

SIDELIGHTS

County commissioners of Buncombe county, North Carolina, have provided white cotton nightshirts for county convicts. Capt. L. E. Revis, convict boss, sarcastically suggests that the yeggs, rum runners and other criminals in his charge should have red silk nightshirts with heliotrope trimmings.

Joseph W. Hall, former journalism professor at the University of Washington, is being held a prisoner, under the charge of being a spy, by General Fang at Nanking, China. Mr. Hall was gathering material for a series of magazine articles when arrested, and his latest experience will probably furnish him wealth of local color for his purpose.

Three recent epigrams by Lord Dewar, famed Scotch distiller: "Love is an ocean of emotion entirely surrounded by expenses." Respectability is a state of never being caught doing anything which gives you pleasure. "Clothes make the women and break the men."

"Truth serum" tests were declared to be "claptrap" in a recent decision of the Missouri Supreme Court, which affirmed the conviction and sentence of a St. Louis negro, charged with assault. The negro had declared his innocence while under the supposed influence of the truth serum. It is not recorded that the treatment had been administered to his lawyers.

Hans Zingg, Jr., and three companions were fined a total of \$429 for killing and eating a doe deer, when haled before a Pennsylvania court, during the recent hunting season. Thus the animal proved to be not only a doe deer, but also a deer doe.

American and British interests are reported to have arranged for a 150-year lease of one of the islands of the Bahama group, about 60 miles off the Florida coast, to which the thirsty may repair for regalement, beyond the reach of the American dry force. A sort of sanctuary for old soaks.

Justice moves slowly in Hornell, New York, according to a press dispatch, which states that after a two-week session court was adjourned because out of 186 cases on the docket not one was ready for trial. Another proof that American efficiency does not extend to legal procedure.

William Taylor of Saskatoon, Sask., charged with stealing from a blind man, pleaded that he had suffered from shell shock during the war and was not responsible for his actions. He stood a fair chance to get by with his plea until a search of the records disclosed that he had served a term of five years for arson before the war. He got four months at hard labor.

POWER AND PROGRESS

Commenting on America's industrial progress, Viscount Rothermere, one of England's leading publicists, declares that "the economic welfare of the United States is based more than anything else upon the fact that she has 29,000,000 horsepower of electric power established in her factories—a force that is estimated as the equivalent of 290,000,000 human workers."

He also asserts that the day is visibly approaching when practically all the hard manual labor of the United States will be done by electricity.

No student of economics can fail to grasp the truth, as well as the significance, of this favorable situation. American progress and prosperity have been due to the increased output per worker which has been made possible by improved power-driven machinery.

So long as America shall keep her place in the forefront of mechanical and electrical progress, so long will her people enjoy the highest average of living standards in the world.

CROPS AND IGNORANCE

A vicious circle, in which children, cotton and ignorance figure, was recently described by the Progressive Farmer, which, although referring particularly to the South, may be in evidence in other sections of the country.

It appears that farmers of a certain community had voted against a longer school term, because they "couldn't spare the children from the fields." At the same time the South was raising such a surplus crop of cotton that it would not bring the cost of production. Thus:

Children are kept out of school to make surplus crops that cause low prices that bring poverty that keeps children out of school, and so on.

The result is an unending sequence of poverty and ignorance. To keep children out of school for work in the fields—or in factories, either—is a short-sighted policy, a moral and economic folly, a crime against childhood.

HOPE FOR DRUG ADDICTS

Successful results obtained from a new preparation called narcosan, used as a hypodermic injection in the treatment of drug addicts, are reported by Dr. Alexander Lambert, former president of the American Medical Association, and associates of Bellevue Hospital.

Tests of the new remedy have been made over a period of seven months, during which time fourteen addicts have been cured of their craving for drugs in an average of about three weeks for each case. The patients are declared also to have shown improved general health.

In addition to its efficacy in treating morphine, cocaine and heroin addicts, it is said that narcosan injections are beneficial in cases of over-indulgence in veronal and alcohol. While the treatment gives the greatest promise, some refinements of technique will be necessary before it can be made available to practitioners generally, as present methods are quite complex.

Narcosan was discovered by A. S. Horovitz, a Hungarian bio-chemist, who came to America on his honeymoon in 1909 and remained in this country. He is now 42 and has worked on the development of his preparation for ten years. Should his discovery fulfill the expectations of eminent physicians who have conducted the first tests, he will be entitled to a high place among the benefactors of mankind.

WHAT'S NEW

Miniature photographs in eight different poses may be secured for a quarter dropped into a new slot machine installed on Broadway, New York.

Live electric wires strung through orchards are used to fight the destructive codling moth in the state of Washington.

Successful tests of a new device to prevent airplane tailspins were recently made near Santa Monica, Cal.

A new attachment called a "violinofon" increases the tone of a violin five-fold, through a horn-shaped amplifier.

By a new process, the bony structure of crab and lobster shells may be converted into artificial silk fabric.

The eye of a glow-worm was used as a lens in taking photographs recently exhibited by a London scientist.

MEDALS FOR POLE FLYERS

Exactly 23 years to a day from the time of Orville Wright's first airplane flight on December 17, 1903, the United States Senate passed a bill awarding the Congressional Medal of Honor to Commander Richard Evelyn Bird of the Navy in recognition of his flight to the North Pole. A similar medal was awarded to his companion on the flight, Machinist Floyd Bennett.

