

# The Scrap Book

## HE'D LEARNED HIS LESSON

Young Man Realized That Injunction to "Keep Smiling" Should Not Be Taken Too Literally.

Taking with him his best "bedside" manner, the new vicar set out to visit the patients in the local hospital. In one of the wards he observed a pale young man lying on a bed, heavily swathed in bandages, and looking very, very miserable. So the vicar stopped and administered a few words of comfort.

"Never mind, my man," he remarked in cheering tones, "you'll soon be yourself again. Keep on smiling; that's the way in this world!"

"I'll never smile again," replied the youth, sadly.

"Rubbish!" exclaimed the vicar. "There ain't no rubbish about it," retorted the other. "I'll never smile again, I say—not at another fellow's girl, any'ow!"—London, Tit-Bits.

## BEAUTY HARD TO DESCRIBE

Wondrous Splendor of the Dying Sun in the Far North Almost Baffles Description.

The traveler in the icy northern regions is filled with awe and stands enraptured, gazing at this beautiful phenomenon of nature, scarcely able to express his appreciation in words, so overcome is he by this burst of splendor in the otherwise cheerless North.

It is a feeling somewhat akin to this that comes upon one when gazing at the western sky after the orb of day has set in the distant horizon, writes Ignatius Johnson. The scene is ever old, yet ever new, and one seems never to tire of it. The sun has just disappeared beneath the horizon and the heavens are all aglow with the reflection of its rays. The color scheme is magnificent, yet indescribable because of its wondrous tints and hues. The silver-lined clouds are scattered here and there, forming part of a mass of glowing splendor. Again, other clouds, like long streamers on a background of glowing red seem to radiate from the invisible orb. Moment after moment the whole panorama seems to change, bringing scene upon scene before the gaze of the onlooker. Gradually it fades until night has drawn the veil of darkness over it.

The wonder indeed has disappeared, but into the heart of the spectator there steals the realization of the greatness, the power and especially the love that moved the hand of the master artist as he painted the masterpiece.

## Giant Telescope Does Useful Work.

The huge reflecting telescope of the Dominion Astrophysical observatory at Victoria, B. C. has proved a valuable factor in research work. In the short period in which it has been in commission it has already discovered 30 spectroscopic binaries. These are stars which appear as single objects even when viewed by the most powerful telescope and the fact that they are really doubles is revealed only when they are examined by means of the spectrum. If the star is always moving at the same speed either to or from the earth, then it is single, but if it changes speed or direction, then it is a double. A visual binary is one which may be discerned as a double when viewed through a telescope.

## Dropped a Match.

Podkins was on his hands and knees on the station platform, searching diligently, and striking match after match in the process. "What on earth are you looking for, wasting all those matches?" asked a scandalized acquaintance. "The just dropped one," said Podkins, breathing hard and resuming the search.

## Very Holy.

Lacon—Did you ever notice how the Swiss cheese looks down upon the American variety? "Egbert—Why, no, I have not. "Haven't you happened to notice on the part of the Swiss cheese that "bolder than thou" look?"

## Hard Stunt.

Flatbush—Did you ever try to get your wife to try to count ten before she spoke? Bensonhurst—Oh, yes. But I think it is an impossibility.

## Its Sort.

"I hear Miss De Style is spreading a report that she has a dress of spun glass." "Humph. That is a report which it is easy to see through."

## Covering the Case.

"That lawyer decided to get down to bed rock." "How so?" "By obtaining a blanket injunction."

## In a Class by Himself.

Miss Passay—My fiance is so different from other men. Miss Pert—Of course he is, since he proposed to you.

## OBSERVING EARTH'S SHADOW

Possibly Not All Are Aware of Conditions Under Which It is Plainly Visible.

Everybody is familiar with the shadow of the earth as it appears when the moon is eclipsed, but not many know that they can see the shadow at less rare intervals much nearer home. All that is necessary is a clear sky at sunrise or sunset, for then the shadow falls upon the dust of our atmosphere in a most noticeable and striking manner.

If you look eastward as the sun sinks behind the western horizon, a broad band of red seems to appear opposite the sun. It merges into a yellow glow above, and that in turn blends into the blue of the zenith. The red band rises, the under side of it fades into a dull slate gray, the umbra of the shadow. The observation obtained from a position that gives a clear sweep of the horizon discloses the form of the shadow band as an arch, the crest of which is directly opposite the sun. The more depressed the sun is beneath the horizon, the higher the arch towers toward the zenith. As it rises it becomes less perceptible, until the red band that borders it on top spreads overhead in a rather weak glow.

## COUNTRY HAS GREAT FUTURE

Marvelous Fertility of Brazil is Bound to Assure It High Place Among Nations.

Geographically, the United States of North America and the United States of Brazil are somewhat alike. But the main river system of Brazil runs from west to east, the tributaries of the mighty Amazon spreading out like a fan in such wise as to facilitate water communication with the most distant parts of the interior, and to make the coast cities outlets for the products of regions reaching back to the foothills of the Andes.

