OUR NAVY'S NEWSPAPERS

Many of the Battleships Have Their Own Plants.

SOME SPICY ARTICLES

The "Budget" of the Kentucky, the "Pelican" of the Louisiana and a Number of Others Tell the Happenings Aboard Ship—A story of the President's Trip.

Several of the big ships in the United States navy have their own newspapers. On board the Kentucky is printed the Kentucky Budget, a semi-monthly. The U. S. S. Louisiana is responsible for the Pelican, which is issued monthly. The battleship Ohio has the Buckeye. The U. S. S. West Virginia boasts of the Ditty Box. The Badger is printed monthly on the U. S. S. Wisconsin.

All of the above papers are issued by the enlisted men of the ships. The aim of each is identical—to make life aboard the ship more agreeable and to give the friends in civil life an outline of naval doings and of the brighter side of naval life.

The Americans are a newspaper reading nation. Barred from his local papers by the refusal of the Government to allow free postage on papers addressed to the navy, Jack promptly solaces himself by starting a newspaper of his own on board ship. The men have a freedom of criticism in the little monthly papers that would lead one to think that military discipline is not all blood and iron. Many sly digs are rammed home at unpopular officers and more frequent are the bouquets for those occupants of the wardroom who are popular with the crew.

The resume of the year 1906 from one of these little magazines follows:

Some professional forecaster predicted that the year 1906 would be one of disasters. The prophecy came only too true. San Francisco and the Chilean capital were destroyed by earthquake and fire. Pensacola was visited by a terrific storm so early in 1907 that it might have been considered an afterthought of the old year. Vesuvius scared a million people half to death (a mortality of 500,000 by the rules of arithmetic). There were fires and floods and wrecks throughout the length and breadth of Christendom. It might also be added that Platt and Depew remained in the Senate. The universal peace egg would not hatch, though the Czar of Russia had to be shooed off the nest to keep her from starving to death. Commodore Schley wrote a testimonial for Peruna. Mrs. Eddy nearly kicked the bucket, while Anthony Comstock and the W. C. T. U. did not. There was a hoodoo somewhere and personally we are carrying a heavy life insurance and the left hind foot of a graveyard rabbit.

Among the news that goes to fill the columns are such items as these:

A few weeks ago we predicted 175 styles of whiskers on the Kentucky. That estimate was too low. There are 177 now and the number is increasing. Remember what the Prophet said. "A hair lip is a misfortune, but whiskers is your own fault."

From the United States steamship Yankton we learn that:

According to the opinion of the entire crew the Yankton is leading the fleet in the grub line.

Also we learn that:

We are glad to wecome our big sister Connecticut to the Atlantic. She looks powerful enough to whip a West Indian hurricane. We hope to have some more "makey-learn" ships with us soon.

One issue of the Pelican is always wholly taken up with an account of the President's trip to Panama on board the Louisiana. Besides containing a picture of the President it gives in full his speech to the crew of that ship and a programme of a vaudeville show by the enlisted men of the Louisiana in honor of the President. No. 12 of the vaudeville programme is a monologue entitled "Troubles of the Hebrew," which was recited by Coal Passer Isaac Rosenthal.

Subcalibre practice is known to the sailors as "ping pong." With this explanation the following poem from the Pelican may be intelligible to the lay reader:

It's ping pong in the morning and
it's ping pong in the night,
Some people worry about it so their
hair has took to flight;
They wrestle with the ping pong, oh!
they wrestle day and night,
And the funniest thing about it is
they never get it right.
They say your eyes are crooked, I
think that's very crude;
But they can never learn me how to
shoot, not with a Morris tube.

Some of the poets on the battleship Kentucky have turned out some excellent homemade poems, which appear in the Budget under the heading of "Poems You Ought to Know."

A trolley company in Vermont whose cars fail to come to a full stop and display a signal at a grade railroad crossing is subject to a fine of $25 for each omission.

The custom that prevails in Greece of carrying a body to the grave in a coffin which allows the face to be visible is said to have originated when the Turks dominated the land.

SURGERY ON HUMAN HEARTS.

Why the Operation so Often Proves Unsuccessful.

