

WHY HE "POKED HIM ONE"

Baseball Fiend Gave Good Reason for Assault, but Judge Was Strangely Unsympathetic.

"You see, yr honor, this here guy he comes into my cigar store along in the afternoon of the last day of the season and taps on the showcase kinder soft and patient, like he wants a cigar but can wait, and we lets him wait, becuz me an' my partner is havin' a hot argument about the game, my partner bein' once an inmate of Cincinnati.

"We ain't noticin' the lapse of time nor customers nor nothin'—when a man's patriotism's involved he oughtn't to pay any attention to his personal business, I think—and when we'd argued till we was black in the face without gettin' anywhere we got sensible, and my partner he says, 'Well, you big stiff, I betcha five dollars the Reds takes today's game!'

"You're on!" I says, an' I digs up a five spot and he covers it an' we asks this here strange bird to hold stakes and tells him the bet.

"Sure!" he says, "anything to accommodate white in waitin'! And he takes the ten dollars and hands it over to my partner, sayin' 'The money's yours—the Reds win. I got it just before I come in here. You can telephone for verification if you like.' He says as I begin to splutter.

"Which just then the phone rings and Harry Nick calls me up and tells me the score. And I turn to this here guy and says, 'For the love o' Pete, you poor fish—did you stand there and listen to me make that bet and let me lose my good money and never say a word? 'Well, it wasn't nothin' to me,' he says. 'I come in here to buy a cigar.' So I pokes him one, yr honor, an' I think it was comin' to m'."

RESULT OF CROSS BREEDING

Qualities of Domestic Animals Improved by the Addition of Blood of Other Species.

The Indian of Alaska crosses his sledge dogs with the wild wolf, and so has produced a dog which is enormously strong, can live on very little, can stand any degree of cold, and which can pull a sledge better than any other animal of its size.

The dog and the fox have been crossed, also the dog and the jackal. Even the lion and the tiger have been mated. In a group of trained animals seen in New York a few years ago was a lion-tiger. It had a tiger's body faintly striped, but the head of a lion with a mane.

The European pheasant, which, from in-breeding, was becoming liable to disease, has been enormously improved and strengthened by crossing with the wild Asiatic pheasant brought from Central Asia. In the same way new varieties of deer have been obtained by crossing the small Persian deer with the European fallow.

The ordinary white ferret is an amiable creature, but rather slow. Crossed with the savage little wild stoat, the result is the fitchet, smaller than the ferret, but much more active and fierce, and the finest creature in existence for working either rats or rabbits.

Nature's Wonderful Work.

The Great Barrier reef of Australia varies in width from ten to thirty miles, and is 1,235 miles long—a monumental result of the labors of myriads of tiny animals! Atolls, or coral rings enclosing a lagoon (with no central island), have been responsible for a deal of animated discussion; the generally accepted theory now being that the existing ring began as usual around and near to an island which has subsequently sunk and passed from knowledge, the coral keeping pace in upward growth—varying with circumstances from roughly one to three inches per year—with the sinking foundation. Barbados is built up almost entirely of coral, lumps of it taking the place of stones in the naturally shallow soil of the island, and the now high and dry dolomites of Austria are largely old coral reefs.

Philippine Climate Healthy.

The climate of the Philippines is one of the best in the tropics. The islands extend from 5 degrees to 21 degrees north latitude, and Manila is in 14 degrees 35 minutes. The thermometer during July and August rarely goes below 79 or above 85. The extreme ranges in a year are said to be 61 and 97, and the annual mean temperature 81. There are three well marked seasons—temperate and dry from November to February, hot and dry from March to May, and temperate and wet from June to October. The rainy season reaches its maximum in July and August, when the rains are constant and very heavy. The total rainfall has been as high as 114 inches in one year.

Coral Fisheries.

In consideration of its slow growth the coral reefs are fished once only in ten years, the fishing boats engaged in this extremely lucrative business varying in size from three to fourteen tons. The most valuable fisheries are among the coral reefs of Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco, the raw material going chiefly to Italy. The red coral of the Mediterranean and the Red sea is exported in large quantities to India for the manufacture of ornaments and articles of personal adornment. The black coral of the Persian gulf and Great Barrier reef is still more highly prized.

