"HER BOY" A GIFT

Supreme Sacrifice for Country Made Willingly.

Spirit of American Women Manifested in Statement of One Who Had Been Called On to Give Up All She Had.

It was in a Red Cross workroom Somewhere in New York City. The Limelight woman moved around among the workers and talked incessantly.

"My boy has gone to France," she said mournfully. "I can't get reconciled. It doesn't seem right for a mother to devote years to the raising of a boy only to have him snatched away in the twinkling of an eye. I am patriotic enough, goodnes knows-I am willing to give everything, within reason, to my country, but I can't help but be thankful that we were able to get our other two boys exempted. I think all mothers feel that way, don't you, Mrs. Smith? It's the 'mother' in

She wiped away some tears and slowly rolled a bandage.

"It is easy enough for those who have no sons to preach these high ideals," answered Mrs. South in sympathy. "I am really not dependent upon my son, but if I can keep him from going by putting in that claim, I certainly shall do it. I think it is every mother's right to save her son for herself if she can. Don't think I'm not patriotic. I am working every minute in some sort of war relief work. Indeed I have no use for these unpatriotic women. What do you think, Miss

A frail little woman in a chair by the window looked up from her work with glowing eyes.

"My boy is in France, and I am glad of it," she said simply.

"Your boy?" came in voices in uni-

'Yes, my boy. My sister died when Jack was two weeks old, and I have had him ever since. He was such a dear little fellow, such a dependable boy as he grew older, and such a com-

fort when he reached his manhood. . . . He has been to me what sweetheart, husband and children have been to you. We were just beginning to feel that life was easier when our country entered the war. For three evenings after the president's war message he sat without talking. I knew what was on his mind, so the fourth evening I told him not to think about it any more, but just go. He said: But you, auntle, you deserve some ease now. You have done so much for me, and you have had such a hard fight to make both ends meet.' I said, 'Nonsense, the fight never hurt me. What if the mothers of Washington and Grant had wept and walled and ever again aspires to the open sea. kept them at home? No, my boy, I In the Jutland and other fights such want you always to do a man's part, no matter where it takes you or where it leaves you.' He has gone, and I am glad that he has. I couldn't bear to large battle cruisers of a new type is have some other woman's boy protecting me. If Jack does not come back, I shall still be glad he went-for I didn't loan my boy to my country. I

There was silence in the workroom. The Limelight woman was staring pied by the rising spread and reces- by Sir James M. Barrie at the rehearsstraight ahead of her. Mrs. South hesitated for a moment, then leaned forward and tenderly patted the workroughened fingers which stitched so

"Thank you," was all she said.

Ships Must Have Wireless. Every ocean steamer that leaves an American port is required by law to have wireless telegraph apparatus and operators. An act of congress, passed in 1910, made it unlawful for any ocean-going steamer carrying passengers to leave or attempt to leave any port of the United States without being equipped with an efficient apparatus for radio communication, in good working order, in charge of a person skilled in the use of such apparatus, which apparatus is capable of transmitting and receiving messages over a distance of at least one hundred miles, night or day. After the Titanic disaster, in 1912, this act was amended by providing that "the radio equipment must be in charge of two or more persons skilled in the use of such apparatus, one or the other of whom shall be on duty at all times while the vessel is being navigated." The provision for two skilled operators was to cover the possibility of one being overworked.

Some small girls were skipping rope on an East side street yesterday afternoon. The children skipped and twisted in turn, while a little mother, with a sleeping baby in her arms, looked on wistfully. There seemed no place to lay the baby, and the other little girls were far too thrilled to think of offering to relieve her to her charge while she tried her prowess. Finally she could stand it no longer. Casting around in desperation she spied one of the iron barrels provided by the city for refuse paper, and thereby solved her problem. Quickly the barrel was turned on its side, the papers pulled toward the top to make a soft bed, and the baby deposited therein. Gently it rocked in its improvised cradle, sleeping peacefully on .- New York Times.

After the Wedding.

