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A RAILROAD SOMNAMBULIST

Curious and Nerve Wrecking Experience of an Engineer.

"Speaking of railroad men's overwork," said the veteran locomotive engineer, "we were a good deal more overworked, thirty years ago than you are now. The nearest I ever came to being killed was when I was a youngster just starting in as an engineer—

"But I had an experience once to beat that," he continued after biting off a chew. "It was when I was running the night express on the R., D. and N. I usually had all the rest I needed, but at the time of the accident at Tomkinsville everything was disarranged, and my sleep was cut considerably short. It was two days after the accident that my old friend Bob Williams told me he was ordered to the other end of the line to take the train that I met in the middle of the night. He was to run it regularly thereafter and was going down with me. He started in the cab with me, but at the first stop we made in about an hour he said he would go back into the baggage car, rig himself up some sort of a bunk and go to sleep. I told Frank Curtis, my stoker, that I wished Bob would offer to spell me at the throttle for awhile, as I was mighty sleepy. Frank said he wished some body would spell him, for he was both sleepy and tired.

"We made a midnight stop at B. and just as we were pulling out he shouldered into the cab but Williams With out a word he took the throttle out of my hand, and I understood that he proposed to take my place for awhile. The stoker was sitting on the cab seat pulling the bell, and ordering him off, I took his place, while he went back into the tender and threw himself on the coal. I kept on pulling the bell, trying to keep awake, but it was no use. I went to sleep, though I thought I was awake, for I heard the bell and was conscious of ringing it. I suppose I was both asleep and awake, like soldiers are sometimes in battle when they're been marching and fighting for a long while without rest. There must have been some wakefulness in me or I couldn't have kept my narrow seat, for we were rattling along at express speed, and the road wasn't straight either.

"How long I was in this condition I don't know, but a big lurch woke me up, and there on a semaphore ahead was the red. Starting up, I looked over where Williams had been, and what do you suppose—he wasn't there, nor any one else. The engine was tearing along like mad at its own sweet will through stations, over crossings and bridges, past sidetracked trains, and there was the red staring us in the face. I jumped for the throttle and slowed down, then whistled down the brakes, for you must know that was before the day of the air brake. I glanced around for Frank and saw him laid out on the coal heap sound asleep. I yelled at him and woke him up. "Well, speak of a man's narrow escape with horror. My whole body was frozen with horror. My teeth chattered, and I shivered all over. We were approaching N., and I knew that the price of all bog-seats to N. and since I had given up my place to Bob Williams, I didn't know, but I found grandstand will hereafter be sold for by the lunch just in time to catch eight plans to increase the section of twenty of the red we would have been tele-scoped into a passenger standing on more than 10,000 next season, thus reducing the fifty cent seats to about "But Bob Williams—what could have happened to him? Something, of course, or he wouldn't have left his post. I could think of nothing unless he had become unconscious, fallen to the floor and rolled at a lurch out of the car. As soon as I got the train to in Cleveland recently, were ratified at stop I told Frank to go back to find out in the annual meeting of the Kentucky Horse Breeders' association there. The Frank came back with blank astonish ment written all over his face, and reported that Williams was cuddled up on a pile of trunks in the baggage car, sound asleep.

"I was obliged to wait till signaled to go on and, leaving the cab, went back to the baggage car. Sure enough, there was Williams sleeping as peacefully as a newborn babe.

"The first idea that came into my head was that I had dreamed he had come back and spelled me, but I knew that if I had fallen asleep without some one to take my place I would have done so at my post. Besides, there was Frank. He couldn't have gone to sleep and dreamed the same dream as I did, was all balled up in a puzzle. I lost no time in waking Williams.

IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

Benny Kauff, Sensational Player in Outfield.



Photo by American Press Association

Benny Kauff, who has been sold to the New York Giants, played in the outfield for the Brooklyn Federal team last season and was considered the best outfielder in that league. Kauff is a terrific hitter and in his two seasons with the Federals—out slugged all of his rival players. In out of 1914, as a member of the Indianapolis club, he clouted the ball for a fine batting average of .363. Last season he again led with a percentage of .344. Kauff, besides being a 300 hitter and with a splendid throwing arm, is an exceptionally fast runner, and under McGraw's tutelage promises to lead the league in base running next season. In the Federal league Benny was a nightmare to rival catchers once he got on the bases. The outfielder has great faith in himself and believes he's the greatest ball player in the world.