It is a country of the future—a territory almost virgin, indescribably rich and susceptible of a wonderful development. Nowhere else does the coffee tree bear so bountifully, producing four times the weight of fruit yielded by the plant in Mexico. Cotton and sugar cane grow like weeds. Rubber and the chocolate bean are already exported in vast quantities. Fruits are of almost infinite variety. A catalogue has been compiled of 22,000 species of wood (some of them the most beautiful in the world) found in the valley of the Amazon alone.

## Evolution in Partridges.

A curious example of the effects of environment and changed conditions of life upon the forms of animals is furnished by a species of partridge that lives in the Canary Islands. More than four hundred years ago, says the Los Angeles Times, the "partridges brought the red-legged partridge from Europe to these islands, and the bird has continued to flourish there; but, as recent examination proves, it has undergone changes clearly brought about by the conditions under which it lives.

Its back has turned from russet to gray. That, apparently, is protective coloring, since the bird passes its life among gray volcanic rocks.

Its back has become one fourth longer and thicker than that of its ancestors and of its European relatives, and its legs have increased in length and grown stouter.

## Largest Earth Embankment.

The Belle Fourche irrigation dam in South Dakota is the largest earth embankment in the world. Its construction was authorized by congress at a cost of \$5,000,000. From an engineering standpoint this project is one of the most interesting which the government has yet undertaken. Its principal structure is the earthen dam. This dam, which closes the lowest depression in the rim of a natural basin, is 6,200 feet long, 20 feet wide on top and 15 feet high in the highest place. The inside face of this structure, which has a slope of one to two, is protected from wind and wave action by two feet of screen gravel, on which are placed concrete blocks each 4 by 6 feet thick. The cubical contents of this dike are 42,000,000 feet, or about half of the famous pyramids of Cheops in Egypt. The reservoir created by this dam covers about 9,000 acres and will be the largest lake in the state.

## Bridge Patched With Concrete.

Much success is reported from the new method of strengthening old bridges recommended by the county engineer of Shropshire, England. An old bridge of Thomas Telford, built in 1827 between Oswestry and Ludlow, was found to show its unsafe condition to two seriously cracked cast iron ribs, and restoration consisted in increasing the ribs in proportion. The accomplishment of the work, restoring the way again to heavy traffic, is said to have made the structure even stronger than when first built, the work on the defective ribs was done from suspended platforms without interference with the roadway, and the repairs have not appreciably changed the appearance of the bridge.

## THE LITTLE WOODEN CROSSES. PAID FOR FAULT OF EMPRESS

The little wooden crosses upon a rocky hill, there where the autumn leaves drift down, and all is strangely still, the old, old church that broods o'er them, has seen no fairer sight. In all the years that these who gave their youth, and life, and light, to sleep beneath the wooden cross; yet sweet their rest must be, who made themselves a sacrifice. That all men might be free.

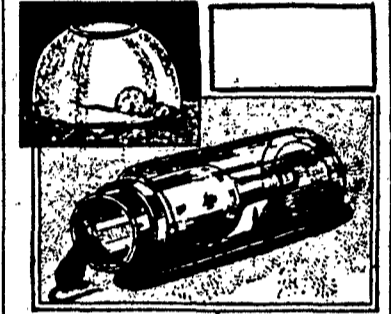
The pain shall be to those who wait 'Cross ocean mist and foam, Who'll miss their face among the ranks When soldier boys come home. But this shall be their recompense, To lift the cross they bear, These were the gift a nation gave, An offering and a prayer. And long as mortal tongues shall live, Until the world grows old, New beauty and new glory, Their memory shall enfold.

## MOUSE TRAPS EASY TO MAKE

Will Serve Their Purpose in Ridding House of Small Animals Which Become Annoying.

In the small picture a glass tumbler or bowl is inverted and rests on a thimble which contains a piece of bait. The mouse crawls under the rim of the bowl, drawn by the smell of the bait, and in endeavoring to extract it from the thimble is sure to shake off the bowl in which the mouse then finds itself imprisoned.

In the large picture two glass bottles are used, the larger one having a wide mouth, somewhat larger in diameter than the body of the smaller bottle.



## AVOID THAT "DOUBLE CHIN"

Investigation Has Shown It Can Be Controlled If Not Entirely Done Away With.

Among the other strange ideas advanced in this era of strangeness is the one which would make it appear that the personal form of plumpness known as a double chin is not strictly patriotic. The critic, presumably a person of lathlike build, declares that a double chin is an indicator of regard for conservation. Generous feeders are usually marked by this fleshy excess.

Of course nobody wants a double chin. As far as known it never has found a welcome. Nobody desires to lose the precious neck line of youth. A double chin with its curving crease is quite enough of an anxiety without coupling it with an indelium of disregard for loyalty.