Bridegroom-I haven't seen anything of that \$1,000 check from your father." Bride-You see, dear, papa heard that your father had already given us one and he knew we wouldn't want any duplicate gifts, so he's going to send us a silver tray,

GATUN LAKE IS BIG AFFAIR

Reservoir, Built by Americans, Far Outdoes Anything Else That the World Has Known.

The government fisheries bureau is planting Gatun lake with fishes. The first shipment for the purpose, made by steamer the other day, consisted of catfish, sunfish, carp and black bass, all of "fingerling" size. The bass were planted in the Chagres river, the principal tributary of the lake.

A Pharaoh of the twelfth dynasty constructed a reservoir (known today as Lake Moeris) which covered 63 square miles. It was an artificial lake, regarded in its day as one of the wonders of the world, and was designed to regulate the flow of the Nile.

In its way it was the most remarkable engineering achievement of antiquity. But Gatun lake, on the line of the Panama canal, beats it, being about three times as big. Its object is similar-namely, to take care of the flood waters of the Chagres river and prevent them from doing mis-

Gatun lake is the largest artificial body of water ever known in the world. It is, in fact, the most important feature of the transisthmian canal, extending two-thirds of the distance from the Caribbean sea to the Pacific ocean.

It occupies a basin that was dry land before the canal was built; and because the area covered by it is very hilly and topographically irregular, it stretches in a multiple of arms far up into its marshy shores.

One reason why its shores are marshy is that in its shallows there develops with astonishing luxuriance a kind of grass which sends out runners in all directions. On this account its banks are not easily accessible even to small craft.

As for fishes, it is hoped that they will multiply and furnish a worthwhile food supply.

"Hush Hush!" Cruiser. The idea that Great Britain is secretly constructing tremendous cruisers, carrying batteries of 15-inch guns and traveling faster than any naval ships now float, has become almost an obsession with the German press, whose naval experts recognize that these ships present a problem that cannot be met with submarines. The new British cruisers are termed "hush hush" cruisers because of the supposed secrecy with which they are being constructed. Captain von Kuhlwatter, a famous German naval authority, believes them to be 886 feet in length and probably his feet. more effective naval units than any yet constructed. No doubt the prime cause of interest in their building is the realization that a complete fleet of fast cruisers could annihilate a whole squadron of slow and ponderous German dreadnaughts if the German fleet ever again aspires to the open sea. a unit of fast and heavily armed ships might have cut off their retreat. That England is constructing a number of not denied by the admiralty.

Three Seasons in Year.

The Egyptian year was divided into three seasons. These were Shalt, the season of waters, being the time occu- | I am reminded that the silk hat worn vegetation; the Shonmu, the season of harvest. These seasons are supposed to have been arranged by the god Thot. Each season was divided into four months and they were known in official documents by numbers only. Thus we have the first, second, third and fourth months of Shalt, the months of each of the other seasons being designated in the same manner. Each month, however, had a patron god and the people ordinarily gave to it, in their daily intercourse, the name of its god. These delty names of the months were transcribed into Greek, then into Arabic and are now largely used by the Christian inhabitants of Egypt in preference to the Mussulman appellations.

We had a new experience the other day when we picked up two boatloads of survivors from the without warning. I will say they were pretty glad to see us when we bore down on them. As we neared, they began to paddle frantically, as though fearful we should be snatched away from them at the last moment. The crew were mostly Arabs and Lascars, and the first mate, a typical comic-magazine Irishman, delivered himself of the following: "Sure, toward the last, some o' thim haythens gits down on their knees and starts calling on Allah; but I sez, sez I: 'Git up afore I swat ye wid the ax-handle, ye benighted hnythen; sure if this boat gits saved 't will be the Holy Virgin does it or none at all. at all! Git up,' sez I."-An American Officer, in the Atlan-

To Unify Work.

That the whole of the Gilbert group of islands in the South seas should be given over to the care of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions was decided at a meeting of the London missionary board, held some little time ago. The American board had long been anxious for this be kind to the poor? arrangement, which unifies the work which sum and the contributions of soon they may become rich. the islanders, all expenses of the staffing of the Northern Islands can be met for ten years. The group is under British government, and in 16 baby so wakeful. years of vigorous work in the Southern islands, a strong church has been tary, of course. That's what comes of built up, and many able native pastors have been and are being trained.

