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SNAPSHOTS AT NOTABLES

Czar Ferdinand, Ruler of United Bulgaria.



United Bulgaria is the largest and most powerful of the independent Balkan states that compose the coalition against the Ottoman empire. It is bounded on the north by Roumania, from which it is separated by the Danube, on the west by Serbia and Macedonia, on the east by the Black sea and on the south by the Turkish province of Adrianople. Bulgaria was created by the treaty of Berlin in 1878. Eastern Roumelia, likewise a creation of the Berlin treaty, was intended to form an autonomous province, but since the successful revolution at Philippopolis in 1885 it has been incorporated with and now forms an integral portion of Bulgaria.

"The main cause of the outbreak is that the independent Balkan states bordering on Macedonia demand autonomy for that state and for Epirus, Bulgaria, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece have succeeded for the first time in ignoring their petty jealousies and uniting in their demand that Mohammedan Turkey shall free the Christians of Macedonia and Epirus from oppression. Ferdinand, czar of the Bulgars, succeeded Prince Alexander of Battenberg as ruler of Bulgaria in 1908. At the time of his election he was duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. His mother was Princess Clémentine, daughter of Louis Philippe of France, and he is related to nearly every crowned head in Europe. He is fifty-one years old and has been twice married. His first wife was Princess Marie Louise of Bourbon and his second Princess Eleonore of Reuss-Kostritz.

To Guard Pupils' Health. Dr. Ira S. Wile, who has just been appointed a member of the board of education of New York city by Mayor Gaynor, holds a unique position on the board. His special province is safeguarding the health of the school children. Mayor Gaynor wrote to Dr. Wile: "I am appointing you a member of the board of education. My object in doing so is to have you enter systematically into the work of examining into the health of the children in the public schools and taking scientific means of prevention and cure. Among other things the eyes, ears and teeth of the children should be carefully looked into. It is almost impossible to have a healthy body without good teeth."

A native of Rochester and about thirty-five years of age, Dr. Wile has won an enviable reputation in medical circles for skill in treating diseases peculiar to children. He is in the children's department of the Vanderbilt clinic and is the editor of the Medical Review of Reviews and of the department of surgical sociology of the American Journal of Surgery. Dr. Wile was graduated from the University of Rochester in 1898 and from the medical school of the University of Pennsylvania in 1903. After leaving the latter school he began practice in New York city.

HUMOROUS QUIPS

"When I've Been Bad" *
When I've been bad my mother says:
"All right, son, just you wait!"
And when night comes we listen
For my father at the gate.
And if it's one that hears him first
I run to let him in
And tell him all about it
"Fore mother can begin.

And sometimes when I've finished
He looks down at me and grins
And says that it reminds him
Of his own boyhood sins.
Then he leads me in to mother,
And he says: "Poor little lad!
I really don't think, sweetheart,
That he's been so very bad."

But last night by the window
While I watched the shadows creep
My eyes got very heavy,
And I somehow fell asleep.
I could have told him easy
Just why I screamed and kicked,
But mother was ahead of me,
And that time I got licked!
—Anna May Cooper in St. Nicholas.

The Yellow Peril.
A certain Detroit family is almost certain that the Japanese will never bow to the Americans; that they will never be meek, servile, submissive. The Detroit family, desperate after a long siege of cookless days, answered the ad. of a Japanese man of all work. He seemed ideal. Yes, he could cook. Yes, he could make beds. Yes, he could dust and sweep and wash. And he not only could, but he would.

He came. The family tried to act as though they were accustomed to it. That night the lady of the house said to him: "We have very simple breakfasts. Tomorrow you may give us some fresh fruit, coffee, toast and boiled eggs."
The Japanese bowed his understanding. The next day the family came down to breakfast early. They were curious to sample Japanese cooking. The Japanese person stood at attention, beginning. The breakfast served to the stupefied family was baked apples, fish-balls, pancakes and tea.—Detroit News.

A Bride's Victory.
"Have you seen Lou lately?"
"Yes, I just saw her the other day. And she's as happy as she can be."
"Why do you think she's happy?"
"She married the man she wanted."
"Poo! I'm twice as happy."
"How can you be?"
"I married the man another girl wanted."—Denver News.

Took No Chances.
"Didn't you give that horse thief a chance to say anything before you lynched him?"
"No," replied Broncho Bob. "He's a pretty glib talker and we thought it best not to take any chances. There's no telling what a silver-tongued orator may get away with these days."—Washington Star.