McGraw's New Catcher. Behind the bat Bill Rariden should strengthen the Giants where they were noticeably weak last season. Rariden was the best of the Federal league catchers last season with the Newark club. He played in 142 games and had a batting average of .278 and a fielding average of .978. His total of putouts was the largest in the league. He had 711 to his credit. Rariden started his professional baseball career in Canton, O., and was signed by the Boston Braves in 1912. He played a few seasons in Boston and became very popular with the Boston fans. In 1914 he jumped to the Indianapolis club of the Federal league, and last year transferred with the club to Newark.

Cheaper Baseball in Boston. Boston Red Sox world champions has announced that next season he will make a big reduction in the prices for the American league ball games at Fenway park. He intends to reduce one approaching N., and I knew that the price of all bog-seats to N. and since I had given up my place to Bob Williams, I didn't know, but I found grandstand will hereafter be sold for by the lunch just in time to catch eight plans to increase the section of twenty of the red we would have been tele-scoped into a passenger standing on more than 10,000 next season, thus reducing the fifty cent seats to about "But Bob Williams—what could have happened to him? Something, of course, or he wouldn't have left his post. I could think of nothing unless he had become unconscious, fallen to the floor and rolled at a lurch out of the car. As soon as I got the train to in Cleveland recently, were ratified at stop I told Frank to go back to find out in the annual meeting of the Kentucky Horse Breeders' association there. The Frank came back with blank astonish ment written all over his face, and reported that Williams was cuddled up on a pile of trunks in the baggage car, sound asleep.

Trotting Futurity at Lexington. The dates for the grand circuit meet- ing at Lexington, Ky., Oct. 2 to 14, as the floor and rolled at a lurch out of the car. As soon as I got the train to in Cleveland recently, were ratified at stop I told Frank to go back to find out in the annual meeting of the Kentucky Horse Breeders' association there. The Frank came back with blank astonish ment written all over his face, and reported that Williams was cuddled up on a pile of trunks in the baggage car, sound asleep.

Will Build Up Braves. The Braves are in need of repairs. We will have to patch up several holes, and we shall set about it at once," Manager George T. Stallings said after a recent conference with several deals in mind which if consummated would bring to Boston the men needed to strengthen the Braves. A catcher, a pitcher and an infielder are specially needed, he said.

Gibbons For Australia. Now that Mike Gibbons, the sensational middleweight, has won so easy a victory over Young Ahearne he is likely to travel to Australia to meet Les Darry. The latter is prevented from visiting America because of the law preventing men of fighting age leaving Great Britain or any of its colonies.

Jockeys to Ride in Austria. Johnny Sumner and his brother Herbert have made plans to ride in Austria this year, the former having received an offer of \$5,000 from an Austrian nobleman. Johnny Sumner has ridden abroad before, but this will be the first trip for his brother.

YOUNG FOLKS' CORNER

A Ball Playing Dog.

A sagacious coach dog for some time gave much amusement to spectators at games of ball that were played by boys on the lake front in Milwaukee during the summer evenings last year. The dog took a stand behind the catcher, and with a countenance expressive of life and intelligence and an active tail that emphasizes what he cannot speak, watched "passed balls." Immediately the sphere passed through the catcher's hands a snap was made at it, and the dog darted after the rolling ball, which on its return he, with out solicitation, dropped at the catcher's feet. Whenever the pitcher passed a ball the dog darted across the diamond and retrieved it for him. Almost human interest was depicted on the countenance of the animal whenever the catcher got under the bat for close work. Then the four footed ball player crouched as closely as he could behind the catcher, and by his intent earnestness cut a comical figure. Some times the boys would wrangle as to which side should have the services of the dog. The exhibition of canine intelligence more than counterbalanced the lack of ball science shown by the boys.

