

NEW YORK "KIDS" ON THANKSGIVING

On Thanksgiving day the visitors to New York city, especially if he extends his observations to the poorer districts of the city, is much amused and interested by the ragamuffins who form a quaint and distinctive part of the city's celebration of the day. These ragamuffins are youngsters of both sexes who dress in all sorts of queer and elaborate costumes and parade the streets.

There is no concerted general parade but merely loose assemblages, seldom over ten or twenty in number. Most of the groups are smaller. To "dress up" the ragamuffins often add bearding for small boys, fruit, candy, etc. and in the features of the annual masquerading that has led in recent years to a demand for its suppression. Often New York parents will give permission to their children to masquerade, but they add strict injunctions against begging. They are willing to let Johnny or Juvenile enjoy the day in the ancient, time honored manner, but they set their faces against mendicancy. "You may dress up and go out, but you mustn't do any begging," is the order.

Many of the young ragamuffins find their greatest joy in arraying themselves in the clothing of the opposite sex. Half grown boys trail long skirts behind them or imitate the fashion when it cuts for short skirts. And the hats they wear are wonderful and fearful creations. The little girls like to don trousers and discarded men's hats. Often the boys and girls black their faces, but not many masks are seen. Well known characters are frequently imitated, and in the recent past a certain "movie" comedian with a funny



A FUNNY RAGAMUFFIN

walk and a laughable little mustache has been much in evidence on Thanksgiving day in the New York streets.

This Thanksgiving mummery in New York, which is not found in any other city, is a local custom, dating back several decades to the old target companies which used to shoot for prizes. They were ward bodies in the days before the districts known as wards were abolished. On Thanksgiving day these target companies assembled and paraded from house to house, dressed in the prominent men of each ward. These men, city officials, judges, politicians, etc., gave prizes which were shot for later in the day, and the day's festivities wound up with a ball. The target companies were succeeded by companies of men called "ragamuffins" or "fantasticals," who dressed in fantastic garb on Thanksgiving day. These adult ragamuffins have now been succeeded by the youngsters who "dress up."

In a recent letter an old New Yorker writes thus of the ragamuffins.

"I was interested in reading your article on the subject of the Thanksgiving day mummery, and I am rather surprised that some ancient person in the Greenwich village could not give you some information as to the origin of the custom, which, as far as I know, is local to New York.

"In my boyhood in the early seventies there used to parade through the streets on Thanksgiving day bands of grown men, some on foot, some on horseback and others in the two wheel or butcher carts of the day, clad in eccentric and fantastic clothes. These bands or companies called themselves the 'fantasticals' and were called by the people of the street the 'ragamuffins.' They paraded in a spirit of more or less gloom and were received with good nature and amusement.

"I used to be told by my elders that the fantasticals paraded in derision and mockery of the militia parades of the time, but their humor was probably leveled against the militia of an earlier date and possibly in memory of the general muster and training of a still earlier day."

How to Get Rid of Mice if They Infest Your House.

Mix cornmeal and plaster of paris, put in a saucer or on a board and set a saucer of water beside the cornmeal mixture. As soon as the mice eat the dry cornmeal mixture they will want water and just as soon as they drink the water the plaster of paris becomes hard and the mice die. If you set the cornmeal and water in the middle of the cellar they die before they reach the mice holes. Use about two-thirds cornmeal and one-third plaster of paris.

How to Increase a Lantern's Light.

A railroad brakeman who had an unusually bright light in his lantern explained that it was due to the care given the wick, says Popular Mechanic. He cut a small notch at the center of the edge of the wick, causing the flame to have a notched outline at its top.

"This gave relatively more light than the flame from a wick cut square across."

ORIGIN OF KHAKI.

Why Our Soldier Boys Now Wear Dust Color.

What is the origin of khaki? To whom are we indebted for it?

It was first adopted in British India in 1848 by Sir Harry Burnett Lumsden, who had been asked to equip a corps of guides to collect intelligence and to conduct an English force on the northwestern frontier of India. The cloth used was a light cotton drill, as suited the climate of Hindustan, and took its name from a native term, "kha-ki," which means in the Urdu language, "dusty," being derived from "kha" or dust, says Popular Science Monthly. Thus the term applied to the color of the cloth rather than to the material. Though the dictionary tells us it is pronounced kaykee by the natives, the English have given it to us as kharkee, and this is the correct pronunciation.

Having been approved, the use of the cloth spread from the guides to others in the Indian army, and it was worn in the Sepoy mutiny of 1857 by the English troops. In the Boer war, 1890-1902, khaki was adopted in the British service for an active service uniform, and so worn by all English and colonial troops in Africa. But as cotton was not warm enough for the African highlanders, uniforms of the same kind were made of serge, and the term khaki thus included woolen as well as cotton fabrics. Because it was well fitted for the climate of Cuba and the Philippines, the United States chose khaki for the soldiers' uniforms during the Spanish American war.

An Interesting Topic.

"Junior" is an only child and naturally appreciates the attention bestowed upon him. But his mother had hoped he was innocently unconscious of his popularity until one evening when a neighbor had happened in for a chat. "Junior" had gone to bed, but presently his shrill little pipe broke into their conversation:

"Mother!"

"Yes, Junior."

"Talking 'bout me?"

Too Weak by Far.

Catherine had requested, as a special birthday treat, that she be allowed to have coffee for breakfast. Her mother, not at all pleased with the idea, was diluting it generously.

Catherine peered over into the cup, and then exclaimed in great disappointment:

"Goodness! Don't I get any of the brown?"

Favorite Topics.