Mother's Cook Book

They say there are no such things as freebies, or that there are freebies no longer, but they know not what they say. The original of the fairies sung by poets was found, and is still, among those amiable mortals who knead bread with energy, mend rents with cheerfulness, nurse the sick with smiles, put witchery into a ribbon and genius into a stew.—Charles Wagner.

Good Things for Occasions.

For a quick luncheon dish try this: Stir two teaspoonfuls of butter and one tablespoonful of flour over the heat until well blended. When it bubbles, add half a can of tomatoes, or six fresh ones, chopped, liquor and all. Grate an onion into the mixture; season with pepper and salt and cook ten minutes. Have ready five or six eggs, well beaten; put them in at the last, stirring them in gradually. A minute's cooking finishes the dish. Serve at once.

Baked Squash, Coconut Stuffing.

Mix and pack the following into half of a cleaned, unpared squash: Three cupfuls of grated fresh bread-crumbs, one-half of a grated coconut, six green peppers shredded, three small onions chopped, one pint of celery chopped, one-fourth of a teaspoonful each of dry mint and sage—if fresh, one-half tablespoonful—one teaspoonful of salt, three eggs and a pint of milk. When the mixture is packed into the squash pour over a tablespoonful of melted butter and bake until the squash is tender, basting occasionally with butter and water.

Potatoes on the Half-Shell.

Take six good-sized, smooth potatoes, bake about an hour. When done, cut in two, lengthwise, and with a spoon carefully scoop out the potato into a bowl. Mash fine, adding butter and half a cupful of hot milk, salt and pepper to taste. Beat very light; add the well-beaten whites of two eggs, fold in and fill the shells with the potato. Brush with the egg yolk, and bake 15 minutes in a hot oven.

Orange Pie.

Take one cupful of sugar, four tablespoonfuls of melted butter, one egg and the yolks of two, one cupful of milk, one teaspoonful of soda and two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, the juice of one orange, three cupfuls of flour. Bake in layers and put together with whipped cream, sweetened and flavored with orange.

Eggs in Curry Sauce.

Cook four eggs by dropping them into boiling water, using two quarts and covering tightly; set them on the back of the stove where they will keep hot but not boil, for 30 minutes. Remove the shells and slice the eggs into a buttered baking dish. Melt a tablespoonful of butter in a saucepan, add a teaspoonful of chopped onion and cook in the butter until a golden brown; add one and one-half tablespoonfuls of flour, a little salt and pepper and a half tablespoonful of curry powder. When smooth add one cupful of milk and cook until smooth and free from all taste of raw starch. Pour this sauce over the eggs, cover with a layer of buttered crumbs. Brown in a hot oven and serve hot.

Nellie Maxwell PICKUPS

Loan sharks infect the sea of finance.

It takes an extemporaneous speaker to talk fluently about nothing.

When fines fail to deter lawbreakers it is high time to try jail sentences.

If you want a man to praise your judgment all you need do is agree with him.

Any old thing that goes against the grain of the porcupine gets the worst of it.

Wit is a peculiar kind of talk that often leads to pulled noses and broken heads.

A homely girl is always willing to admit that her pretty rival has not any sense.

He is a wise man who makes the mistake of giving a woman's age too young.

An actress says that a divorce without publicity is worse than no divorce at all.

Some men make a specialty of being honest because it pays better than dishonesty.

England has 124 women councillors, all of whom are making names for themselves.

Women are naturally tender-hearted. No woman ever deliberately stepped on a mouse.

Eighty-six counties of the 250 in Texas have women among their elective officials.

According to an old bachelor, the nice thing about getting married is that you don't have to.

When a woman looks in a mirror she is luckily never able to see herself as other women see her.

Miss Abbie Whistler, of Chicago, Ill., is seeking the nomination for president of the United States.

IMPULSE AND HUMAN REASON

Interesting to Note Just How the One May Be Allowed to Dominate the Other.

On the first cold night of autumn a man of Detroit went about it to look up his house. As he turned the key in the front door a collie dog that had huddled against the screen slunk down the steps and lay down in a drift of withered leaves near the porch. The man saw the wind whip his fur. The dog had an air of discouragement.

Cutting short an impulse to invite the beast in out of the cold, imagining that the dog's hair was long and might be dirty, and convincing himself that it probably had a home near by, the man turned out the lights and went upstairs to bed.

