"BUNK" OR "BUNC."

The Former the Northern, the Latter the Southern Spelling.

"It never occurred to me that there could be any two ways of spelling the word 'bunk,'" said the scholarly appearing person who was studying the sporting section of the newspaper. "But I happened to pick up a Memphis newspaper the other day and as a head to a speech made by Commissioner Loomis in Tokio recently I read 'Loomis Hands Out the Bunc.'

"Now, without endeavoring to go into the merits of the case so put I want to say only that the headline meant that Mr Loomis was accused of softsoaping the Japanese he addressed. The only other authority for the spelling of the word comes from the sporting cartoonists whose work I study carefully. They are unanimous in spelling it 'bunk.'

"It appears to me that the Southern version is based on a belief that the word is a diminutive of 'buncombe.' The Northern spelling may be due to the idea that a person who may be bunked is a person of sleepy or dopy nature who might as well be lying in a bunk wrapped in slumber. Therefore when a person is bunked he is rendered sleepy. That is merely conjecture."

The Dust of the Earth

Expecting a visit from the superintendent of an adjacent Sunday school one Sunday afternoon one enterprising teacher anticipating the line of questions which would be asked of the scholars selected a boy from her class to answer each question. As she had figured it out the visitor would first ask the pupils the question, "Who made you?" and the pupil was of course to answer "God." The next question was to be "Of what?" to which the answer was to be "Of the dust of the earth."

Unfortunately between the time Sunday school was called to order and the visiting superintendent had taken the floor, the first pupil was taken sick and obliged to go home. The teacher did not have the opportunity to readjust her force, and when the first question was asked the second boy thought it a good opportunity for him to get his answer and get it off his mind, so to the question, "Who made you?" he answered, "Of the dust of the earth."

"Oh, no," said the visitor. "God made you."

"No, sir. He did not," said the youngster. "The little boy that God made has gone home sick, and I am the dust of the earth." — Judge.

Famous Epicures.

In the ceiling of the dining room in Nero's "golden house," on the Palatine hill, were compartments inlaid with ivory which revolved, showering perfumes and flowers on the guests. Flowers were presented to the guests by slaves. They were crowned with wreaths. Usually after one course the tables were removed and others placed before the guests. Throughout the meal drinking continued until the banqueters fell under the table stupefied. In those days men lived to eat. Great generals spent fortunes accumumulated in years of warfare in gratifying their appetites. Lucullus on one dinner with Cicero and Pompey spent 50,000 drachmas, or $7,000. Pithyllus, who was famed for the delicacy and originality of his dinners, wrapped his tongue in linen when not using it. That he might better appreciate flavors of the viands he had it cleaned with fish skin before dining.

Time, to the Hundredth of a Second.

Of the many new devices that modern inventions has recently given to the world, perhaps there is no more ingenious contrivance than the electrical chronometer, the product of a Parisian brain, by means of which an automobile race can be timed even to the one-hundredth of a second.

One of these instruments is placed at the starting-point of the race and another at the finish, the two being connected by a charged wire. When the start has been made a current of electricity is immediately sent through the line, which deflects a needle, making a dot upon a paper on a revolving drum. At the finish another dot is made upon the paper; the exact time may then be discovered by means of the scale which connects these markings.

Memory of Animals.

"The elephant's memory is proverbial," said F. Martin Duncan, F. Z. S., at the New Gallery Photographic Exhibition, "but that of other beasts of the jungle is hardly less noteworthy."

"Tigers in captivity always remember a kindness and recognize a friend even after the lapse of months. Lions which have been in a zoological garden for years have also been known to show signs of abject fear when visited by native hunters from the country where they had their early home." — London Daily Mail.

Surely the Limit.

A friend was once talking with a [illegible] woman, when a stingy man passed by. "Do you see that man," said she, with cunning smile. "You could blow his soul through a humming-bird's bill, into a mosquito's eye, and the mosquito wouldn't [illegible]."

Vices and Virtues.

Do not consider any vice as trivial, and therefore practice it; do not consider any virtue as unimportant, and therefore neglect it. — Hunan.

KILLED FOR THE YEAR 1904.

Record the World Over of Violent Happenings and War's Fatalities.

The year 1904 was notable for the number of deaths by violence.

The lynchings were eighty-seven in number, the smallest of any year since 1885. None was reported in November, the first time in twenty years that there was a month without a lynching, says the Philadelphia Ledger.