Looks Like Fresh.
Church—You say Flathead has a good memory.
Gotham—Sure thing.
"Well, he borrowed \$5 from me three months ago, and he's forgotten to pay it back."
"Oh, no, he hasn't. He's never tried to borrow any more, has he?"—Yonkers Statesman.

Sure Signs.
"Yes, we are going to be married."
"Have you proposed?"
"No, not yet."
"Then, how do you know she'll have you?"
"Why, she's been encouraging me to save money instead of buying flowers and theater tickets."—New York American.

Cautious.
Mr. Pompos (to Butler)—I'm expecting a deputation at 12 o'clock to ask me to stand for the borough.
Butler—Yes, sir.
Mr. Pompos—Perhaps it would be as well to remove all the best umbrellas from the hat stand.—London Opinion.

No Diplomat.
Maggie—Why did they make a change in ministers at your church?
Annie—Why, the former one spoke so often on the responsibilities of marriage that none of the unmarried men in the congregation would propose.—Judge's Library.

The Reason.
"I will not let my wife go to these fashionable bridge parties."
"I'm glad you take that stand. So you think it is immoral to gamble?"
"No, but she's such a wretched player."—Baltimore American.

An Autopsy.
The Office Kid—A guy was in and said the government wanted you to assist at an autopsy.
The New Doctor—Indeed! Where?
The Office Kid—At the dead letter office.—Boston Globe.

A Pioneer.
Old Lady—So you are really one of the strikers?
Mendicant—Yes, lady; I'm one of the pioneers of the movement. I struck twenty-three years ago and I ain't given in yet.
The Decision of Elsie.
Caller—I suppose, Elsie, when you grow up you will be getting married, like the other girls?
Elsie—Oh, no; I've decided I will be widow.—San Francisco Chronicle.

HINTS FOR THE BUSY HOUSEWIFE

Corn Popper With Revolvable Stirring Apparatus.



Lovers of popcorn will be interested in the corn popping device patented by a Missouri man. The pan that holds the corn has openings along its rim to permit the insertion of books that are attached to a cover. A handle by which the device is moved also has a hook to insert through this rim. The cover has a revolvable stirring apparatus attached to it and operated by a handle, like the handle of a coffee mill. As will be understood, this cover keeps the corn from popping out of the pan, as so often happens when that receptacle is not closed.

Kitchen Hints.
If eggs are to be stuffed they must be put into cold water as soon as they are taken from the stove. This will keep the whites in better shape. To remove iron rust from white material wet the ground with lemon juice, rub or salt and put out in the sun. If the first application fails try it again. If a stain is required for immediate use it will freshen much more quickly if soaked in milk instead of in water. Sour milk will answer as well as sweet. Needles and pins will never rust in a cushion filled with coffee grounds. Pour the coffee from the grounds and rinse them several times in cold water and dry them thoroughly, when they will be ready for use.

Tomato Cream Soup.
Cook half a dozen tomatoes soft and rub through a colander or use their equivalent in canned tomatoes. In the second case they must also be put through the colander. Put them over the fire, season them with a teaspoonful of sugar and salt and pepper at discretion and thicken with two tablespoonfuls of butter rubbed with one of milk. Keep hot and heat a quart of milk in a double boiler. Stir into this a quarter of a teaspoonful of soda, mix with the hot tomatoes and serve. If you wish you may put a tablespoonful of whipped cream on the top of each plateful.

Plum Mudding.
One cupful finely chopped nut, two cupfuls fine breadcrumbs, one cupful molasses, one cupful seeded raisins, one cupful currants, one-half cupful sugar, small spoonful salt, one teaspoonful cinnamon, one teaspoonful cloves, one teaspoonful allspice, one teaspoonful baking soda in one cupful sour milk, one teaspoonful lemon extract. Sour enough to make a stiff batter. Put in two well greased one pound tins and bake three or four hours. To be eaten with hard sauce.

Oyster Dressing For Turkey.
One cupful of cracker crumbs, one-quarter cupful of melted butter, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one-eighth teaspoonful of pepper, one and one-half teaspoonfuls of lemon juice, one-half tablespoonful of finely chopped parsley and one cupful of oysters. Add seasonings and butter to cracker crumbs. Clean oysters and remove tough muscles. Add soft parts to mixture, with two tablespoonfuls of oyster liquor to moisten.

Stewed Beans.
One pint of kidney beans or any colored beans. Soak beans overnight. In the morning put in fresh water with one-quarter teaspoonful soda and boil till skins crack open. Then pour off water and add two quarts boiling water and one-quarter pound salt pork. Then cook at least four hours. Just before removing from fire thicken with one heaping tablespoonful of flour mixed smooth in cold water.