But he could not sleep from thinking of the dog. He returned to the front door after a half hour, and, seeing nothing of the beast, he stepped out on the porch to look further. He was remorseful for what had grown to seem an act of brutality that the dog would not have committed against him.

As a result of his brief search, which was fruitless, the man took sick and was laid up with pneumonia. He had been unable to find his slippers when he went downstairs and had stood too long on the porch in the cold.

There were thus three influences at work in the man: The original impulse to admit the dog, the cultivated tendency to restrain an impulse as something unreasonable, and the final—reasoned—decision to act.

It is plain that in the world most persons who obey their impulses are persons to whom the third influence, the reasoned decision to act, is not in agreement with the impulse and hence results in only remorse or regret over having allowed the impulse to sway them. While, as in the case of the man and the dog, those whose impulses are dependable for the most part, that is, in accord with rational theories of conduct, are persons who shun impulsive action, for one reason or another, persons who allow impulses to be only suggestions for an act, and who consequently act too late.—Detroit News.

GAVE HIM PRACTICAL LESSON

How One Common-Sense Parent Set Up a "Store" to Teach His Heir to Figure.

We heard recently of a boy in years old who was very backward in arithmetic and got poor marks at school. His father finally decided to help him by actual experience.

He started him in business by keeping a grocery store in the attic of their home. The boy does all his own buying, selects his goods and keeps a stock on hand. The mother buys her supplies from him at the regular price; he keeps the profit for his own spending money.

The father insists that he keep his own ledger and keep it accurately and the business will be stopped.

The boy enjoys the idea of the store and his own responsibility, so has eagerly learned from his father the way to buy and sell, make change, figure profits and keep simple accounts. The result is shown by his interest in arithmetic at school and by much higher marks. He has greatly improved in the school work, besides getting valuable training for business.—Parents' Magazine.

Construction of Coral Reefs.

The greatest depth at which the reef-building corals can work is between twenty and thirty fathoms. Confined to water, the temperature of which in the coldest weather does not fall below 68 degrees F., coral reefs are abundant in the Pacific and Indian oceans and near the West Indies, and are most plentiful where volcanic upheavals are not looked upon as extraordinary. The foundation of the living coral, which extends in many reefs far below this depth, is no longer living, the once elevated portion of the seabed, the peaks upon which the now dead foundations rest, having subsided, the upper surface of the coral reef being built up steadily to keep pace with the subsidence. Ceasing to build upward when the surface of the water is almost reached, the coral polyps build outward, thus increasing the breadth of the reef.

Utilitarianism Not All.

It is perhaps well that we live our lives as we do.—The progress of the race through the centuries has been such that we have arrived at the point where we have been able to produce an admixture of spiritual and physical attributes which compel a need for luxuries. He is poor in soul indeed who ignores the appeal to the esthetic and breathes only the atmosphere of utilitarianism. If we were all like such a person, many wheels of industry would quit humming and we would reduce ourselves close to the level of the primitive man.—Exchange.

World's Highest Village.

A writer in a recent issue of L'As-tromie calls attention to a tiny village in Kashmir, which holds the lofty distinction of being the highest on earth. This village, which bears the name of Karzok, is located at latitude 32 degrees 58 minutes 0.90 seconds north and longitude 78 degrees 18 minutes 13.95 seconds east from Greenwich. Its altitude is 4,556 meters, or 14,946 feet. The village contains a few wretched stone houses and a small Buddhist monastery.

OFFER CASTLE OF "MARMION"

Lindisfarne, Famous Structure on St. Cuthbert's Holy Isle, Is Placed on the Market.

Lindisfarne castle, on Holy Island, Northumberland—rich in literary lore as St. Cuthbert's Holy Isle of "Marmion"—is for sale, freehold, by order of Edward Hudson, according to the London papers.

Lindisfarne is today one of the most beautiful of English rock castles and sitting as it does, on the basaltic embankment called Bebbow, it is a striking object in the landscape to those who travel by rail from London to Scotland.

