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WATCHES AND BANK VAULTS

Why Safe Receptacles Occasionally Have a Bad Effect on the Stored Timepieces.

Overseas men who left their watches along with other valuable articles in bank vaults have in many instances found their timekeepers erratic or entirely useless on their return.

"Magnetized," the watch expert would say when the timepieces were taken to the repair shop.

When a watch is magnetized the hair spring contracts and does other unseemly things, and the watch runs only casually if at all. Watch repairers say they can demagnetize a watch in a little while and it will be just as good as ever.

But why should a bank vault cause this magnetizing? That's the odd feature of it, for frequently the very factor that makes the watch's repository a safe one puts it "on the fritz" as far as usefulness goes. A watch is magnetized when some electric current is near enough to have an effect. And usually the electric current that does the work is the current that operates the bank's burglar alarm.

HIS SCHEME DIDN'T WORK

This Colonel Evidently Was Wise as to the Foxy Ways of His Junior Officers.

In the regular army it is one of the customs of the service, when at a regular army post, for the junior officers to call upon the senior officers. To comply with this custom without making the calls, the junior officer frequently waits until he knows the senior officer is away and then calls at his home and leaves a card. One night when I was stationed at a post in Texas, I saw the colonel down town and on my way home stopped at the colonel's quarters and put my card under the door. I was just leaving the porch when I noticed a car at the gate and on closer inspection I noted that the colonel was in the car and was awaiting me at the gate. He laughingly said: "Kind of late to make a call, isn't it, Lieut.?" This became one of the colonel's best stories, and to say that I was more than once embarrassed would be putting it mild. —Exchange.

Taxing the Millionaires.

Under the new scale of income tax imposed by the recent United States revenue bill every citizen in receipt of $150,000 or more a year must pay at least half of it to the state.

Mr. Henry Ford, for example, is said to have an income of $25,000,000 a year, of which the revenue authorities will claim between $15,000,000 and $20,000,000—a sum sufficient to keep 1,000 families in modest comfort forever.

But even Mr. Ford gets off lighter than Mr. John D. Rockefeller, who is reputed to have an income of $100,000,000 a year. Mr. Rockefeller's contribution to the treasury, it is said, will not fall short of $80,000,000 for the current year—a sum which represents 2,000 times his weight in gold.

The Scheldt River Dispute.

Belgium's demand for Dutch territory on the left bank of the Scheldt, or failing that, the internationalization of the river, has come acutely before the peace conference with the protest of Holland against the transfer of any Dutch interests. Feeling is running quite high along the border and Holland is accusing the Belgian government of sending agents across the frontier for the purpose of influencing the attitude of Dutch citizens along the border in favor of Belgian demands. The peace conference subcommission is now studying the subject.

The Hard Heart.

George M. Cohan, during a lull in the theater strike, talked about the callous hearts of chorus girls.

"Oh, they've got callous hearts," he said. "I know a broker who proposed to one of them at a roof garden supper.

"'Miss Vavasour—Vivian—' the broker said, 'my feelings toward you are so tender, so very, very tender—'

"But Vivian Vavasour interrupted him with a hard little laugh.

"'Look here, Bill,' she said, 'It's legal tender I've got to see if we're going to do business.'"

As Man to Man.

"Doctor, I want to discuss a matter with you," said a man, stopping his medical adviser in the street, "but not in your professional capacity."

"I'm listening," said the doctor.

"It's about my liver."

"As a physician I can't discuss your liver except in my professional capacity."

"Hang it all, doctor!" snapped the man. "I don't mind paying you a fee, but I'd like to know what you would do for my liver if it were yours."—Dallas News.

About the Same Thing.

Smith, the hotel manager, and Jones, a manufacturer's agent, were talking one day about their respective business interests.

"I say," remarked Jones, "how ever do you use such an enormous quantity of pears and peaches?"

"Well," replied Smith, "we eat what we can, and what we can't eat we can."

"Indeed!" said the other. "We do about the same in our business."

"How is that?"

"We sell an order when we can sell it, and when we can't we cancel it."

Iron Pipe Makes Good Sprinkler.

Somebody attached to the Arroyo Seco library and playgrounds in Los Angeles had a bright idea. In order to sprinkle the rose hedges and vines in the grounds with little trouble, a three-fourths-inch pipe was perforated at intervals and placed on top of the fence. The pipe was then given water connection; and now, when the water is turned on, the entire hedge and border of flowers is sprinkled. Another length of perforated pipe takes care of the library terrace.—Popular Science Monthly.

Russian Villages Prey of Fire.

The Russian village is built principally of wood and roofed with wood, or with straw and stones. For this reason there are so many fires that, according to statistics, one-fifth of all the peasant cottages burn down every year, or putting it in another way, every house burns down after five years. This seems improbable, but it is reliable information.

Warts Are Contagious.