"Did you ever stop to think how little conversation there would be if people never talked about themselves?"

"Oh, yes. But if people never talked about themselves or other people, either, we wouldn't need a universal language. We could get along well by making signs."

Help!

Customer (to waiter) who had brought him a beefsteak very much underdone)—Waiter, just send for the butcher, will you?

Waiter—Why, sir?

Customer—This steak doesn't seem to be quite dead yet!

FOOL AND HIS MONEY



"Being a fool is no disgrace.

"Isn't that?"

"Who's the trouble, then?"

"The money is always on the other side."

Do Not.

Do not be a quitter.

But fear within your heart.

And do not be a starter.

Of things that should not start.

—Judge.

Hard to Please.

"I fall to see anything in this show."

"But the chorus is shapely."

"True, yet the chorus can neither sing nor dance."

"Don't you think the comedian is funny?"

"He might be if he tried to play Hamlet."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Branching Out.

"Mrs. Dubois is always talking about enlarging her sphere of influence."

"What does she mean by that?"

"I suppose she means moving in a larger circle by attending more club meetings."

Best Move.

"This dollar diplomacy—"

"Yes?"

"What is it, anyway?"

"Slipping your wife a case note when you haven't got an excuse handy."

Literally Understood.

"It's a cold world!" sighed the melancholy citizen.

"Yes," replied Miss Cayenne. "But don't you think that now and then we ought to talk about something besides the weather and the cost of fuel?"

She Explains.

"You never wind your wrist watch."

"Well, what of it?"

"What's the use of wearing a wrist watch that keeps no time?"

"I wear it as a bracelet as well as a watch," said the girl.

Also, When She's Absent.

"Pa, when do you call an old woman an old hen?"

"When she has become hopelessly old in her ways, my son."

FATHER KOENIG'S NERVINE

Nerves Broke Down.

R. J. Oberlin, Kan., Sept. 1915.

Since about 12 years my nerves broke down I had pains all over my body—some days I felt downhearted, but always had good appetite. Pastor Koenig's Nervine had the desired effect against the trouble.

Mrs. J. Spor, 229 West St., N. Shenandoah, Pa., Sept. 1915, writes: I allow to sign my name for the good results obtained through Pastor Koenig's Nervine and I tell it everywhere. I was suffering for 4 years from nervous headache, which disappeared so soon as I took Pastor Koenig's Nervine.

Mrs. A. F. Hoff writes from McClusky, Ill., 125 N. Dak., that she couldn't sleep well any more since about 12 years tried many medicines, but none had helped her so much as Pastor Koenig's Nervine.

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"True enough."

"Here's one who chirps about the music of the dentist's drill."

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Report of the Condition of **The Central Bank OF ROCHESTER** at the close of business on the 14th day of November, 1917.

RESOURCES.

Stock and bond investments, viz.:	
Public securities	\$ 63,813 04
Private securities	584,928 24
Real estate owned	None
Mortgages owned	112,409 13
Loans and discounts secured by bond and mortgage, deed or real estate collateral	279,208 08
Loans and discounts secured by other collateral	3,693,281 79
Overdrafts	2,009,059 11
Due from approved reserve depositories, less amount of offsets	\$1,440,773 21
Due from trust companies, banks and bankers not included in preceding item	296,482 15
Special	
Other currency authorized by the Laws of the United States	1,337,255 84
Cash items, viz.:	
Exchanges and checks for next day's clearings	79,788 75
Other cash items	2,473 28
Due from The Federal Reserve Bank of New York less offsets	None
Customers' liability on acceptances (see liabilities, per contra)	None
Other assets, viz.:	
Furniture and fixtures	20,000 00
Accrued interest entered on books at close of business on above date	18,766 26
Accrued interest not entered on books at close of business on above date	6,760 00
Total	\$9,236,697 36

LIABILITIES

Capital stock	\$ 300,000 00
Surplus	45,792 65
Undivided profits	298,792 66
Deposits as follows:	
Due New York State Savings Banks	105,000 00
Due New York State Savings and Loan Associations and Credit Unions	None
Other deposits due as executor, administrator, guardian, receiver, trustee, committee or depository	None
Deposits by the Superintendent of Banks or State of New York	223,000 00
Time deposits secured by a pledge of assets	50,000 00
Deposits with no preference, if any	None
Not preferred is follows:	
Time deposits subject to check	7,329,797 42
Time deposits certificates and other deposits, the payment of which cannot legally be required within thirty days	24,000 00
Demand certificates of deposit	11,247 26
Other certificates of deposit	None
Deposits withdrawable only on presentation of passbooks	None
Cashier's checks outstanding including similar checks of other officers	86,803 41
Unpaid dividends	35 00
Due trust companies, banks and bankers	611,390 29
Extend total deposits	\$8,339,610 18
Bills payable including indebtedness for money borrowed, represented by notes, certificates of deposit or otherwise	None
Redeemable	None
Acceptance of drafts payable at a future date or authorized by commercial letters of credit	None
Other liabilities, viz.:	
Mortgages on real estate owned	None
Reserves for dividend payable January 2, 1918	2,500 00
Reserves for taxes, expenses, etc.	6,851 37
Accrued interest entered on books at close of business on above date	80,253 39
Accrued interest not entered on books at close of business on above date	8,500 00
Estimated unearned discounts	12,100 00
Total	\$9,236,697 36

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New York Cotton Exchange

Chicago Board of Trade

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INCORPORATED 1850

Monroe County Savings Bank

35 State Street, Rochester, N. Y.

RESOURCES \$28,400,000

Deposits \$1 to \$3,000

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