with the enjoyment or comfort of other persons.—New York World.

If he retains the office a year longer, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson will hold the longest record in length of service. In point of valuable work performed his rank will be entirely satisfactory.

Unless the Pacific States calm down both halves of the navy will be only a moderate allowance for that side of the continent. The first step there should be to get rid of reckless jingo bumpiness.

The Philippines Insular Government is not so slow. It asks Washington for eighteen irrigation engineers. With irrigation and its rainy season, the archipelago ought to be reasonably safe from drought.

When the fleet started around the world Admiral Evans said it was fit for a fight or a frolic, and enough has been proved to satisfy the world that the sixteen battle ships are thoroughly practical in every respect.

The final estimate of dollars necessary to complete the Panama Canal has been fixed at \$360,000,000, which shows that all the scoring was done in the first two innings. After that the opposing team seems to have settled down.

Peace hath its victories no less renowned than war. The illustration of this fact at Hampton Roads, amid the music of bands, the boom of cannon and cheering of multitudes, was one of the most remarkable in the history of nations.

Next summer Mr. Taft expects to make his first visit to Alaska. There are still a few places left where the president-elect can look for novel enjoyment of travel. Mem. for the tariff revisers: Alaska in August is a pleasant region than Washington.

The adoption of the electric furnace in large steel operations is expected to meet the demand for a steel rail tough enough to bear the strain of high speed in the largest freight engines. Great possibilities are still hidden in all forms of applied electricity.

A new rule just promulgated by the Post Office Department provides for the payment of an indemnity for domestic and foreign registered mail lost while in the custody of the United States postal service. Senders of registered mail will be paid an indemnity for the value of domestic first-class sealed mail matter, not to exceed \$25 in any one case, which may be lost in transmission or otherwise. Indemnity will also be paid for the value of a registered article, not to exceed 50 francs or its equivalent in United States money, in cases where the registered article is addressed to a country embraced in the Universal Postal Union and is lost in the international mails.

It is frequently assumed that the horse is doomed. Some think automobiles will supplant him. Others that racing restrictions will deal him a deadly blow. Others that men are losing interest in the species in the charm of more rapid means of locomotion. But the chances are that when automobiles are much more generally used, when racing is again in favor, the horse will still be occupying the prominent place that he now has in the census reports, and that shows will arise from time to time to do honor to the finer breeds. Just as the railroad and the horse, the street car and the horse, balloons and the horse, have managed, though all are means of transportation, to coexist with common increase, so will the automobile and the horse dwell together in peace and amity, each in a peculiar sphere.

The report made by the seven engineers who accompanied Mr. Taft to the isthmus was transmitted to Congress by President Roosevelt Wednesday, with a message in which he says that it determines definitely that the canal should be of the lock type, and that it would be an inexcusable folly to change from a lock to a sea-level type. The engineers find that such a change would add greatly to the cost and time of construction, with compensation advantages either of capacity or safety of navigation. Of the much discussed Gatun Dam, the engineers say they are satisfied, from personal examination of the open cuts and samples from test borings, "that there will be no dangerous or objectionable seepage through the materials under the base of the dam, nor are they liable to be pushed aside by the weight of the proposed dam." They do recommend that the height of the dam be lessened by 20 feet, so that the top will be 30 feet above the water line.

It will be said that we have heard almost of miracles worked by suggestion. Under the influence of hypnotic suggestion, for instance, we have heard of men permitting an important surgical operation, involving the deep cutting of tissues, but without the slightest sign of pain. We have heard even of the greater miracles of men who had scarcely drawn a sober breath for years somehow made to brace up and become useful members of society for whom alcohol is no longer a temptation. Hypnotic suggestion is only ordinary suggestion raised to a new potency, not by the power of the hypnotizer, but by the suggestibility of the passive agent in the experience. These miracles in the normal order are no greater than the miracles in the material world that have been performed by new applications of the old force of electricity. Suppose someone had told our grandfathers of fifty years ago that all our street cars would run along the streets pulled by a cable no thicker than the little finger, the thing would have seemed utterly impossible. Suppose in addition to that, the narrator had said that the cable itself would not move, but remain stationary, yet pull hundreds of crowded cars even on heavy grades. If our forefathers of two centuries ago had been told that the electric toys of their time represented the manifestations of a force that would be used to run most of the transportation systems of the world and most of the industries and manufactures in our time, they would have laughed at the prophet for a fool.