War losses for 1904 were great because of the Russian-Japanese war. The total loss for [illegible] 400,000 compared with a [illegible]. The Russian-Japanese [illegible] officially given, but they amount to at least [illegible].

The loss [illegible] reported [illegible] 1904 was 2,3[illegible], a considerable decrease from last year [illegible] of seriously [illegible] dition to the loss [illegible] roads 4[illegible] injured on [illegible].

There were [illegible] 1904 compared [illegible] 144 in [illegible].

Of these [illegible] Japanese [illegible].

The number [illegible] deaths [illegible] was 8,482 compared [illegible].

During the year [illegible] trains held up [illegible] and four stage [illegible] three passengers [illegible] wounded [illegible] figures [illegible] Gazette [illegible] such events [illegible] years, the [illegible] being 3[illegible] were killed and [illegible].

Queer Japan

In "More Queer Things About Japan" Douglas [illegible] says: "[illegible] one of the [illegible] Japan is that of smiles. When you have lived in that land of smiles you will learn in time that when you understand a Japanese smile you may hope to understand the people. A daughter in law must always present a smiling face to her mother in law, the servant must smile when his mistress dismisses him. [illegible] a death [illegible] laughter is [illegible] occasions [illegible] smiles are used on every occasion to conceal real feelings; they are not always significant of pleasure.

"No was has the Japanese," the same writer [illegible]. "He [illegible] in his clothes with [illegible] live on [illegible] offal of the sea, and he is so accustomed to carrying heavy weights and running long distances that he can be his own commissariat and even his own horse. As England turned its foot soldiers into mounted infantry so the Japanese can turn their rikshamen, of whom there are 50,000 in Tokyo alone, into unmounted cavalry. Their courage is wonderful. The Japanese does not fear death in any form.

"If the Japanese are somewhat lax as regards their religion they are at any rate believers in cleanliness." The writer says: "Personal cleanliness is a virtue which all Japanese servants possess. It is no unusual thing for a Japanese servant to apologize to a mistress for not having had time to bathe more than three times that day."

River Postman

It is probable that London has the distinction of being the only port where the ships lying at anchor are privileged to have their letters delivered to them by river postmen, it being customary at other ports for sailors to apply personally for their letters unless the ship is in dock. The Thames is divided into two postal districts, each under the control of a river postman, who delivers letters and parcels every morning in a craft which resembles a fishing boat more than anything else. Of these districts the first extends from the Custom House to Limehouse and the second from Limehouse to Blackwall. The river postmen start on their rounds punctually at eight o'clock every morning, and needless to say there is only one delivery a day. The mail bag may include as many as five hundred letters, but this number is largely increased about Christmas time. As he glides from ship to ship the postman calls out "Ahoy there!" and hands up the letters attached to a boathook to the waiting crew. It takes only from four to five hours to deliver the mail, so that the postman does not waste much time. In foggy weather, however, it takes considerably longer owing to the difficulties of finding the various ships, and of steering between the large vessels as they lie at anchor.

Emperor With Gift of Tongues.

The emperor of Austria is one of the most accomplished royal linguists in Europe.

It is told of him that at one of the great military reviews he addressed five different regiments, German, Italian, Hungarian, Bohemian and Wallachian, each in its own tongue, and Hungary will never forget how, 57 years ago, the youthful Archduke Francis Joseph, when installing the governor of Prest, electrified his audience by addressing it in purest Magyar, a tongue no other archduke had even taken the trouble to learn.

They sprang from their seats, waved their swords in a frenzy of enthusiasm, and almost lifted the roof with thunderous shouts of "Eljen!"

The emperor speaks both English and French, as fluently almost as his own tongue. — Westminster Gazette.

OUR HARDWOOD FORESTS.

Only a Limited Area to Supply the Constantly Growing Demand

It will be remembered that there are no hardwoods on the Pacific Coast. Except in a comparatively small area in southeastern Missouri and Arkansas the hardwoods are not known west of the Mississippi River, while in the States north of the Ohio, where oak was formerly abundant, there is none remaining to-day. In fact the principal source of supply for these woods is a very limited area in the [illegible] of western North Carolina [illegible] Virginia, West Virginia, eastern Tennessee and south [illegible] Kentucky, while from [illegible] entire area in the [illegible] of the [illegible] ly increasing.

