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#### Modern Dreamboats.

Beyond all doubt modern dreamboats represent the highest level of untroubled stream that the human eye has yet seen. The fact that 25,000 tons or more of metal can be driven through water at the speed of an express train while its big guns hurl shells weighing three-quarters of a ton to a distance of twenty miles is a miracle in mechanism.

During the evolution of the warship its present state of efficiency marine engineers have been faced with the problem of protecting vital parts of the vessel from the ever increasing hitting power of large shells. In other words, so fighting value depended upon its ability to take as well as give hard blows. Some idea of the difficulty may be gathered from the fact that a two inch shot strikes a blow at its maximum point of speed capable of doing 50,000 tons a foot from the ground.—London Standard

#### Swamp Lands.

The national campaign of commerce before that had not the hospital ways of the army definitely determined the status of the mosquito and thus a great mosquito swamp lands to be drained it is an open question whether the building of the Panama canal would have been possible.

In following up this work we find that the United States in draining breeding places of the mosquito has reclaimed thousands of acres of land and made them available for agricultural purposes. There are approximately 1,000,000 acres of swamp lands in the country where for years the mosquito has held undisputed sway, of which 750,000, or about one-eighth of the total area of the country, can be reclaimed for the plow share. The only value of swamp lands in its possibility of reclamation, otherwise it is a serious liability as a breeder of disease.—Litch's

#### The Greatest Fly Catcher.

Why does the crested fly catcher select a dried snake skin to line his nest? Some naturalists believe it is to render the nest waterproof. Others think he dried skin serves as a burglar alarm, to rattle at the approach of a squirrel or other enemy.

This bird builds his nest in hollow trees, stumps or posts. Sometimes he vents the abandoned home of the woodpecker. Professor H. A. Surface, Pennsylvania state zoologist, tells of one that usurped a rural mill box for his flat. Of recent years they have been known to inhabit box homes put up for their special benefit.

So if you want to encourage the crested fly catcher, build him a box nest. He'll pay the rent many times over. He eats beetles, flies, grasshoppers, butterflies and moths.—Exchange

#### A Dangerous Precedent.

The worst case of law versus justice and common sense is one which Montaigne relates as having happened in its own day. Some men were condemned to death for murder. The judges were then informed by the officers of an inferior court that certain persons in their custody had confessed themselves guilty of the murder and told so circumstantial a tale that the fact was placed beyond all doubt. Nevertheless it was deemed so dangerous a precedent to revoke a sentence and show that the law could err that the innocent men were delivered over to execution.—London Mail

#### Among the Accidents.

Amateur Tenor—That's odd I can't find any account of my singing at the Swellmore's musicals last evening. His Friend—Where did you look for it? Amateur Tenor—Among the musical notes, of course. His Friend—It might be in the paper after all. Why not try some other department?—Exchange

#### An All Around Boss.

"But," exclaimed the man of delicate sensibilities, "will your conscience permit you to do as you suggest?" "Look here, friend," answered the New York politician, "I am accustomed to be boss even of my own conscience."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph

#### Agriculture.

I know of no pursuit in which more real and important service can be rendered to any country than by improving its agriculture.—George Washington

#### Modern Machinery.

Not to see poetry in the machinery of the present age is not to see poetry in the life of the age. It is not to be alive in the age.—Gerald Stanley Lee.

#### Practical Health Hint.

**Hardening of the Arteries.** Hardening of the arteries cannot be cured. The vessels have been over-stretched day by day and white, inelastic fibers have taken the place of the elastic fibers that have been lost. The elastic fibers can never be restored. But one can regulate himself so that his life may yet be long and comfortable. Temperance in eating, drinking and working must be the unalterable rule of conduct. The man with arteriosclerosis should have his blood pressure taken periodically. In case of dizziness and a considerable rise in pressure he should guard against apoplexy by starving and purging. When the pressure rises suddenly and sharply he should have his urine examined for albumen, as Bright's disease is even more of a menace than apoplexy.

#### A Flying Collision.

The nation of "T.H.s of the Flying Services" tells of a strange accident that occurred in France.

Not long ago, he says, I ran across an aviator I know looking very much annoyed and, with one eye seriously obstructed by a large contused swelling on his cheek bone. Thinking that he had had a smash of some kind, probably a bad landing in which he had been pitched against the front of his machine, I asked what had happened.

