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How a Mother Saved Her Son

By EUNICE BLAKE

Ten or fifteen years ago we heard more of anarchists than we do today. Possibly the great war has produced a condition in Europe more terrible than anything the wildest anarchist had ever dreamed of.

Manuel Fernandez, a Spaniard, was in his youth converted to the theories of the anarchists, and when he was twenty-one years old he offered himself for any purpose by which he might serve the cause.

Manuel being face to face with the reality, the ideal faded away very quickly. He was horrified at the position in which he had placed himself.

Manuel succeeded in impressing his instructor with the belief that he was really studying how to make bombs that he might do his duty by his anarchist comrades.

One night or rather morning for it was about 2 o'clock those living near the Fernandez home were awakened by a terrific explosion.

"How do you know that this is the body of your son?" he asked. "The features are unrecognizable."

While he had been learning how to make the bombs his mother was arranging for the explosion. She went to a medical college and made a candidate of the man in charge of subjects provided for the use of students in anatomy.

Manuel had run a wire from the out house to a point where his mother could easily make an electric circuit and explode a bomb.

MUSHROOM TESTS, Not One of Them is Absolutely Safe, Declares an Expert.

"There is no absolutely safe, general or single, popular test which can be applied to mushrooms growing wild," writes Riley M. Fletcher Berry in the Scientific American.

Neither is it true that if a mushroom has a pleasant odor and taste or if the stem be solid or the skin readily peeled from the flesh it is edible, and the salt water test is equally valueless.

"There is," according to Mr. Berry, "but one form of mushroom which can safely be recommended to the world at large, to the unthinking who recognize no danger, the puff ball."

"It is true that one may not heed warnings and yet possibly live after eating poisonous mushrooms if one soaks them lengthily in brine or vinegar and pours this off before cooking."

Being "an only child" is usually regarded as a piece of good luck. Recent investigations show that it is just the opposite.

Notaries Public. Notaries public are said to have been first appointed by the leaders of primitive Christians for the purpose of collecting data for the lives of the first century martyrs.

His Observation. "While it is quite true that you cannot raise flowers with last year's sunshine," said J. Fuller Bloom.

Retiring From Business. Young Woman (blushing violently)—Are you the gentleman who has charge of the advertising department of the paper, sir?

The Case Altered. Brown—Is it correct to speak of a man as "of the male persuasion?" Jones—Yes, if the subject is not married.

Best She Could Do. "Why don't you want to let me hold your hand?" "What good would it do you to hold my hand?"

A Singular Marriage

By DONALD CHAMBERLIN

When I walked the deck of the liner Arganda on the third day out and saw for the first time among the passengers who were recovering from malmer and getting out from the ship's smells to help them do so Helen Timerson I little thought that within five days she would be my wife and we would be married in a way such as no couple had been married before.

I was going abroad to establish a wireless telegraph station, wireless telegraphy being my profession. I kept away from the wireless office on the ship, fearing to make known my interest in wireless matters, and I did not care to have what I might say reported. But a time came when this did not deter me.

I was picked up by a boat that had left the ship with but a few persons in her, and during the exposure that followed they all died. How I kept body and soul together I am at a loss to know.

Looking about me, I discerned at a distance the antennae of a wireless station. Expecting that there would be persons there, I took Miss Timerson in my arms and carried her there.

Well-to-make-a-long-story-short, we were the only two persons on that island for a week. Others started to go there, but were turned from their course. Within a couple of days of our arrival the young lady and I had quite recovered our strength, and I noticed that she seemed concerned at the equivocal position in which she was placed being alone with a man.

The next day I led Miss Timerson into the operating room and began to call for ships out at sea. I soon came in touch with a tramp steamer 600 miles distant and asked if there was a clergyman aboard. The reply being in the affirmative, I called for him and asked if he would marry a couple by wireless. He assented, and I then told Helen what I had done.

We were an hour talking the matter over, at the end of which time we agreed to have a marriage ceremony by wireless telegraphy. The minister was requested to send the certificate to her address, duly witnessed by two persons on board the vessel.

Before going among our friends my wife requested that nothing be said about our marriage until she could ascertain how our being together on a deserted island would be received. She soon had cause to announce to the world that we were man and wife.

BEGGARS OF CHINA. They Are Brazen and Persistent and Are a Law unto Themselves.

I had always heard that there were lots of beggars in China, but I had no idea that China was squirming with them. I don't know how many there are, but if I were asked to guess I'd say a million.

There are three kinds of beggars in China—the local beggars, who live in the town they prey on; the traveling beggars, who journey from village to village; religious beggars, who, according to their religion, have to become traveling beggars for a certain number of years in order to attain the right humility.

The number of beggars in a small town is surprising. In one small town that I lived in for while there were 800 local beggars. These with the hundreds that flocked in for a few days or a week at a time kept the town so well supplied that the people were never pinched for some one to throw pennies to.

A person cannot become a beggar in China by simply putting on old clothes and going out with his palms turned up. He has to serve an apprenticeship just as he would in any other trade. The beggars have unions—Incredibly as it may seem, in every town or village is a beggar guild, all banded together for the common purpose of making people pay.

Each town has its head of the guild, or beggar chief, called the kah doen. His word is law. The kah doen goes to a merchant and tells him that unless he pays him money it will go hard with him. If the merchant says that he won't be bluffed a few days later, when the merchant has his store full of fashionable customers, in will troop a dozen beggars, diseased and scabbed, crowding up against the customer.

Among the curious Bibles is the "Persecuting Printer's Bible," containing the phrase, "Printers have persecuted me without cause" (Psalm cxix, 161). The substitution of the word "printers" for "princes" is responsible for the giving of this name to this Bible.

There is also the "Ears to Ear" Bible, in which occurs the expression "Whoso hath ears to ear, let him hear" (Matthew xii, 43). This adaptation to cockney usage is found in an octavo Bible published by the Oxford Press in 1810.

The first national Thanksgiving may be said to have been the one offered up at St. Paul's cathedral, London, for the defeat of the Spanish armada, September, 1588. The English settlers in this country naturally adopted the custom of their native land, and at an early period in our colonial history Thanksgiving became quite common.

Visitors to Guernsey arc sometimes able to see Hauteville, where Victor Hugo, the French poet, lived and died. In his house is a handsomely furnished room, which was specially prepared by Victor Hugo for Garibaldi, who had promised to be his guest. Everything which Victor Hugo thought Garibaldi would appreciate was placed in this room.

Why don't you want to let me hold your hand? "What good would it do you to hold my hand?" "It would make me glad and give me courage, perhaps, to say something that I—that I—"