Chutney Sauce.
Twenty-four ripe tomatoes, four green peppers, four onions, four tablespoonfuls of sugar, four of salt, three cupfuls of vinegar, one-half pound of raisins, one ounce of dried ginger. Scald and peel the tomatoes, cut the peppers and remove the seeds and chop fine with the onions, cut ginger into shreds, then put all together and boil three hours. Put in jars and seal.

Care of the Coffeepot.
To keep the coffeepot sweet and clean put a tablespoonful of carbonate of soda into it. Fill it nearly full of water and let it boil for a little while. Then rinse very thoroughly with warm water. If this is done once a week the pot will always be fresh and nice.

FOR THE CHILDREN

My Girl.
The dear little children who peer all day
I watch from my window above,
Darlings, with blue eyes and black hair
—Gretchen.

It isn't because of her lovely face
I watch her all day from a distance,
I watch because of some wondrous power
She's a round little sunny thing.
But she always remembers the lilies
And she kind to the weak and small
Swift on her two tiny feet she'll
To comfort and help them all.
Once when the circus was passing by
At the sound of a baby's pleas cry
She turned from the hurrying throng
She lifted the baby and kissed the sweet
I saw from my window above,
She lost the circus, but was my heart
This dear little girl I love.
—St. Nicholas.

A Bird Magician.
In some parts of Europe the farmer may have a little bird called the skink pointed out to him by a peasant who says: "That bird practices magic. When he builds his nest he puts in it a certain stone which makes it invisible. Any one who could find this stone in a skink's nest would also be invisible as long as he carried the stone in his pocket." When I was a boy I used to watch for the skink building their nests, and whenever I saw one I would climb the tree to get the stone. But the nest had always become invisible before I could reach it. It is quite true, as the peasant says, that you may see a skink busily making its nest and yet, when you crawl out on the very same branch where he was at work, you cannot see the nest at all. But there is no magic in the skink's method of building. He simply makes his little home of material whose color exactly matches its surroundings. Generally he builds his nest in the branches of a tree from which the long, thin, leafless twigs hang like an old man's beard. The nest itself is a small, round structure, and when covered on the outside with lichen and built to match the color of the drooping leaves, it is almost invisible. It is not so with a skink's nest as it is with a bird's. A skink's nest is one crawls out on the limb from which it hangs, or flies to the nest, and the nest, because it is so perfectly concealed by a branch as to escape notice, even at close quarters.—The Norse in Volta Review.

Kitten Rescues Girl.
We often hear of dogs and cats saving the lives of human beings, but it is seldom, indeed, that a kitten manages to do this. Yet that is just what a pet kitten did for the little actress out in Yonkers, Cal. The two had been for a walk and had been gone for some time when the kitten came home alone. It went immediately to the girl's mother and began to "meow" and to go in all kinds of things to attract the woman's attention. When it saw that it was noticed it started off for the girl's mother did not follow it at first. The kitten persisted, however, and finally the woman followed it and kept at the heels of the kitten as it led the way to an amusement park.

They the little girl was found lying head downward from a large tree. She had fallen from the tree, and her clothing had caught in the branches. The guards rescued her immediately, and she was none the worse for what was clearly a very serious accident.

Odds and Evens Game.
This is an interesting little game for two players. They throw an odd number of matches on the table—say fifteen. Now each takes in turn one, two or three matches (whichever he likes), and the winner is the player who gets the odd number. Then, supposing you secure seven matches and your opponent eight, you win; if you secure six and he gets five he wins. Try to find out whether the first or second player ought to win in the case of fifteen matches. Then, if you are interested, seek the general law for any odd number of matches and under the extended conditions that you can draw up to four or five or any number of matches.

Old Table Customs.
Table manners are apparently a comparatively modern innovation. Even so late as the reign of Charles II. it was the custom for guests to take their own knives and forks to a banquet. Pepys records that he did this when he went to the lord mayor's feast in the guildhall. In the previous reign the lord chamberlain had found it necessary to issue regulations for the benefit of officers invited to dine at the royal table. They were required to wear clean boots, not to be half drunk on their arrival, not to drink more than one goblet to every two dishes, not to throw the bones under the table nor to lick their fingers!

Memory Helps.
Not only dates, but figures and facts, can be committed to memory without much effort by making it a rule never to think of one thing without recalling what you want to remember with it. Suppose you wish to remember a school friend's address. If you think of the number of the house and the name of the street whenever you think of his home you will never forget it. It is the habit of some people or fact to another that enables some persons to remember quickly, and any one can acquire this habit who will conscientiously follow the simple rule.

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