It was from this historic little island that the Christian religion was first brought to the ancient kingdom of Northumbria, then peopled by some of our ancestors, but who were almost heathens. It was Aidan, a monk of Iona, sent in 634 as a missionary by the Scottish church to the almost heathen Northumbrians, who chose Lindisfarne as the site of his episcopal see. One of the most famous of his successors was St. Cuthbert. There are still to be seen the ruins of the monastery of the English monks and of the Benedictine priory which succeeded it. The castle itself was built in 1700 by Prior Castell, and was originally a fortress to guard the mouth of the Tweed and for the defense of the island, and in the time of King Henry VIII it was strengthened as part of a coast fortification scheme and later was transformed into a fine castellated building crowning the craggy summit of the central rock of Whinestone. In 1638 it was garrisoned by the English parliament as a "place of consequence to the northern parts." The castle then fell on evil days in the hands of the government, and in the middle of the eighteenth century it was occupied by the coast guard and then became a station for a detachment of the coast brigade of the royal artillery.

Edward Hudson, who had the assistance of Sir Edward Lutyens, the noted architect, spent six years in the restoration and rebuilding of the castle, and the tumbledown old place was transformed into a delightful residence, and it is furnished in most appropriate style. But war taxes have done wonders in causing the idle rich of England to sell their estates, and hence this old castle is thrown on the market. Also all the antique furniture and armor are to be sold. The sandy island contains a fine golf course.

Mountain Trips Cost More.

Charles A. Parry, in writing of a walking trip in Japan, stopped at a tea house between Ikao and Haruna. He continues: "Four men soon came up bearing two of the small conveniences called kagos, which are light, open litters, with wicker roofs on which the traveler's light baggage is carried. With the kago-men I had a little chat on the question perennially interesting to all men: 'How's business?' One said it takes five hours to go from Ikao temple to Haruna temple, and three to return. The charge is \$2.10 for two men. Last year it was \$1.40. Despite the increase, the men have more custom in the fall of 1910 than they had last autumn. This primitive conveyance is sufficiently costly; but there is a still higher order of conveyance, the Chiesay-ah, or true palanquin, with which, for the privilege of being able to lool at full length and of having four coolies close to your person all the time, you pay \$4.20."

Easy Prey.

"America is almost exclusively to blame for the high cost of almost everything," said Lloyd George recently. "They are gullible, purchase trash at inflated prices and in fact have created a market for hitherto unmarketable goods."

"Not long since I was entertained at the London residence of an American millionaire. Some of the guests were pretending to admire some atrocious pictures.

"Yes," said the rich man, "they are wonderful, but we can't fully appreciate them. The best thing is the lecture the dealer delivered on them when he was selling them to me."

No Chance at All.

While out in my car one very hot day I passed the home of a friend and saw her little three-year-old sitting forlornly on the steps. He looked so warm and lonely that I decided to take him for a ride, but he had a frightfully dirty face. "Hello, Bobby," I called. "Want to go for a ride?" "Uh-huh," he shouted, and before I was aware of it he was in the car and settled beside me. "But, first," I said, "you must run in and ask mother and then wash your dirty face." "Oh, that's all right," he quickly answered. "Mother's out and our water's froze."—Chicago American.

London Tiring of the Dance.

London jazz band proprietors are somewhat gloomy just now, fearing that the dancing boom may not last much longer. One proprietor says that the men he sends out nightly return with very gloomy reports. The attendance is not so good recently in the suburbs, but in the West end proprietors of large dancing halls say the craze will last for at least five years.

Seamless Boats Now Molded.

Seamless boats are now molded out of this steel. A plate of the metal is run into a huge hydraulic press, which forces or stamps it into the form of a boat, and turns it out virtually ready for the sea.

HIS TIME FULLY TAKEN UP

Tramp Engaged in Much More Important Occupation Than Merely Looking for Work.

A big, strong, healthy-looking fellow knocked at the kitchen door, asked for something to eat, but the woman was not charitablely disposed.

"Why don't you get some work?" she snapped.

"I haven't time, ma'am."

"Haven't time?" she asked in surprise.

"No, ma'am; I'm busy."

"Busy, indeed," she said sarcastically. "I'd like to know what keeps you busy?"

"Terrin' round from house to house, ma'am."

"What?"

"Terrin' round from house to house, ma'am, tryin' to git something to eat, takes up all my time, so I don't have any left to work in. That's the whole truth, ma'am; and if you don't give me a bite I'll have to waste two or three precious hours, ma'am, lookin' for somebody that will!"