Lesson of Siegfried. Once upon a time there was a beautiful young warrior who was so strong that he could do all sorts of things, but he wanted to be able to do even greater things. So he slew a dragon and bathed in its blood and made his skin as hard as horn, except in one place, where a leaf protected the skin. He had a cape that made him invisible and a wonderful sword, but he also had an enemy. A girl whom he loved, named Chriemhild, told his enemy, Hagen, about the spot between his shoulders that was not invulnerable, and the wicked man plunged his lance into him at just that spot. Most of us, like Siegfried, have a weak spot, and we are only as strong as this spot is able to resist attacks upon it, so that we should always look out for our weakness, as our strength will take care of itself.

The Baby Elephant. Did you ever see an elephant teach its young son or daughter to eat? The mother elephant has to teach her child just as your mother taught you to do things. She cuts from several boughs, and then she waits for the baby to follow her example, which it does, but of course, cannot hold down the branch. The mother lets it get struck in the face several times before she puts her trunk over the bough to hold it down. The biggest elephant in the world is Salar Jung, whose home is in India, and on his back have been carried many prominent persons while visiting in that country.

Jumping Letters. Jump the first letter backward to the end of the word and thus have two words of entirely different meaning: 1. Jump to "ack" freshness and have stories. 2. Jump an article of footwear and have garden implements. 3. Jump an entree and find a jump. 4. Jump Norwegian snowshoes and find a token of affection. 5. Jump to upset the coffee and find your medicine. Answer—1, state-tales; 2, shoe-hoes; 3, plea-leap; 4, skis-kiss; 5, spill-pills.

Little Red Riding Hood. Most children know the story of "Little Red Riding Hood" and her encounter with a wolf, but the children in Sweden tell the story in a somewhat different way. Little Red Riding Hood in this version hides in a tree, and up comes the wolf and begins to gnaw the roots of the tree. The little girl very sadly frightened and cries as loudly as she can. Then comes her lover just in time to see the tree fall and crush the wolf beneath it.

The Parrot. Did you ever see a parrot, and have you noticed what a sociable bird it is? In their wild state parrots never live alone as they have to when in cages. They go in flocks, and there is a deserted city in India where thousands of parrots live together, and they must have a beautiful time. Don't tease the parrot, but when he wants to be sociable talk to him and try to make him happy.

Dreamy Time Street. Oh, sweet Dreamy Time street, with you and your Dreamy Time songs, and the dolls and the fairies that to you belong. With your magical wands and your posts of pure gold, and your Dreamy Time whispers that never grow old! My small dolly and I cuddle down snug and tight When the dark comes to stay in the place of the light. And the things that we do no one tongue could repeat. As we travel the byways of Dreamy Time street.

Such a sweet, shady place it is, calling away From the noise of the world and the play of the day. With its low, dreamy whispers, like waving trees. When the boughs moving softly rub close in the breeze. There are little whispers and faint little cries. When your lids are just drooping above your tired eyes. Then you slip softly by and glide into your rest. And slide down the broad pathway of Dreamy Time street. —New York Tribune.

THE WIZARD OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE

Dr. Rathenau a Field Marshal of Business.

Germany has a wizard who apparently can make something out of nothing. He is Dr. Walter Rathenau, who appears to be the Edison and Steinmetz of Germany rolled into one. Dr. Rathenau, little more than forty years old, above six feet tall, straight and solidly in appearance, is as much one of the conquering forces in Germany as are the field marshals of the army. For it is he who has kept Germany supplied with the things that the blockade keeps out. How he does it is the mystery. His great feat has been the gift of discovering substitutes. His greatest



Dr. Walter Rathenau

feat has been the production of nitrate of potash from some unknown source, possibly from the air. Nitrate is an essential ingredient of gunpowder, and without gunpowder Germany would be well nigh helpless. It is gunpowder that has kept her big field guns thundering away, first on this border, then on that, confounding first this foe, then the other. Gunpowder, Germany has to have. Dr. Rathenau has provided no one knows how many substitutes. A department of economics was organized separate from the department of war. Through it the government and private concerns were compelled by its director, Dr. Rathenau, to build the factories that he saw would be necessary to make the things the country would shortly need. Eighty per cent of the German factories are working for the government, contributing directly or indirectly to the supplies that make a continuance of the conflict possible. Enormous demands are being made. On more than one occasion Germany has burned more powder in three days than was used in the whole Franco-Prussian war. The world will never know, at least not before the end of the war, how Germany has done it. Possibly this science will be informed by what process this wizard snatches nitrogen from the air and makes nitrate of potash or saltpeter, how he takes some elements from some where and makes a substitute for rubber or copper or butter or gasoline.