Up to the very day on which the Wright brothers made their first flight in a heavier than air machine, the idea of such an accomplishment was ridiculed by scientists and laymen alike. Only a few days before a congressman had intimated on the floor of the House that to believe in the possibility of human flight was an indication of feeble-mindedness. Almost before the ink was dry on the Congressional Record containing his speech, the feat had been accomplished.

Orville Wright's first flight lasted only 12 seconds. Four flights in all were made that first day, the last being of 59 seconds duration and covered only 852 feet.

The astounding advances in aviation made during the 23 years since that memorable day are well known to all. Of all the exploits in the air, that of Byrd and Bennett in flying to the North Pole and return was one of the most daring. The bestowal of the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest decoration within the gift of the people of the United States, will meet with universal approval.

"Man Shoots Two"—Headline. Only two?

Fashion note: Knees will be worn lower next season.

The Dawes plan that won the peace prize was not the plan for revising the Senate rules.

Sesqui-centennial: An exposition that pays out one and a half times as much as it takes in.

Italian bachelors complain because they are taxed. But suppose they were compelled to marry.

The Literary Digest might also take a straw vote on what to do with Mr. Mellon's surplus.

The outstanding optimist of 1926 was a Washington state farmer who planted fifty acres of mint.

Vale Brevities

New Residents—

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Perkins and family moved to Vale from Westfall last week to make their home here.

Visit In Weiser—

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Romph who are here from Portland, spent the early part of the week as guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Romph in Weiser. They returned Wednesday for the alumni dance. They will return to Portland shortly after the first of the year.

Away For Christmas—

Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Bullock drove to Watson Saturday to spend Christmas with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Griffith. They returned to the city Monday, accompanied by Mr. Griffith, who is visiting here. Mrs. K. N. Dale also came to Vale with them.

Wendell Mulkey Better —

Wendell Mulkey, who has been very ill as the result of an injury he received while working in the garage, is reported much better this week. He is at the Vale sanitarium, where he has splendid care. The infected limb was lanced Tuesday with the result that rapid recovery is now expected.

In Nampa—

Mrs. Pearl Hill and children left Sunday afternoon for Nampa to spend the holiday week with Mrs. G. W. Clevenger. They are expected home tomorrow.

Home Vacation—

Margaret McNulty, student in the high school, has spent vacation with her parents who reside at Watson.

Return From Coast—

H. G. Kennard, state watermaster, returned home the last of the week after a business visit in Portland and Salem with State Engineer, Rhea Luper. He was accompanied by Mrs. Kennard, Mrs. James A. Smith and her little son who enjoyed a visit with relatives and friends in the coast cities.

Christmas In Parma—

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Romph drove to Parma on Christmas eve to spend the week end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ashcraft. On return Monday they were accompanied by Davina Cummock of Weiser, who was their house guest this week.

RADIO TRAIN CONTROL

Radio control of train movements is described in a recent statement by the Department of Commerce giving details of a new German invention designed to prevent collisions.

Fundamentally the system involves the equipment of all trains running on a single track with receiving and sending radio apparatus tuned to a designated short wave-length. When a train reduces its speed or stops, a signal is automatically communicated to a train following on the same track behind it, to warn the engineer by a peculiar sound, or to act directly upon the brakes of the following train.

Where two or more tracks run parallel, each would be governed by a different wave-length. Similar results may be obtained through operating the signals from a stationary "block house" if desired, and the system gives promise of real effectiveness in the prevention of rear-end collisions. There appears to be no reason why modification of the method might not be adapted to avoid head-on collisions as well, although such adaption is not mentioned in the preliminary report of the new invention.

OLDEN CLUB RULES

The custom among luncheon clubs in the United States, whereby a club is supposed to limit its membership to only one of each business or profession, recalls a similar rule of the famous Spectator Club, organized by Addison, the English essayist, more than two centuries ago.

In that day the rule was stated thus: "None shall be admitted into the club that is of the same trade with any member of it."

Some other rules of the Spectator Club, however, find no counterpart among the modern regulations governing Rotary, Kiwanis and similar organizations, but they are nevertheless interesting, the following being examples:

"If any member swears or curses, his neighbor may give him a kick upon the shins.

"If any member tells stories in the club that are not true, he shall forfeit for every third lie a half penny.

"If any member brings his wife into the club, he shall pay for whatever she drinks or smokes.

"If any member's wife comes to fetch him from the club, she shall speak to him outside the door."

The last rule was perhaps considered quite necessary in a day when there were no telephones, and may have enabled a timorous husband to escape while a faithful steward assured the wife that he was not in.

There is a law against driving under 16, and there should be one against driving over that many.

A recent novel contains no dialogue, the only conversation quoted being that of a wife to her husband.

In the game of auto vs. locomotive, the farmer completed few forward passes during the 1926 season.

Mr. Browning's experience rather refutes the idea that it is advisable to "catch 'em young and treat 'em rough."

BOOSTERS

What Are Boosters?

BOOSTERS are the Public Spirited men who are always ready to stand back of the town in which they live, whether he is a merchant, resident or a farmer who calls that town home. A booster is a man who wants to see his home town go ahead and is putting his shoulder to the wheel in an effort to make it go ahead.

Boosters Are Those Who Advertise

The newspaper in your community is the biggest booster of them all. When some public enterprise is set afloat, the chances are ten to one that the local paper was the biggest factor in the lot in bringing about its accomplishment, so why not patronize the merchants that are boosting your town and thereby become a booster yourself?

Check over the paper this week and see just who the boosters in Nyssa are—and they want your trade too because they are asking you for it—THERE BOOSTERS.

Trade With Merchants Who Want Your Trade

The Gate City Journal

NYSSA, OREGON