

REPUTATION FOR HUMOR.

A reputation for humor is undesirable not only because it is exceedingly difficult to maintain, but because when once a person has established the belief that he is "funny," there are few, if any, who will take him seriously, no matter how earnest he may try to become.

It was a graceful act on the part of Gen. Hunter Liggett upon his return from France to seek out the grave of his old school teacher and lay thereon a wreath in affectionate memory.

Now ex-Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg comes forward to take the blame for the war from the ex-kanzler's shoulders.

"We are none of us infallible, not even the youngest of us," was the famous dictum of Jowett of Balliol; and whenever young men propose to make over the world, or even a limited tract of it, they are liable to be reminded that they are young.

It is said that the prince of Wales visit to this country under his own title and without the use of an In-cognito, is a practical recognition of the independence of the United States.

An American sanitary expedition is rushing to Poland and the Baltic Russian states to combat an outbreak of typhus.

As for the "strike" of actors, let us note that the flitting figures on the movie films never strike. They are as faithful as the slaves used to be to their masters, despite the vagrant and impossible fancies they exploit and portray.

Anybody would think by the fun we are having in this country now that we have the world by the tail and a downhill pull.

The purchasing power of money is becoming so weak that even tight-wads occasionally drop a nickel in the collection plate without grunting so that the second row of the choir can hear them.

An air passenger and delivery line is in contemplation between New York and Boston.

So "wrist watches for pet dogs" is the latest. However, they don't phase the dogs, and might make some perhaps equally deserving children envy the dogs.

The great trouble in general business is to reduce the overhead expense. If they manage to do it in the new transoceanic air service it ought to be a pretty cheap method of shipping.

This two and three-quarter per cent beer discussion is of interest to about two and three-quarters per cent of the United States. But they make as much noise as a majority.

Hair cuts are to be 60 cents. Shearing the shorn lamb.

NO CONTRITION FOR CRIMES.

On returning from Europe Dr. M. Llewellyn Bane, librarian of Johns Hopkins university, said: "Germany has neither repented nor reformed. Her spirit is as ugly as ever. She merely lacks power of harm for the moment. Terribly mortified, of course, over public miscarriage of plans, but feeling no contrition for the monstrous crime committed. It is a sham republic with the old execrated figures in the immediate background, whispering directions and pulling wires. Von Bernstorff in honor is sufficient proof of the woekery of the show."

It has been held by military experts that the "forests" and "hols" of northern France won the war for democracy. In the final rush of the Germans toward Paris the woodlands were the points of vantage which the defenders most stubbornly held and which the aggressors most diligently sought to capture.

American hostesses who have married titled foreigners are reported to be badly off in the countries of their adoption. At present titles are a losing investment, and interest, if not patriotism, will suggest to future hostesses to seek more enduring exchanges for their capital nearer home.

The style committee of the clothes manufacturers say clothes will have more color next year and cost about \$30 more a suit. Good clothing men, no doubt, but rather reckless to predict the purchasing power of a dollar a year hence.

Increased production is, of course, the solution of the present problems due to scarcity of food, clothing and housing, but it will take some time for all producers to eradicate from their systems the poison of the old, evil formula instilled by greed, that it is better to make a high rate on small production than a low rate on large production.

The niece of Queen Mary of England is to wed a British commoner. There are not enough princes to go around these days, the German matrimonial market is closed to allied nations, and, in consequence, princesses in Europe are marrying like other human girls, where their hearts are given.

We believe almost any middle-aged person from every city, section or country, will tell you that there is a great deal more bathing now than was once thought to be necessary. Maybe it is because we are not as clean as we used to be and it is therefore more necessary.

There are evidences that the public is tiring of officialdom's protection of profiteers by holding a billion pounds of foodstuffs and only selling in lots that the profiteers alone can handle. But food spoils faster than public sentiment develops in a republic.

It is barely possible, of course, that the people who have failed to get their coal this summer thought it was just as well to spend their coal money for automobiles and trust to luck when winter comes.