How he does it is a secret, but he's doing it, and he is the man, who perhaps more than any other in his line is keeping Germany alive and in the game. MOVABLE GUNS FOR DEFENSE. It is Planned to Mount Artillery on Specially Constructed Railway Cars. Representative J. H. Capstick of New Jersey has introduced a coast defense bill asking \$50,000,000 for largest



PROPOSED MOVABLE COAST DEFENSE GUNS and mortars permanently mounted on specially constructed railroad cars which, it is asserted, can be quickly transported to and securely locked upon previously constructed heavy concrete bases distributed on short spans in railroad cuts behind hills on railroads along our coasts and inlets. This new plan for national defense is the invention of Lawrence W. Luellen and Cecil F. Dawson, both of New York city.

PITH AND POINT

The best way to keep your word is not to give it.

He who neglects an opportunity is taking a chance.

Most impregnable fortresses are well shaken before taken.

Did you ever try to knock the "in" out of life? It has no place there.

Havana abolished the fly because it had to, in which there is a beautiful moral.

Some people appear to make a specialty of condensing the milk of human kindness.

Extremes of sentiment are represented by "peace at any price" and "war at any cost."

Many of the war aviators are said to be suffering from "flying sickness." Yes, flying does make one soar.

Anyhow, in a few years some of us may be telling our grandchildren that we can remember when gasoline was cheap.

The giving of shares of steel stock for bridge prizes is not likely to become so general as to make the practice vulgar.

Somebody has declared that the hand shake is an epidemic spreader. Pretty soon a man can't say "howdy" without saying it through a prophylactic sleeve.

An English humorist says it takes better jokes to get a laugh since the war began. And being a humorist in England was never an easy task at the best.

Town Topics

Boston is now claiming that it has better weather than New York. Next thing New York will be claiming more culture than Boston.—Pittsburgh Sun.

A Philadelphia judge has decided that chickens cannot be kept in the residential section of that city. That's too bad.—It's such a quiet place.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

It is claimed that the eating of home meat in New York will popularize it in other cities. But the use of home meat in New York does not popularize them in other cities.—Florida Times-Union.

Cleveland and Detroit are contending for the position of fourth city in the Union, which, to Chicago's chagrin, is a distinction scarcely worth quarreling about.—Chicago News.

Current Comment

An eastern court has decided that tipping is legal. This, however, is the best that can be said of it.—Detroit Free Press.

Americans are becoming more saving, according to statistics, but it is not yet time to take down that "safety first" sign.—Chicago News.

Everybody apparently is for preparedness, but the difficulty is that everybody seems to know just what preparedness is.—Indianapolis News.

The amount of cotton seed crushed in 1915 was 2,028,010 tons against 3,588,176 tons in the previous years, and the shortage contributed materially to the high price of olive oil.—New-York Sun.

Automobile Runs

Moving a single lever converts a new automobile body into an open car or a two seated vehicle, whichever may be desired.

A Frenchman is the inventor of a device to be attached to the rim of an automobile wheel to give an alarm when a tire becomes flat.

The total value of automobiles in use in 1915 in the United States, including solid tires for trucks, tires for buses and taxicabs, amounts to \$299,000,000 in round numbers.

Automobiles can be used to provide power for machinery by the invention of a frame which lifts them from the ground and presses against their rear wheels rollers that drive belts.

Train and Track

India's railroads pension old employees.

Switzerland now owns the St. Gotthard tunnel and railway.

Chicago's railroads have spent \$75,000,000, a railway journal states, in eliminating grade crossings. Accidents have largely diminished as a result.

The installation of oil burning locomotives on the mountain section of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway has now been completed. Large oil storage tanks have been erected at various points along the line for supplying the locomotives with the necessary fuel.

Science Siftings

Among the planets the earth comes third in order of nearness to the sun. Mercury and Venus being before it.

It has been estimated that an adult man produces in twenty-four hours enough heat to boil five or six pints of water.

In high latitudes the sun's rays strike the earth's surface obliquely and have thus less heating power than in low latitudes.

Air may be turned to a liquid or even a solid by the application of great pressure, producing also an extremely low temperature.