In the many cases recorded of operations upon the hearts of human beings, as well as in the case of the lower animals, when the subjects have died death has been due to blood poisoning or septic poisoning. The danger of blood poisoning in such cases is naturally very great. This, however, tends to prove that the actual danger of the operation itself is not insurmountable. In cases where the heart has actually been cut and again sewed up death has been caused by the tearing out of the stitches. It will be readily understood, of course, that since the heart is constantly in motion, even violent motion, such stitches are likely to tear through the flesh, when death quickly follows. That the living heart has actually been laid bare in many instances and daring operations have been successfuly performed is sufficient promise for the future, it is believed, of this department of surgery.

The history of these cases reads like a romance. A few years ago such operations would have been entirely impossible. Dr. Samuel G. Tracy, of New York, a specialist in diseases of the heart, has compiled a list of such operations which will doubtless come as a surprise to most laymen. It seems that wounds of the heart, according to the records, are generally due to an incision from a stab or a puncture from a hat pin or a perforation from a bullet. Other injuries may be due to contusions, as in the breaking of a rib, in which a splinter of bone penetrates into the heart walls. Severe injuries of this latter type may take place without a fatal ending. When injuries take place which penetrate into the cavities of the heart the consequences are very serious.

In bullet wounds of the heart an occasionally fatal result may obtain without the detection of an apparent wound in the walls of the heart. A curious instance of this kind is related by a Canadian physician. In this case the pericardium, or outside lining of the heart, showed no wound, although the right ventricle of the heart contained a wound large enough to admit two fingers. It is evident that the elastic pericardium was driven before the bullet into the heart, while the ventricle was forcibly distended with blood. Upon autopsy the ball was found loose in the cavity of the heart. Laceration of the heart from external violence, often of a fatal character, occurs without leaving any trace of injury on the skin. As a rule, penetrative wounds of the heart are fatal. However, there are numerous cases on record which show that recovery is sometimes possible. The following illustrate this point:—

A negro boy was wounded in the chest with a load of shot. He lived sixty-seven days and died from overeating. The autopsy showed five bullets in the heart walls and all firmly healed over.

The second case was that of a soldier who died eighteen years after he was shot. Upon autopsy the bullet was found in the lower right ventricle.

There are numerous records of persons surviving a considerable length of time after the heart has been penetrated by a foreign substance. An English surgeon mentions a boy who lived for a month with a piece of wood three inches long in the right side of his heart. In 400 cases of heart injury through external violence 103 cases died immediately, 200 in a short time, 50 recovered and in the remainder the termination is not given. By modern antiseptic surgery and greater skill in these latter days severe wounds of the heart may be treated with greater possibilities of success. The chest may be opened, the heart exposed and the wound sewed up. The results obtained in sewing up heart wounds depend in the main on the presence or absence of sepsis (blood poison), provided the patient is not beyond hope of recovery from shock or hemorrhage. In a series of nineteen cases in wounds of the heart where recovery might be anticipated, thirteen recovered and six died, all of sepsis or blood poison. In the thirteen who got well four were infected with blood poisoning, but their constitutions were so strong that they recovered in spite of the poison.

Land of the Sullen Moor.

The supreme ambition of the Moor is to be left to himself, to exclude the Christian from his lands and to fight out his own existence according to the dictates of his religion and of his ancestor's. It is this religious structure, this ever-present idea of a diety to whom they can appeal for help in the smallest of their tasks, this conception of a power that is capable of doing no wrong and of protecting and guiding its followers, which accounts for the peculiar disregard of physical punishment, and even of death, so characteristic of the Moors. I remember one morning as we were passing through the country nqlerxsutbngarieh hearing a man on one of the hillsides crying out in a loud voice. He had with him some ten or twelve dogs. Our guide informed us that he was praying to Mohammed to help him catch a jackal which he was hunting.

Never try to borrow money from a man you have had an argument with.

WHEN THE JURY DECIDES

They Are Not Always Influenced by the Evidence.

ANTAGONIZE THE JUDGE

How Jurors Misconstrue Instructions—Explaining an Acquittal—Human Nature in the Jury Room—Men Who Stick Out For Supposed Privileges.

A Judge, a lawyer and an old court clerk met one night at a club the membership of which includes many men in public life and got to discussing the fate of a case after it is left to a jury, says a writer in the New York Sun.