He explained that about six hours earlier he was starting out on a fast biplane and was going full speed on the ground in order to get a good jump into the air when he met a large sized bumblebee going in the opposite direction. "You see," he explained, "I was doing about sixty knots due east and he was doing between thirty-five and forty knots due west, and he was a large bee, and the impact was something terrific. And," he added vindictively, "I hope he has spilled all his honey and that he's still unconscious."

#### Skill With a Skillet.

A writer in the Woman's Home Companion says:

"Where we are living at present we have no gas range, only a two burner plate, and the coal range is so large that it requires a great deal of fuel to heat the oven sufficiently to bake even a few muffins or biscuits, so that I have tried to find a satisfactory substitute that could be cooked in a skillet. By using the skillet dry and sprinkling it lightly with flour I bake very enjoyable biscuit cake or scones. For it I use simply a biscuit batter made a trifle stiffer, patted or rolled to about a quarter inch thickness. One must be sure to have the fire or gas low enough not to burn the outside of the scones before the inside has time to cook sufficiently. If gas is used a more even distribution of the heat may be obtained by using a heated lid from the stove under the skillet, or a heavy piece of tin or sheet iron will serve the purpose."

#### Much Abused Coffee.

A prominent medical writer in an article "How to Keep Well" says: "Coffee relieves fatigue by stimulating the brain, the spinal cord, the muscles, the heart and the kidneys. It doesn't merely numb the tired feeling; it enables the body to eliminate the poisons that cause the tired feeling. Coffee is not a moral menace. It makes for sociability.

"It is food as well as drink as ordinarily taken with sugar and cream. In all our private and hospital experience we have never encountered an instance in which dyspepsia, nervousness or any other ailment was reasonably attributable to the moderate and habitual use of coffee as a beverage. It is true that hundreds of mortals deny themselves the boon because of some fancied or educated fear that it isn't good for them."—Buffalo Sanitary Bulletin

#### Passing of the Spare Room.

Of course there still are guest rooms. People in the country have them, and rich people have them in the city. There are guest rooms ordinary and guest rooms extraordinary—modest little corners in which to tuck away a transient friend or relative and imposing suits fit for the entertainment of a royal family. There are guest rooms with secluded marble temples of Hygiea attached and guest rooms with movable washbowls. But I contend that the spare room as an institution is passing from our national life. As a nation of a hundred millions we don't have spare rooms.—Atlantic

#### Ancient Proofreading.

The editions of books printed 200 or 300 years ago are almost entirely free from typographical errors, which may be attributed to the fact that early publishers were generally eminent scholars and themselves gave much attention to the revision of their proofs. After reading the proofs they frequently turned them over to other scholars with the request to revise and correct, and as the printer's time was then deemed a matter of small consequence a perfection was attained which is seldom equaled by modern printers.—Exchange

#### Our Busy World.

"I understand each human being takes about eighteen breaths a minute, or nearly 2,160 a day," said the practical woman. "Just think of it," replied the absent-minded woman. "I can't see how they can find time to do it!"—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

#### Ways of the Oyster.

Oysters after they have been brought away from the sea know by instinct the exact hour when the tide is rising and approaching their beds and so of their own accord open their shells to receive the food from the sea as if they were still at home.—London Telegraph.

#### Conjugal Amities.

She—I was a fool when I married you. He—Aren't you a fool still? She—No, I am not. He—Then you should be thankful to me for reforming you.—London Tit-Bits.

#### Yes.

The secret of success has been fairly well kept, considering that so many people are anxious to tell about it.—Puck.

#### Balliffs.

The title balliff was formerly very honorable, and the official was vested with many important powers. Home is the seminary of all other institutions.—Chapin.

#### How Deaf Mutes Feel Music.

Deaf mutes love music. It thrills them—they feel it, says the Popular Science Monthly, by placing their hands and elbows on a piano while the teacher plays it. The vibrations not only give sensations which enliven the body, but they actually stimulate them. The parts most sensitive to vibrations are the chest, head, lungs and feet. "An exciting feeling comes up through the floor," is the way one deaf boy describes it. "Without music I would be lonesome," wrote a little Italian deaf mute. "It gives me a strong shock through the feet to the head," stated another. Others when asked to explain their sensations said, "I feel it in my temples and in my legs," "I feel it through my whole body," and "I feel it in my chest and lungs."