Many Would Have Had Washington Addressed as Monarch.

Interesting Just Now to Recall How Fond of High-Sounding Appellations Were the Founders of This Great Republic.

In view of the widespread approval of the Chamberlain bill, making it possible for our soldiers to wear medals conferred by the French, it is interesting to be reminded that, although the Constitution forbade all those in the service of the United States to accept titles or decorations from foreign rulers, a strong party in our first senate wished to bestow almost royal title upon government officials.

A serious debate arose over the manner in which Washington should be addressed, and on April 23, 1789. a committee was appointed to consider the matter. Among the titles urged were "His Highness, the President of the United States of America and Protector of the Rights of the Same," "His Elective Highness," etc., and a canopled throne was to be erected for his use in the senate. Mmbers of that body were to be "Your Highness of the Senate," the sergeant at arms was to be rechristened the "Usher of the Black Rod," and representatives "Your Highness of the Lower House.'

John Adams, we are told in the Journal of William Maclay, led the socalled "Court party," which wished to borrow the forms of the British monarchy for our infant government. His most zealous supporter was Richard Henry Lee of Virginia. Maclay and Robert Morris were the first senators from Pennsylvania.

The matter rested until after the formalities of Washington's inauguration were settled. Under the first plan the clergy could attend only as spectators, but this was finally overruled on a strong protest from the ministers of New York. An interesting sidelight on the times is given by John Randolph of Virginia, who as a boy witnessed the inauguration of Adams as vice

president. The controversy over the titles came to a head on May 1 when the clerk of the senate began to read the minutes. "His Most Gracious Speech," he said, referring to Washington's inaugural address. Blank surprise showed in the eyes of many of the senators. Jefferson, the great champion of democracy, was absent in Europe. Maclay rose to

"The words prefixed to the president's speech are the same that are usually placed before the speech of his Britannic majesty," he said. "I know they will give offense. I consider them improper. I therefore, move that they be struck out and that it stand simply address or speech, as may be adjudged most suitable."

The report of the committee on titles was rejected May 14 by a vote of 10 to 8, but in a half-hearted way. The record showed that "for the present" the subject would be dropped, but the wording clearly indicated that titles were favored.

sion of the Nile; Pirut, the season of als of his early plays, which I mentioned the other day, was in all probability the one which was acquired in still earlier years with the intention of impressing Frederick Greenwood. The story of this tall hat was related at the memorable dinner given to Greenwood in 1905, with John Morley, then quite untitled, in the chair. "I bought my first silk hat, to impress him, the day I came to London," said the distinguished pilgrim from Thrums. "I never wore it except when I made periodic advances on the St. James's Gazette. I liked to think that it had its effect upon him." The hat would naturally be treasured on grounds other than those which would suggest themselves to the ordinary thrifty Scot-it had opened out to him a great literary career, and it might be expected to have its natural beneficent influence on the plays.-Westminster (Eng.) Ga-

Something to Worry About.

As if we haven't already enough to keep our minds busy, with war and the high cost of living! And our friends, the learned astronomers, who study the heavens just as carefully as the average fellow does the innermost recesses of his pocketbook day before pay, are intent upon adding to our load of worry burdens. They-some of them-believe the sun is going to explode. One of them, writing in Popular Astronomy, points to the fact that our sun is of advanced age, and predicts its finish as the leading figure in any solar system. He finds that our sun has contracted 92,000,000 miles from each side, thus giving its hot center 186,000,000 miles less of room. So you see the sun's center is rather crowded for space. Something like the three-room-apartment couple when visiting relatives begin their summer vacation drives.-Syracuse Journal.

Diplomacy. Harold-And why must we always

Doris-Because there may be a sudthere, and offered to pay \$27,000, with den change, and we don't know how

> Righteous Indignation. Mrs. Jones-I wonder what makes

Jones (savagely)-Why, it's herediyour sitting up nights waiting for me.