Warts are contagious, as is proved by experiments on their own fingers made by Drs. Udo J. Wile and Lyle B. Kingery of the University of Michigan Medical school. These physicians seem to have proved that warts are caused by some sort of a virus that passes easily through a filter and therefore through the sound human skin.

Natural Pillows.

The pollack tree provides the natives of British Honduras with splendid material for pillows and mattresses. It is common soft wood growth, with a large pear-shaped fruit, which has a hard shell, changing to almost black when ripe, and containing a short staple brown fluff or silk fiber.

Goodness of Apples.

Because we like apples we use them, but apart from that we use them because they contain healthful acids, needed minerals including iron, lime and sulphur, many calories of energy, and some real nutrition. True, an apple is eighty-five per cent water, but so is milk, and the apple has thirteen per cent of sugar and starches.

Simple Diet.

The late pope is said to have lived on a very simple diet, as simple as that of the poorest tradesman. In the morning he drank a cupful of coffee, at noon he took a little soup and meat and for supper vegetables and meat. His favorite food was the Italian national dish, polenta.

Source of Happiness.

The world contains not one single object that might not be a source of happiness. Sorrow springs from this, that man outdoes himself in misusing everything. He turns against his own body or his own spirit all sorts of things that seem well made for his joy.—Georges Duhamel in the Century Magazine.

Dye From Onion Skins.

To make dye from onion skins, says The Electrical Experimenter, take the outer skins from half a dozen onions (medium sized), and boil in water until the color is extracted. This is a very suitable yellow dye.

Here's a Genius.

Adv.—"I offer my services to the Public as Literary Writer on all subjects, whether sollum or joyfull. Also, Obituarst, giving Departed Friends Glorious welcome to the Hairafter."—Boston Transcript.

Must Work Together.

Human beings were made to succeed and to be happy when they work together on the "each for all and all for each" basis. Put them together any other way and they won't get on at all.

Horrow-ble.

Calico Rock Progress (reporting illustrated lecture), "You would be horrow stricken to see some of the pictures that are full of blood and horrow."—Boston Transcript.

Always That Exception.

Too few ever speak with absolutely unreserved candor except when we are telling how good we think we are or how punk somebody else is.—Exchange.

Frogs and Cigarettes.

Cigarette smoking does not hurt frogs! So says the American Chemical society after experimenting to find the least injurious cigarette, cigar or pipe.

Suggested Change.

Jules, the head waiter, desires to submit an amendment or a reservation or something to change the old motto to "Eat, Drink, but Be Wary."

Immensity of Oceans.

So vast are the contents of the oceans that it would take 2,000,000 years for all the sea water in the world to flow over Niagara.

Hilarious Bride.

Because a London bride, aged forty-one, got drunk on her wedding day and kicked a police sergeant, she spent her honeymoon in jail.

QUENTIN IN BUSINESS DEAL

Colonel Roosevelt's Delightful Description of Youngster's Method of Turning an Honest Penny.

In "Letters to His Children," Theodore Roosevelt penned the following to his son Kermit, under date of October 17, 1908:

"Quentin performed a characteristic feat yesterday. He heard that Schmidt, the animal man, wanted a small pig, and decided that he would turn an honest penny by supplying the want. So out in the neighborhood of his school he called on an elderly darky who, he had seen, possessed little pigs; bought one; popped it into a bag, astutely dodged the school—having a well-founded distrust of how the boys would feel toward his passage with the pig—and took the car for home. By that time the pig had freed itself from the bag, and, as he explained, he journeyed in with a 'small squealish pig' under his arm; but as the conductor was a friend of his he was not put off. He bought it for a dollar and sold it to Schmidt for a dollar and a quarter, and feels as if he had found a permanent line of business. Schmidt then festooned it with ribbons and sent it to parade the streets. I gather that Quentin led it around for part of the parade, but he was somewhat vague on this point, evidently being a little uncertain as to our approval of the move."

IDENTIFIED HER ALL RIGHT

Tots Proved They Know Principal, Though Their Explanation Might Have Been More Dignified.

Ned and Joseph, two tots in the first primary grade, had been fighting on the way home from school at noons. Their own teacher scolded them, but it did no good, for they fought again on the way home that very noon. The teacher went to the principal. "I want you to say something to them," she told her. "I'm sure they will be more impressed then."

That afternoon the principal did as she was asked. She talked long and earnestly on the evils of fighting, but neither of the culprits seemed the least bit moved. Finally she ended, "Now, I say you must not fight, and I mean it." Grimly she eyed them. "And you both know who I am—don't you?"

Both nodded their heads and Joe said cheerfully, "Why, you're the lady who rings the bell for the other teachers—aren't you?"

Knows Dog's Importance.

The night watchman at the Henry Lehrman studios in Culver City came around early one afternoon last week, trying to exchange his magnificent bulldog for some kind of a pup. He was willing to accept anything on four legs, apparently, if some one would only take the big bull off his hands.

"What's the trouble?" queried Billie Ritchie. "Is there anything wrong with your dog?"