Forest conditions [illegible] land Mountains [illegible] in other parts [illegible] States. The [illegible] the most [illegible] has not been [illegible] tent as to make [illegible].

An abundance [illegible] shrub and [illegible] cool and moist [illegible] tility while [illegible] tains a fine stand of [illegible] ble oaks, hickories [illegible] and walnut [illegible] quickly secured [illegible] seed.

A Rabbit-Exterminator

Many a robin has been [illegible] with salt and many a rascal has got rich by selling bug powder with explicit directions to take the bug between the fingers and [illegible] open his mouth and drop [illegible] grains of the dust. Here is the newest idea.

Australia as is well known is infested with rabbits, a most destructive [illegible] pest. Not long ago a man invented the following plan.

You go out into the field from which the rabbits are to be removed. You saw down a tree and on the slant of the stump you paint a black spot. Then you keep very quiet so that the rabbits will come back from their burrows and feed as usual.

When a large enough number has collected you clap your hands sharply.

The effect will be electric. The rabbits will jump in haste for their burrows. At least one is sure to mistake the black spot for his hole and make for it. Invariably he will dash his brains out. This process repeated often enough is warranted to exterminate the rabbit forever.

The reports do not say whether there are any rabbits left in Australia.

British Titles Claimed by Foreigners

An interesting parallel in the peerage of Scotland to the Barony of Fairfax, the claim to which has just been decided, is the Newburgh earldom, the holders of which have for more than a century been Italian nobles. In 1767 Cecilia, granddaughter of Charlotte Maria, Countess of Newburgh, became the wife of Benedict Prince Giustiniani and in 1793 her son Vincent became de jure the sixth Earl, although he did not claim the title. Since that time the Scottish peerage, which was confirmed by the House of Lords to Vincent's daughter, has been distinctly foreign and quite dissociated from this country. On the death of the third Baron Gardner the claimant to the title was one Alan Hyde Gardner, the son of a Mohammedan Princess and the husband of an Indian wife.

Killikinnick.

"We ran out of tobacco while fishing in the Canadian wilds," said a clubman. "Our guides put up on to killikinnick, and we smoked that for ten days. It wasn't bad.

"Killikinnick is the inner bark of the red willow. You dry it, then you cut it up. It really tastes like tobacco. The Indians always use it when they can't get the real thing, and I understand that there are certain brands of Canadian tobacco that are flavored with killikinnick." — Washington Times.

Quite Probable.

It is evident that the young man who writes the news items in the Willowby Times wishes always to be on the safe side and exercise due caution in his statements.

"When Mr Lemuel Hawkins entered the bedroom on the ground floor of his farmhouse one day last week," wrote the careful news-gatherer, "he found that a cow, probably astray, had made her way there from the open door."

Confusion of Tongues in India.

India has about 150 different languages, most of them unwritten, and it not unfrequently happens that Indians drift into Calcutta who can find no one able to understand their vernacular. Not a little trouble is caused by such visitors. The courts too frequently have trouble with litigants and witnesses who talk a language that neither the Court nor the court interpreters understand. — Consular Report.

An Inherited Failing.

A native of Annam, Indo-China, sentenced in Paris for theft, wrote the following apology to his employer: "All Annamites, whether emperors, mandarins, secretaries, literary men and others, are born thieves. It is a grave and deadly complaint and there is no cure for it. I know people do not like thieves in France, but it cannot be helped."

THE FLYER THAT NEVER HALTS.

But Keeps Going Steadily Without Body or Wings or Wheels.

"The only flying thing that never breaks down," said the man with [illegible] in his hair, "is the one commonly known as Time; nothing ever [illegible] matter with that; it flies steadily with never a stop.

"Other flying things that we know [illegible] burst their carburetors, or bend [illegible], or break their propellers, or get out of gasolene, or the [illegible] wings or blow up or out. [illegible] something the matter with [illegible] that they can't be kept going, but the flying thing called Time keeps right along without requiring any oil on its bearings [illegible] and only perpetual motion [illegible] thing and stop. It never [illegible]. It keeps going always at the same steady uniform gait, whether on the earth or in the air, but it never stops and as soon as [illegible] it leaves [illegible] all the works behind.

"[illegible] if I could [illegible] I would [illegible] but I'd like better to be a [illegible] at least to the [illegible] that we call Time."