The three men have had each in his particular line many opportunities for knowing so-called secrets of the jury room. The lawyer has been on both sides of the firing line in many legal battles, the Judge has sat in many important criminal cases and the clerk has sworn thousands of juries and taken their verdicts.

"There was a case not so long ago," said the lawyer, "that received a good deal of attention from the newspapers, but after the jury's verdict nothing more was heard of it. It was one of the best illustrations I have seen of how a jury can misconstrue the evidence and the instructions of the Court.

"The defendant was a man who had been mixed up in a trial that attracted the attention of the country. At that trial he was a witness and testified to certain initials which he was supposed to have written on a document which was an important piece of evidence in the trial. He denied that he had written the initials, although there was testimony to the contrary.

"When the trial was over he was indicted for perjury. The prosecution made a determined effort to convict him.

"There was plenty of testimony to show that he had written the initials. Handwriting experts were brought in and they swore that there was no doubt that the defendant had written the letters in dispute. Days were taken up in the trial. The young Assistant District Attorney who had charge of the prosecution's side made a determined fight and felt he had clinched his case.

"The defendant, as at the first trial denied most positively that he had written the initials. The Judge made a very fair charge to the jury. He said that all the jury had to decide was whether the defendant had written the initials and whether he had testified falsely at the first trial to protect himself.

"If he had he was guilty of perjury, said the Judge. The Judge made it plain what the jury's duties were and they were sent out to deliberate. They were out for several hours and then acquitted the defendant.

"Well, it was a sad blow for the young Assistant District Attorney. It was days before he got over the verdict, but he had almost forgotten it, being engrossed in other work, when he got a reminder of the case that didn't please him very much.

"He was leaving an uptown hotel after having had dinner when he met one of the men who had been on the jury. The man walked up to him and offered to shake hands.

"'I suppose you'd like to know how we came to that verdict," said the juror.

"'I would indeed,' said the lawyer none too cordially.

"'Well, you made out a good case,' said the juror. 'There wasn't any doubt in our minds about that. We also voted unanimously that that fellow wrote the initials. But we came to the conclusion that he had not written them with any criminal intent. Now, wasn't that all right?'

"At times a prosecutor will be a great favorite with a jury and they will do almost anything he asks. Another prosecutor may antagonize a jury from the start and they will vote against him even if he makes out a perfect case.

"Often juries become irritable and the Judge has to scold them. I've known cases in which jurymen have felt that the Judge tried to influence their verdict when he only laid particular stress on an involved point of law. Then they wouldn't agree on any point in the case."

"As an example of stubborn juries I remember a case in which the prosecution made out a complete chain of evidence and there was no defence. There wasn't any doubt about the defendant's guilt, and the Judge in a brief charge practically said so.

"A couple of the jurors decided that th Judg was abusing their prerogatives and they wouldn't vote for conviction. The Judge knew what was going on and kept them in a stuffy room for hours on a hot afternoon, but the two men wouldn't give in and the Judge was compelled to discharge the Jury in the evening.

If there were only one potato in the world a careful cultivator might produce 10,000,000,000 from it in ten years, and thus supply the world with seed again.

The prison population of India is only 38 per 100,000 inhabitants. Sixty years ago there were 150,000 children at school in India. Now there are over 4,000,000.

TWIN CURSES OF CHINA.

Vices That Were Unknown One Hundred Years Ago.

Opium and gambling are the twin curses of the Celestial empire, and no more important step could be taken toward the reclamation of the Chinese than the abolishing of these two vices.

The smoking of poppy juice is the worst vice in which Chinamen indulge and it is generally looked upon as lower and more degrading than any other. It is doubtful, however, if it is any more prevalent in China than is excessive alcoholism in our own country and it is also questionable whether its effects are worse than those of whisky.

However this may be, the vice was almost unknown in the Flowery kingdom until about a hundred years ago, when it was forcibly introduced by the English in order to dispose of the poppy crop of India. In fact, it was not until after the opium war of 1841 that the vice was at all prevalent in the interior. This war was the result of opposition on the part of the Chinese government to the importation of the insidious drug, which they realized to be an evil likely to undermine the institutions of their civilization, the oldest on the earth.

It is popularly supposed that nearly all Chinese indulge in the opium habit but, as a matter of fact, the percentage of those who use the drug is small. They are, however, of all ranks, from the lowest "coolie" to the wealthy and governing classes.