At a rough guess one reason for some excessively high prices is that people have plenty of money and are paying them, and sellers will be charging them as long as the paying is good.

There is a noticeable decrease in the number and quality of the old shoes being thrown after the departing boy-nomn pairs. But there never before was so much worn footwear being taken to the cobbler for making over.

Our idea of a poorly balanced nut is one who owns and operates a pleasure automobile about six hours a day, but doesn't make enough salary to buy enough to eat.

The ultra rich are able not only to put in their coal for the coming winter but also to make a first payment on a slab of bacon for early fall delivery.

FRENCH WIVES IN AMERICA.

If these thousands of young French wives of American soldiers will share some of the charming secrets of French femininity with their American sisters; if they will publish the art of making a salad, the knack of making a soup; if they will communicate the insight and the dainty touch that transform a mere dress into a distinctive costume expressive of the best traits of the wearer; if they will teach the art of placing a chair and arranging a flower so as to give charm to an apartment and to lend the indefinable air of distinction and elegant simplicity which is so characteristically French; and above all, says Harford Times, if they will radiate everywhere their happy heritage of good nature, vivacity and cheerful acceptance of circumstances, and exemplify French genius for the elegance of simplicity and the good breeding of economy, they in their turn will place the homes of America greatly in their debt.

Time was when it seemed incredible that school teachers would ever find it necessary to organize in order to obtain fair pay and fair working conditions, but when the teachers of some cities discovered that the garbage collectors, aided by labor union affiliations, were getting better wages than the teachers and were in line to obtain more favorable pension consideration than teachers could hope for, the teachers began to see the necessity for organization. They discovered, at length, says Christian Science Monitor, what the entire social body, usually referred to as "the middle class," is beginning to find out, that in a highly organized world he is a rare individual indeed who can hope to get his rights unless by joint action with others situated and equipped like himself.

As a political prisoner, whose only crime is wholesale murder and the ruin and desolation of millions of lives, William Hohenzollern is at last suffering the torture of prison fare. So they tell us. His menu has been cut until at last he ekes out a bare living on the following: Breakfast, new rolls, biscuits, cake and fresh butter, two or three eggs, Dutch cheese, tea or chocolate; luncheon, soup, fish, meat, poultry, sweet omelets, butter and cheese, and white wine; dinner, soup, fish, roast beef or mutton, poultry or game, vegetables, cakes and pastry, fresh fruit, red and white wines, coffee and liqueur brandy.

Another reason why we know Germany expects to borrow money in the United States is that her big men are beginning to boast us and declare we won the war and can lick any power in the world. Germany does not deserve any consideration at our hands, but we can't for the life of us see how we are going to let a nation suffer that praises our fighting ability like that.

An American countess is suing her titled husband for divorce, one complaint being that he spent all her allowance without giving her any of her own money. But then the American women, ambitious for titles, should reflect that they cannot buy these noble bargains and have the purchase money too.

Strangely enough, intelligence has never been properly applied to the human problem as a human problem. We commonly think in terms of race, nation, creed, sex, class condition—not in terms of common humanity. It is time for the human race to secure proper recognition from its own members.

While the war was going on any attempt to create friction between America and its allies was recognized at once as enemy propaganda, but now, in a situation no less menacing to the welfare of the world, abuse of our allies by interested, partisans goes unchallenged.

In some instances the workmen, yielding to the spell of the lovely summer weather and the unrest of general conditions, walked out, and then, being unable to think of anything to strike for, walked in again.

Sometimes one is tempted to believe that the sacred law of supply and demand is a fraud. For instance, now that corn is no longer in demand for whisky making, corn has gone up to nearly \$2 a bushel.

Picture postcards cost only one cent to mail now, and you have probably already received one saying, "This is our hotel—our window is the one marked with a cross."

Those holdup men who got \$1,300 disguised as doughnuts were in luck. Thats might have grabbed only a dollar disguised as a pound of cooked ham.