Heard in Some Households.

Absolutely no consideration for me.

You are driving me to desperation.

Your [illegible] is beyond endurance.

A weaker woman would be driven into a madhouse.

I am surely losing my mind.

I never had a moment's peace.

You are making my life a hell on earth.

You are driving me to an early grave.

I am simply worn to the bone.

Never get one kind word.

Oh, why did I leave home?

I can never open my mouth.

Oh, if the grave would only open and take me in.

I am all unstrung.

I am on the verge of nervous prostration. — F. J. W. in Life.

The Limitations of Royalty

The [illegible] King [illegible] of Sweden [illegible] eventful [illegible] of [illegible] courtesy [illegible] nevertheless.

The King and Monsieur Bonnier [illegible] met as strangers, the New York Sun's foreign correspondent says, while out in search of flowers near Stockholm. They were soon the best of friends and Bonnier suggested lunch at his inn.

"Come home with me instead," said the other.

When the way led to the palace gates Bonnier hesitated.

"I'm sorry," said his companion, "that I happen to be the king of this country, and this is the only place where I can entertain my friends."

For a Loaf, All Right.

As the tramp looked at Mrs Godard he felt a thrill of hope. Here was surely an easy and benevolently inclined person. "Could you gimme a dime to buy a loaf o' bread?" he whined.

Mrs Godard's guileless soul looked out at him through her nearsighted eyes, and she fingered her purse hopefully.

"I have only a quarter here," said she, "and I'm really too tired to walk home."

"Sure I can change it for you," said the tramp, cheerfully, as he took out a dime and a nickel, and not until Mrs Godard was half way home on the car did it occur to her that there was anything unusual in the transaction.

Microscopic Writing.

A remarkable machine made by a lately deceased member of the Royal Microscopical Society for writing with a diamond seems to have been broken up by its inventor. A specimen of its work is the Lord's prayer of 227 letters, written in the 1-237,000 of a square inch, which is at the rate of 53,880,000 letters or [illegible] complete Bibles, to a single square inch. To decipher the writing it is necessary to use a 1-12 inch objective, which is the high power lens physicians employ for studying the most minute bacteria.

"Only Us Chickens."

The same thing that prompts one to say yes in answer to the query, "Are you asleep?" may have influenced the negro in the following story from Life.

It was a dark night, and the owner of the chicken coop, gun in hand, was investigating certain suspicious noises he had heard.

"Who's in there?" he called at the open window.

Erastus, inside, replied softly and reassuringly, "Ain't nobody heah 'cep'in us chickens."

Brought Into Commerce.

The fruit of the garite tree is now being handled in fair commercial quantities for the production of a cheap type of vegetable grease, useful for the manufacture of soap and candles.

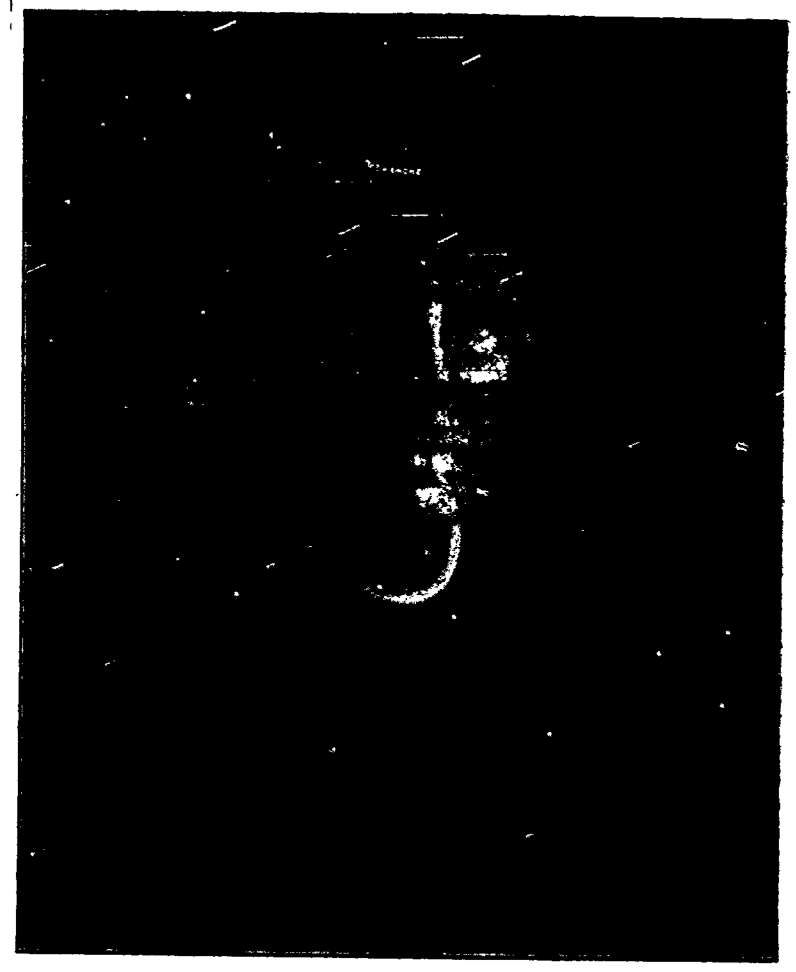
Criticism of Nature.