According to teachers of deaf mutes, musical instruction is more important as an educational factor for the deaf child than it is for the hearing.

#### St. Augustine Nights.

By night (in St. Augustine) you may hear the negroes sweeping the streets, doubly darkling over their surfaces and softly gossiping together. There are not the only black voices you hear, for their casual race seems to have no more stated hours for sleeping than eating. Their mellow murmurs, especially when the nights are warm, rise in what seems perpetual joking, as if from their humorous pleasure at being alive together in the same amusing world, and if you have no worse conscience than the talkers their voices will lull you again to the slumbers they have broken. It is as if a swarm of blackbirds carrying news of the spring northward had swept chuckling through the trees and fluttered the fans of the palms and the leaves of the magnolias with such comment in their course as would naturally occur to blackbirds.—W. D. Howells in Harper's Magazine.

#### Value of Responsibility.

Greater than the value of contact with facts is the value of responsibility. In a man's life it is the arrival of some responsibility which arouses the powers and makes durable the qualities of manliness.

The effect of responsibility is instantaneous. It is like a magnet in its power to charge the individual with the faculties needed for the matter in hand. A light is generated among the fragments of information. Even after a systematic education these fragments seem to lie in the mind in a chance order until this light appears and shows them ready for use; then abilities develop which never would develop even with practice, without responsibility.—Atlantic Monthly.

#### Where One Czar Fell.

A church in Petrograd having both autocratic and revolutionary associations is the Church of the Redeemer. It was erected at a cost of 600,000 on the exact site of the murder of the ex-czar's grandfather, Alexander II. The spot where he fell remains (though now within the building) precisely as it was, even to the blood on the stones, each of which has an identification number. Above these is a wonderful canopy of malachite stone, from which depend an orb, a scepter and a crown of thorns. Folding doors of pure silver and ikons incrust with precious stones surround the shrine.

#### The Polar Bear.

The polar bear is a pretty formidable brute. A specimen of this species has been killed weighing 1,000 pounds and measuring nearly thirteen feet from nose to tail. The strength of the polar bear is beyond belief. One was seen feeding on the body of a white whale fifteen feet long and weighing at least three tons. The whale had been dragged by the bear out of the water on to the ice.

#### A Little One.

Fig—Talk about your green servant girl. My wife told ours to put a little nutmeg in the custard she was making this afternoon. Fog—And did she do it? Fig—Oh, yes; she put a little nutmeg in, all right; I came near choking over the blamed thing.

#### Get Ideas.

There is a vast difference between information and ideas, and the man of information may be useful like a dictionary, but may never be a force in the community.

#### Practical Health Hint.

#### Vertigo.

Vertigo is a symptom of many conditions of disturbed health. If a person has frequent attacks of dizziness it is important for him to have a physician ascertain the cause of the trouble. The cause of vertigo must be determined by a careful examination of the eyes, ears, heart, blood vessels, urine, etc. Once the cause is discovered the treatment of that condition soon relieves the attack of dizziness, for it must be borne in mind that vertigo is only a symptom. It is possible to relieve giddiness temporarily by taking an effervescent laxative medicine, such as the citrate of magnesia or a salt. His powder, and then lying down to rest and sleep. Loss of sleep, hunger and indigestion are frequently causes of swimming in the head. When, however, attacks of vertigo are frequent the underlying cause should be found and treated by a physician.

### YET IT BORED



First Elder—The preacher's sermon had no point to it. Second Elder—And yet though it had no point it greatly bored me.

### HOW ABOUT IT?



He—Darling, you're looking prettier every day. She—Then why do you want to marry me so soon. Why not wait, if that's the case?

### HE LIKED TO BREAK LAWS



Rigby—I wonder why he so rarely goes to church? Digby—I reckon because there is no law prohibiting it.

### FEMINE INTELLIGENCE



"Why don't you insist on being the head of the house?" "I am the head of the house, but my wife says a head is no good without brains."

### HIS SCHEME



"You said Nokoyne was a grafter, but he paid me that twenty-five he owed me last night." "Fine; then you can lead me five." "Can't. Nokoyne borrowed fifty this morning."