Corn is nearly \$2 a bushel, and the first thing it knows, mush-and-milk is going to find itself in the luxury class.

Comparatively little is heard these days about the "downtrodden" farmer.

OYSTER RAISING IN HOLLAND

Highly Scientific Methods Employed in That Country Have Been Remarkably Successful.

In the industry represented by oyster cultivation, Holland is the most systematic in its operations and employs more elaborate methods than any other country in the world. The numerous sounds that indent the coast of Holland, particularly in the region of the River Scheldt, afford excellent facilities for the propagation of the oyster and enable the country to conduct the most successful oyster industry in Europe. Public dredging is not permitted, as the result of that system was the threatened exhaustion of the fisheries, and the beds have been carefully surveyed and specific tracts are leased to individuals and companies, who are thus enabled to conduct the propagation of the oyster in a systematic manner that insures the best results from the territory available. Many growers lease several tracts in different localities, and adapted to different purposes, which facilitates the various operations, as the oysters can be shifted from one place to another, according to the season and the stage of development. A few of the oystermen plant shells on the banks, as is done in many places in this country, but the largest and most successful propagators are equipped with their own tanks and ponds, located in convenient shallow bays, in which they carry on the culture.

MEASURE HEAT OF STARS

Scientific Instrument Used at Washington is Sensitive to an Almost Miraculous Degree.

One of the experts employed by the government bureau of standards in Washington has perfected an instrument which measures the heat of a star so far away that it can't be seen with the unaided eye. This same instrument is sensitive enough to be affected by the heat of a candle 100 miles away. "What is the practical value of such labor?" asks Thomas H. Uzzell in Everybody's. "Well, for one thing, these experiments by Doctor Coblentz have made a substantial contribution to the theory and technology of measuring high temperatures which will melt any known substance. Making use of this new knowledge, other bureau men have greatly improved the high-temperature thermometers which are used in the steel industry to measure the temperature of molten steel. One of the biggest improvements in the production of steel in recent years is the result.

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On Toads.

"Many stories are extant tending to show that toads have been found alive in rocks or in soil deep in the earth; yet so far as investigated by the writer in no case has the evidence been at all conclusive," says A. H. Kirkland in an article on "The Garden Toad" in Boys' Life. "On the other hand, experiments have shown that toads may be kept alive at least 18 months sealed up in plaster or limestone. There is little doubt, that the toad may live for 20 years old, or more.

"Though it lives alone in summer, toads often hibernate in colonies of half a dozen or more. In feeding, usually by night, the toad patrols a fairly well-defined beat; garden and flower beds are frequented, and particularly the ground under ear lights, where numerous insects fall fluttering from the lamps above. When food is abundant, as shown by experiments on toads in cages, the animal eats an equivalent of four square meals daily, consisting of centipedes, cat-worms, beetles, ants, etc."

First Clocks Simple Affairs.

The first clocks were simple affairs which showed the hour alone; then followed the addition of the minute hand, and later came clocks which recorded the day of the month, the phases of the moon, and many other pieces of information, generally of a more or less astronomical character. During the sixteenth century, the Italian and German clockmakers, notably those of Nuremberg and Augsburg, made great progress in their art. There are those who claim that one Richard Harris, an Englishman, invented and set up the earliest pendulum clock some time during the first four decades of the seventeenth century; but this story does not appear to be well authenticated, and the honor of introducing the pendulum seems to belong to the Dutchman, Huygens.

Kangaroo Tendons—Beat Sutures.

The kangaroo, which propels its body over the ground in a series of long leaps or bounds, has a very powerful tail which is of great assistance to the legs in enabling it to leap. A great muscle or group of muscles, each little bundle of them with its own tendons extending to the extremity of the tail, gives power to this important organ. Dr. Henry O. Marcy of Boston discovered that these tendons were the ideal thing to use in sewing up muscles after a surgical operation, as they are not elastic and they do not soften until their work is done, and then they are absorbed by the tissues.

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