IF WORLD MOVED FASTER

Existing Conditions Would Be Very Greatly Upset by Increased Rotatation, as Shown Here.

Conjecture has often been made as to what would happen if the earth were to rotate faster upon its axis than it does. Of course, if it went 18 times as fast as it does now, bodies at the equator would weigh nothinga person would jump up into the air and fail to come down again. A man might weigh 200 at the poles and nothing at the equator, while his weight would vary for intermediate points. If he approached the equator he would get lighter and if he receded from it he would get heavier. A man could carry a house on his shoulders very near the equator, while near either pole he could only carry what one can now. On this account labor would be very dear near the poles and very cheap near the equator. It would certainly be interesting to know which section of the earth would be more populous-whether everyone would go north for good wages or go south for cheap workmen. The railroad problem would be momentous unless the railroads all ran east and west, when a uniform rate would obtain on any particular east-and-west line.

Journeys to the south would be even more popular than they are now, for they would make everyone feel better and in buoyant spirits; more springy, so that people could walk farther without getting tired, and could jump over any obstacle that presented itself without coming down with too hard a thump.

There is no planet now known that has such a rapid rotation as is pictured here, but there are several where man would weigh a great deal less than on earth. On the moon a man would weigh only fifty or sixty pounds and could jump as many feet without suffering serious discomfort. But this state of affairs obtains over the whole planet, because it is due to absence of gravitative force and not to centrifugal, as would be the case on the rapidly rotating earth.

Buyer Gets Rare Volume Cheap. First editions and rare books often bring prices at sales which excite the wonder of the uninitiated, but large as the sums received sometimes are, it often happens that a volume goes for less than had been paid for it by the preceding owner. This is illustrated in the case of a Dougy Bible which brought \$6,250 at a New York auction sale a short time ago. It had belonged to the collection of the late John D. Crimmins, who had paid \$5,565 for it 17 years before. Because of its intrinsic value as a bibliographic rarity, it had increased \$685 in that time. But Augustin Daly, from whose estate Crimmins bought the Bible, had spent \$20,000 on it in illustrating it with rare prints, original drawings and old engravings of Biblical events, thereby enlarging the original book to 42 volumes. However, the confirmed collect or does not usually buy books as an investment, but for the pleasure of owning them, and probably Mr. Daly got \$20,000 worth of entertainment in gathering the prints and in extra-illustrating the book.

Rooks In Noisy Conclave.

The ways of rooks in France, somewhere in the army zone, puzzle a correspondent who writes that their behavior at the advent of mild weather was peculiar. They congregated in immense numbers on a few trees near his billet: the trees were literally black with them; every twig and branch was crowded with a screaming mob of birds, that wheeled up and down in great excitement. Sometimes they settled on the fields, but not to feed. The writer surmises that, having on a fine day resolved to visit their old nests, as is their habit, they found that the woodcutters-busy in France as they are in England, had destroyed their nesting sites. The hurly-burly in the trees was probably then due to the rooks all giving their advice simultaneously as to what ought to be done in such untoward circumstances.

Malaria in England.

Malaria was once common in certain parts of England, but as a result of drainage and the use of quinine, it was completely stamped out, notwithstanding the fact that anopheline mosguitoes remain in the country. The parasitic cycle was broken, and the insect was no longer infected. Now comes the report of a recrudescence of indigenous malaria in England. According to a circular issued by the local government board, many men have contracted the disease while fighting on the eastern war fronts, and have brought it home with them; thus they serve as foci of infection for the civilian population. Measures are being taken to deal with the carrier mos-

Air-Raid Signs.

Londoners can tell by looking at the night sky whether to expect Gotha raids or whether to go comfortably to bed. If the moon shines and the night is clear he studies the clouds. Should they be at some height racing from the east it is safe to assume that the Gothas will not come, for they cannot make progress against a west wind, which holds them back from the British shore. If, however, the clouds are flying from the west the Londoner prepares for a lively evening.

The Main Point.

"When I looked at the poor man you sent out to work in the garden for his breakfast I saw he was very much hurt. His face was working." "It was? But what were his hands

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