In building leviathan armored ships the United States has taken the lead in size, though England keeps ahead in number. This country has authorized the construction of four battle ships that far exceed the Dreadnought in tonnage and armament, and the present Congress is likely to provide for two more that will be still larger by far. A few days ago the Delaware was launched at Newport News, the most formidable warship that has yet been started. Her displacement is 22,000 tons. The largest battle ship now in commission is the British Dreadnought, of 17,900 tons. Germany's largest battle ship is 14,865 tons with eight building, the largest of 18,320 tons. Japan's largest completed ship is 16,400 tons, with two building of 19,200 and 19,800 tons. The United States has in hand six battle ships, four of which will be the heaviest afloat, two, the Florida and Utah, of 21,825 tons each. Congress is deliberating of two of 26,000 tons each, the Naval committee having reported upon them favorably. The Delaware, just launched, is to be 2100 tons larger than the Dreadnought, and 750 tons greater than Great Britain's largest vessel, the Vanguard.

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Poultry Toilets.

"Now we will make this white hen's toilet."

And the pet stock dealer laid beside a small bathtub a box of cold cream, a bottle of brilliantine, a couple of brushes, a chamol, towels and soap. He bathed the hen in the tub. He scrubbed her feathers till they were snowy. Then he towed her, wrapped her up and put her away in a warm box.

"Tomorrow," he said, "after she is quite dry I'll rub brilliantine on one of these brushes and polish her coat till it shines like satin. I'll oil and polish her feet too. Her face and wattle I'll rub well with cold cream—that will deepen and enrich the color, the bloom. Altogether, when I'm done with her she'll be as smooth and shiny and immaculate as a new silk hat or a well laundered white evening shirt."

"For exhibition chickens have these elaborate toilets always—much more elaborate ones sometimes. In certain breeds I have seen the leg feathers being curled with an electric iron one by one."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

First Giraffe in Europe.

Dr. Johnson, as is well known, refused for many months to believe in the Lisbon earthquake, and Parisians formerly were just as skeptical as to the existence of the giraffe, a new specimen of which has just been added to the Jardin des Plantes. The earliest specimen of these gentle creatures was seen in Paris in the reign of Louis XVI. We learn from a French contemporary that the giraffe was first heard of in 1787, when it was described by a Frenchman named Levaillant, who had journeyed in the lands of the Hottentots and Kaffirs. When the explorer referred to the animals with the long necks he was looked upon as a Munchausen and told that he was such in not the politest language. It was only when some living specimens arrived in the French capital that Levaillant's reputation for veracity was re-established, and then the animals for a long time formed the sensation of Paris, not only among the multitude, but in all scientific circles.—London Globe.

"The Light That Failed."

A wealthy liverina squatter, now departed, as he used to phrase it, "to the great muster," was noted almost as much for his Attie wit as for his parsimony. He also stuttered very badly and helped along his halting utterance with a frequent ejaculation of "D'ye see? D'ye see?" His niggardly traits gained him widespread local unpopularity and the bitter enmity of sundowners, who were always vigorously refused rations at his stations. Smarting under this unusual inhospitality, some disappointed squawgers once set fire to one of the squatter's wool sheds and then wrote upon a gate: "We've well burnt down your wool shed. D'ye see? D'ye see?"

Of course it caught the big man's eye when next he passed through. For a moment he contemplated the announcement and then with a sardonic grin took the stump of a blue pencil from his pocket and scribbled underneath: "It was well insured. D'ye see? D'ye see?"—London Standard.

Electricity and Magnetism.

As to what electricity and magnetism are "in themselves"—that is to say, as to their real nature—nothing is known. They are absolute mysteries, baffling the acutest research into their innermost secrets. But about their modes of action it is possible to say something definite. For example, electricity appears to depend for its action upon a medium, while magnetism, like gravity, acts at a distance and by means of no visible go-between. Place two magnets in vacuo or even place a solid plate of glass or metal or wood between the magnets and we still find that their mutual action depends solely on their relative position and is not perceptibly modified by placing any substance between them unless that substance happens to be one of the magnetic metals.—New York American.

Ursa Major and Ursa Minor.

A pretty myth is told of Callisto and her son in connection with Ursa Major and Ursa Minor. Juno changed the beautiful Callisto into a bear, who, seeing her son one day, advanced to embrace him, when he, not knowing his mother in the form of a bear, was about to thrust his spear through her, to prevent which Jupiter snatched them both up to heaven and placed them among the stars as the Great and Little Bears.

All One Kind.

"What did father say when you told him of our engagement?" asked the young lady.

"Well—er—really, Phyllis," began the intelligent young man.

"Oh, leave out the strong language."

"Then there's nothing to tell you."

Probably Not.

"Baseball," maintained the dogmatic citizen, "is very ancient. Baseball games were probably going on at the time of the flood."

"Do you suppose they gave rain checks?" inquired the facetious citizen with irritating levity.—Exchange.

Declining.

"Miss Frocks has reached her declining years," said Jones.

"Nonsense," replied Brown. "She's not more than twenty-five."

"But she has declined half a dozen men."

The "Leading Heavy."

"What's the matter now?"

"We're playin' circus parade, an' Willie's a-beln' the elephant an' the lion an' the hippopotamus an' the calliope, an' it ain't fair!"—Life.

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