"I tell you," said the watchman: "My dog, he fights all the time. Some day he's gonna lick Mr. Lehrman's dog, and then I get fired."—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

Rejoice Over Autonomy.

Autonomy has been officially inaugurated in Portuguese India, under an organic charter promulgated in 1917. Inauguration day was observed as a public holiday, and there was rejoicing in the country. At night all the public offices and many private residences were illuminated at Panjim. The proceedings were held in the historic palace of Adilkhan, the scene of memorable events in the past. The council hall was crowded with the public. His excellency, Capt. Bobola Mota, acting governor general, arrived at the council palace and was received with official honors.

How to Do It.

"I wish you would fix this watch for me—something's the matter with it."

"I don't see that anything is wrong."

"Well, it's lost a minute in the last three months."

"That's nothing to worry about."

"Aren't some of the works broken?"

"No; they are all O. K."

"Aren't some of the jewels lost or something?"

"No—all here; it's full jeweled."

"I've lately suspected the case to be plated. How about it?"

"Solid gold; none better."

"Well, I'm glad to hear you say that. Perhaps you wouldn't mind letting me have fifty on it."—Yale Record.

Cause and Effect.

"I met Blitherby just now. He was complaining dolefully about the high cost of living. He was so depressed I felt sorry for him until he suddenly excused himself and hurried off."

"What alienated your sympathy?"

"He happened to remember that he had an engagement with an automobile salesman to take a trial spin in a new car he has his heart set on."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Her Turn to Gloat.

"What is the cause of all this commotion in the office?"

"One of life's little comedies is being enacted."

"Yes?"

"The beauteous stenographer whom the boss fired for incompetence two years ago is a star in the movies now. She has just dropped in, accompanied by her husband, to get even with the boss by showing him her new engagement ring, for a million, or rather, [illegible]"—Washington Star.

CURRENT [illegible]

[illegible]

"What's [illegible]?"
"A crook?"
"No; a school [illegible]."

[illegible]

"What's his [illegible]?"
"Him? He's [illegible] strike."

The County Fair.

"How'd you come out in the stock exhibit?" "Took three prizes, steam tractors."

Of Course.

"What a [illegible] has!" "Naturally, he wears a ping hand."

Chin Varse.

"You used to write sonnets to my dainty chin," sighed Mrs. [illegible]. "Well, now I must write [illegible]," he said.

It is Both.

"I find a new camera is a [illegible] necessity." "Yet you cannot [illegible] is a negative proposition."

A Loss.

"I almost changed countenance when I heard it." "What a pity! [illegible] lost such a chance."

Maybe He Will.

"Madam, the feather of your hat [illegible] in my eye."
"Well, why don't you wear [illegible]."

A Gentle Hint.

"They say fish is a good brain food."
"Yes sir; would you like some whale meat?"

Unusual.

"There's just one thing I want to ask you, John?" "Only one, Henrietta? Ain't you feelin' well?"

Mean Comment.

Belle—I have been told my eyes are like jewels.
Nell—So they are; like cat's-eyes.

Beneath Her Remarks.

Cary—What do you say to a tramp along Rocky Road?
—"I never speak to the horrid [illegible]."—Cornell Widow.

Nearly Perfect.

Bess—Were Dick and June happy when they were married by [illegible]?

Very [illegible].

"Young [illegible] very much occupied [illegible] he has such a [illegible]."

Thank [illegible].

"That girl is [illegible]."
"Too bad, [illegible] more American."

The Usual Result.

"She married one of those honey boys."
"Well, she got stung."

Good Advice [illegible].

She—Don't be [illegible] heart.
He—I will, if you let me take [illegible].

Wasn't It an [illegible]?

"Who originated [illegible]?"
"I don't [illegible]."—Boston Transcript.

Lack of [illegible].

"What a [illegible]!"
"Well, my dear, they [illegible] drinks."

Natural [illegible].

"What [illegible] about the [illegible]?"
"It was adapted [illegible]."

Between [illegible].

"I got this hat for [illegible]."
"Who did you barter [illegible]?"
"The owner and [illegible]."

The Kind.

"What kind of stars take [illegible] melodramatic circuit?"
"I guess shooting stars [illegible]."

Fading Military Attachés.

He—I love the smell of [illegible].
She—So do I. Don't you [illegible] violet scent the best?"

Rather Scandalous.

"How is the car [illegible] into?"
"Rotten."

Conservative Lad.

Teacher—Why don't you use your brains, Robert?
Bobby—'Cause I want them [illegible].

Fine Fishing.

"Any good fishing around [illegible]?" asked the waiter of the [illegible] lad.
"Yes, sir!" answered the [illegible] goes down that private road [illegible] comes to a sign [illegible] 'Trespassers will be [illegible]' you go across the [illegible] and then you come to a noticeboard with [illegible] followed."
"Yes?"
"Well—that's it."

Can You Imagine [illegible]?

Servant [illegible]
Paris [illegible]
"Sir [illegible]
[illegible]
"Yes [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[