Happily the charge has brought a quick response. An investigator declares that the double chin can be controlled and very largely mitigated. It depends largely upon the carriage and pose of the head. The person who has a repeated chin, or is threatened with one, should recall and practice Dr. Edward Everett Hale's famous advice: "Look up, not down." The person who sits or stands or walks with an erect body and keeps the chin uplifted can deftly cross and deftly disengage the neck and deftly disengage the neck and deftly disengage the neck.

## WILL KEEP PRINCE'S BURROW

Underground Refuge of Rupprecht of Bavaria is to Be Maintained as a Curiosity.

Prince Rupprecht's waldhaus in the Argonne is to be kept as a national curiosity. It is said to be probably the most elaborately dugout that has ever built. Dug into the hillside concrete and cemented on elaborately that from a few yards off one does not perceive it. It consists of four or five good sized rooms of which four are the hillside have iron shutters. The rooms are paneled and painted and there is also a swimming bath of about 90 feet in length and 60 in width. It is illuminated with electric lights and hot and cold water. A passage leading from the front of the dugout takes one down 60 feet and into perfect safety. This passage is no longer passable, as water has filled it up. During the war pumps were kept going constantly to keep it dry. Just outside and for less stormy periods, is a German Biergarten with tables and chairs and flower beds.

## An Argument.

"Did you speak to your brother about cutting down a little on his potatoes?" "Yes."

"He might adopt a happy medium." "I suggested that. But he says there is no happy medium in getting tanked."—Louisville Courier Journal.

## Too Many Bones.

Rill—Your dog is fond of bones, I suppose? Gill—Sure thing. "The more bones he gets the happier he is, I suppose?" "Well, I really can't say that, for he does balk at some kind of fish."

## Absent-Minded.

A lady, observing that a stranger in her pew had no hymnbook, politely offered him one. "Thanks," said the gentleman, "but I never use a libretto."—Boston Transcript.

## Still Going Strong.

Howell—The fools aren't all dead yet. Powell—No, and the worst of it is that most of them aren't even sick. —Judge.

## Too Long a Reach.

"Bulgaria is always talking about making something new for herself." "Yes. And while he's talking he's usually neglecting the day's work."

## His Version.

Bess—The love of money is the root of all evil. Bob—Nonsense! Comparatively few people marry for money.

## How Foot-Stunting of Chinese Women, With Its Accompanying Agencies, Was Originated.

A small foot was at one time more greatly desired by the women of China than any other item of feminine beauty. How the practice of stunting the feet originated is told by Henry Charles Siro in "China as Described by Great Writers." He says: "The empress of an emperor, who reigned in China before the flood," was found by her Hego lord near the apartment of one of the principal officers of the household, who had the reputation of being a lady-killer. Receiving from the emperor a severe reprimand, the frightened woman pleaded in her defense that it was not her fault, but the fault of her feet, which were so very large they bore her to the forbidden precincts against her will. Thereupon the emperor ordered the fore part of her feet amputated. To conceal the fact the empress announced that she was to introduce a new fashion of small feet, and all about her were ordered to do likewise.

At six years of age the Chinese girl started to curb her feet. The foot, below the instep, was forced into a line with the leg, the toes then doubled down under the sole of the foot, the big toe being made to overlap the others. Bandages were then applied with horrible pressure, and for six weeks the child suffered intolerable agony. After this period the pain subsided and the child could totter about on the stumps. This custom was abolished, with other relics of early Chinese practices, by royal edict several years ago.

## SAFETY OF CHINESE WOMEN.

Very few Chinese widows are remarried. As a rule, customs of society do not go further, but in some parts of Fukien the self-destruction of widows in their devotion to their dead husbands has assumed almost barbarous forms. For example when a man dies his wife will generally declare her intention to kill herself to demonstrate her faithfulness toward him. Then the elders of the family will cause a high stage to be erected and invite her relatives, friends and acquaintances to witness the heroic deed. When the appointed hour has come and the spectators have assembled, the lady will ascend the stage to hang herself amid the admiration and approbation of the spectators. Then a stone arch will be erected to her memory, and the family will be regarded as illustrious for possessing such a devoted wife.

## Thinking and Doing.

"The end of life," said Emerson, "is an action and not a thought," which leads us to remark how much importance we give to the thought and forget the corresponding action. This very thought of Emerson is worth nothing unless it culminates in a deed. And the lesson now is, never to have a thought that does not originate or culminate in an action. A thought apart from action is of no worth. Thinking well and refusing to do well is destructive of character. Teach that philosophy at school, and you understand it, gentle teacher, and if you don't stay home and wash dishes. Saying nice things and doing poor ones is the calamity of life, from which we should all pray to be freed.

## Paletine in Christ's Time.

At the time of the birth of Christ, Judaea, that portion in which Jerusalem was situated, was a dependency of the government of Rome. In the year 70 A. D. about thirty-five years after the death of Christ, Jerusalem itself was captured by the Romans under Emperor Titus and was destroyed. It was rebuilt by the Romans and held, for varying periods by them, by the Persians, by the Mohammedans, by the Crusaders and by the Turks. It was under Turkish rule from 1516 until capture by the British.

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