The "opium den" grows out of the fact that considerable apparatus is necessary for the enjoyment of the drug. A reclining position is best adopted to the operation of smoking. In fact, any other position would be extremely awkward and almost impossible. A small portion of dried juice of the poppy is warmed sufficiently to enable the smoker to roll it into a pill. This pill is then placed over a small opening in the projection from the stem of the pipe and held in the flame of a spirit lamp while the smoker draws the fumes through the bamboo stem. Unlike tobacco, opium must be held constantly in an artificial flame, as it does not burn of itself.

The Chinaman is a natural gambler and indulges in numerous games of chance. The most common of these is called "Fantan." The "layout" for this game consists of a table marked with a series of squares numbered consecutively, a bowl of cash (the common Chinese coins with small, square holes in the center), and a chopstick. The players "make their game" much as is done in roulette, placing the amount they wish to wager on the square of their choice. The "banker" then overturns the bowl of "cash" upon the table, the number of coins being taken at random and unknown. With the chopstick he then withdraws from the pile a number of coins equal to the number of squares on the table. This is continued until the number of "cash" remaining is equal to or less than the number of squares. The number then remaining is declared to win and the lucky player who has placed his wager on the corresponding square is paid an amount equal to as many times his wager as the number of his square.

For example, we will say the table is divided into 10 squares. The bowl is overturned and the operator withdraws 10 coins at a time until there remain, let us say, but nine of the "cash." The player whose money is on the square numbered nine will then receive nine times the amount he has wagered, while the operator takes the money from all the other squares.

The game is complicated by numerous combinations. Money may be placed between two squares and win on either, but at a lower percentage than when within one or the other. A square may be "coppered," that is played to lose, and so on.

A Persuasive Prescription.

To Mary Carpenter belongs the honor of having been the pioneer of a movement which resulted in the establishment of industrial and reformatory schools in every large town in England. She is described in "Maids of Honor," as being very practical, but possessed of a ready wit and great perspicuity.

A girl at the Red Lodge, one of the homes for girls established by Miss Carpenter, had a rooted aversion to laundry work, and the weekly washing day was invariably the signal for a seizure of the most alarming kind.

She became absolutely rigid, foamed at the mouth, and seemed altogether in a most abnormal condition.

Miss Carpenter's observant mind took cognizance of these regularly recurrent fits, and in her own practical fashion she former her conclusions and determined on the remedy required.

Having sent for the doctor, she saw him alone, and requested him to notice the symptoms and to approve her proposed method of treatment.

"I have been strictly investigating the nature of these fits, doctor," she said, quietly, as they stood together by the bedside, "and I find that the most efficacious cure is the application of a hot iron to the soles of the feet."

The doctor acquiesced with a professional gravity that did him great credit. Turning to the nurse, Miss Carpenter said, sharply, "Heat me that poker, red-hot immediately."

The prescription alone was instantaneously effective. The girl sat up and began to speak. There were no more fits on washing days.

BASEBALL NO FUN TO THEM

Muggsy McGraw Never Cared Much for this Exciting Game.

ALL FIND IT HARD WORK

As Much Fun as Moving Pianos, Says Clark Griffith—Cy Young Prefers Chopping Asphalt—Old Jim McGuire, Though, Enjoys the Game—A Matter of Nerves.

A question often heard in the fans' buzz of talk at ball games is this:

"I wonder if those fellows playing the game get any fun out of it, or do they look upon it as work?"

Plenty of cocksure chaps in stand and bleachers don't even put this proposition in the form of a question. They take it for granted, being crazy over the game themselves, that all players of the national game in the professional ranks must be wild over ball playing and that they'd a little bit rather play ball than eat.

But these offhand ones don't know. The simple fact is that perhaps a majority of the men who have been playing professional game for as long as ten years become so tired of baseball that particularly at this waning stage of the season they actually dread the hour when they are due to put on their uniforms.

In an expansive moment, not long ago, Muggsy McGraw told a group of cronies that he'd never really raised a great deal for the game, even when he was one of the most successful players in the country.

"The game of ball always took too much out of me, even back in the kid days when I played hookey to bat 'em around on the lots," was his way of putting it. "The game always jangled my nerves and unstrung me so that I wasn't fit to be seen or heard for some time even after a scrub, skinned lot game.