"It has always seemed to me that Nature is at fault," observes the Philosopher of Folly, "when she gives a man a mouth capable of biting off more than he can chew."

A Coward.

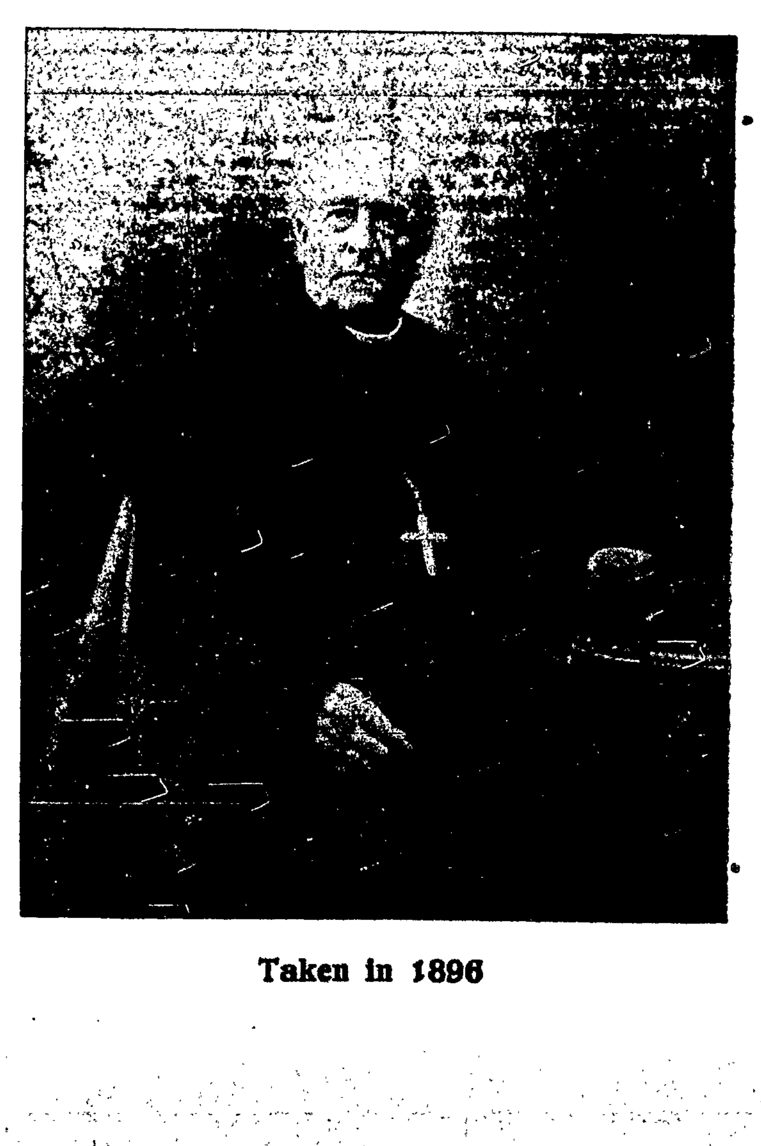
A coward boasting of his courage may deceive strangers, but he is a laughing-stock of those who know him. — Phaedrus.

Some Pictures of the Bishop



Taken Three Years Ago

Taken Thirty Years Ago



Taken in 1896

ROCHESTER, N. Y.