Clark Griffith is another of the managers who looks with an expression of sullen surprise when the mere suggestion is made that a ball player can actually get any fun out of the game.

"Fun, eh?" he said to a group down in Atlantic City. "Well, it's about the same kind of fun for me as carrying the hod or moving pianos would be, and you can dope that out for yourself.

"I can't figure out where the fans get the idea that they fun for ball players to march out on a hot sticky sun soaked lot every afternoon and sweat and grunt around for a couple of hours at the same old game that most of them have been playing ever since or before they began to shave.

"You can take it from me, if the average man had a date to play five or six games of casino or blind man's buff or prisoner's base or puss in the corner every summer afternoon out in the open with thousands of howling critics looking on who think they know more about the game than the players themselves he'd mighty soon forget all about the funny part of that stuff.

"Playing ball is the hardest work I know anything about and I don't mean, either, that I haven't done a heap of hard work in my life besides playing ball. I'm not speaking now, either, of managing a team just playing the game."

Other well known players in the big leagues express themselves very much the same way. If the fun question is put to Cy Young, the veteran Cleveland pitcher, he ordinarily gives the most indirect of answers, if he expresses himself in terms about the game of ball, so far as the players are concerned.

"I'd sooner take a pick and go out in the sun for a couple of hours every afternoon and chop away at asphalt," was the way he put it. "I think most of the old timers have the same way of looking at it, even if they don't come out to the front and say so.

"A pitcher is liable to have the taste of the game grow on him even more than the other players. The best pitcher on earth never knows how he's going to perform from day to day in the work ahead of him.

"He may feel all right and work out all right before the game and then go in and get slaughtered in the very first inning and then get dragged out and chased to the bench with the whole mob howling at him. The dread of all this keeps a lot of pitchers awake nights as their days go in and work draw along.

The veteran of them all, old Jim McGuire, whose success as manager of the Boston Americans is so agreeable to the New York fans, expresses very different views as to the game.

"I sure do enjoy playing ball," he said out of hand. "It may be that I'm childish or simple minded or something, but I'm bound to say that I've never got over my early enjoyment in going out on the lot and indulging in a game of ball.

"Nope, the game never got on my nerves a little bit, and, by the way, I can easily remember the time when ball players weren't supposed to have such fine ladyish attachments as nerves, but I guess we won't talk about that part of it."

Not every woman is a good sport who stays in a game.

[illegible]

Surgeon, working, [illegible] of many different [illegible] spread till [illegible] a tenacious hold on [illegible] States of Oceania [illegible] the southwest coast of [illegible] Hindoos high and low [illegible] as they did a thousand [illegible] and it is considered [illegible] to injure the reptile [illegible] person.

In the district of [illegible] there are between [illegible] and twenty thousand [illegible] of exclusively to the [illegible] snakes which possess [illegible] valuable properties for their [illegible] shoe and for the use of [illegible] monies which the keepers have [illegible] form from time to time.

In these shrines the Hindoos [illegible] down fantastic idols of serpents [illegible] a stone base, and the shrine is [illegible] tected by a mud wall. Houses [illegible] to assure their welfare through [illegible] offerings of dough, milk and [illegible] rice to the serpentine habitues [illegible] shrine and place lights and [illegible] hymns in order to be assured of [illegible] favor.

Every morning the king and [illegible] of the serpents is bathed and [illegible] and milk are offered to them, [illegible] followed at noon by cooked rice [illegible] fried grain. On certain days [illegible] ceals in grove and [illegible] are carried in procession to the [illegible] where propitiatory sacrifices are [illegible] The presiding functionary [illegible] that aged feeble member of [illegible] family who has to breathe [illegible] the day she attains the [illegible]

At famous snake [illegible] ancient place [illegible] seeks to win in the [illegible] offerings of gold, silver, [illegible] spices, oil, [illegible] or things. The cost of [illegible] is defrayed by the [illegible] poppy fields and [illegible] the shrines. It is [illegible] from the [illegible] with [illegible] the grove, will [illegible] (necessary to [illegible] house. The [illegible] make [illegible] those [illegible] that as [illegible] wind [illegible] [illegible] rail [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]