And his nerve saved him.

WOULDN'T DO TO BE HASTY

Citizen Wanted to Be Sure Just Whose Dog Was Making All That Infernal Racket.

The suburban night was being made hideous by the howling of a dog whose soul was lonely, and the strolling police officer paused to speak to the citizen who, standing at his gate, was evidently listening to the canine wails.

"Awful racket," the officer observed.

"Pleeeze!" the citizen agreed.

"Want to make a complaint?" the officer suggested zealously.

"Why—er—not until I am sure," the citizen responded.

"Sure of what?"

"Why, whether that is my dog or Brown's. If it is my dog—oh, well, we have to put up with a few little annoyances in this life, you know; but if it is Brown's, why, by George, I don't propose to have my life made miserable by a nuisance like that!"

Japan's Industrial Progress.

Japan's rapid industrial progress during the last five years is nowhere more conspicuous than in the development of the machinery trade. Japan imported in 1914 machinery to a value of somewhat more than \$12,000,000; in 1915, more than \$20,000,000. In 1914 the United States furnished 20 per cent of the total imports of machinery; in 1915, 50 per cent. The principal types of machinery imported during 1915 were spinning machinery, steam boilers and accessories, metal and wood working machinery, electrical machinery, sewing machines and accessories. Other importations include paper making machinery, gas compressors, pumps, pneumatic tools, weaving looms, iron rollers, cranes, and gas, petroleum and steam engines.

Diplomacy.

"Celebrating something or another at your house last night, Gap?" inquired an acquaintance. "Coming up the big road along about nine o'clock, I could hear hammering and hoarawing, and all such as that, for mighty nigh a quarter of a mile."

"Aw, there was a no-count sort of young fellow trying to spark our oldest girl," replied Gap Johnson of Rumptus lidge. "And me and wife figured that it would cause less talk for us to skew him off by making him think we fit that way the most of the time than for me to take a shot at him."—Kansas City Star.

Not Like Other Taxpayers.

"Good morning, madam; I've called about the quarter's rates."

So spoke the rate collector ingratiatingly.

The lady of the house eyed him coolly. She had the money ready.

"Good morning," she replied, amiably, "but I can't say I'm exactly glad to see you."

"Then that's where you differ from most of 'em," retorted the visitor. "A lot of them like me so much that they nearly always ask me to call again!"—London Tit-Bits.

She Had Spoiled Daddy.

Her father gave Helen several things for Christmas which she wanted very much, and she kept kissing him to show her gratitude. A day or two after Christmas he brought home a belated gift which didn't particularly interest her, and she offered no gratitude.

"Come here and kiss me," said he, pretending to pout in disappointment.

"Oh, dear," sighed Helen, "I've got you so spoiled that you think kisses always go with givings."

Grateful Graduate.

A member of the Harvard class of 1857 has sent 20 cents in stamps as his contribution to the endowment fund. The donor is a graduate of the Lawrence Scientific school, which has since been incorporated in the school of arts and sciences. Speaking of his education at Harvard, he writes: "Now in the eighty-third year of my life, I feel that by its influence I was able to do honest and painstaking work."

Gone for Gowns.

Simpson—I see by the society journals that Mrs. Dashaway is going to Europe for her gowns.

WOMEN EXERT QUEER POWER

Sisters Dwelling on Mysterious Mount in Burma Undoubtedly Able to Charm Reptiles.

In the fastnesses of Mount Popa, a mysterious sacred mount in Burma, live two sisters who have achieved a wide reputation for their uncanny powers in charming deadly snakes. Ma Hpwa and her sister are the only living exponents of an art which has been handed down from generation to generation within the circle of their family. Their secret is most rigidly preserved, and at their death will be passed on to their next-of-kin, as it was handed on to them by their parents.

In a great number of cases so-called snake-charmers swindle the public by extracting the poison fangs of their pets, thereby rendering themselves safe from accident. There is tragic proof, however, to the genuine nature of the performance of Ma Hpwa and her family, in the death of a sister who disregarded the strict traditions of the art.

King cobras are the snakes these remarkable women use. During the performance of charming the snakes an ordinary Burmese band is used, while the charmers squat on their haunches in front of the snake. They then begin to sway in rhythm to the music, giving sharp leaps each time the reptile strikes.

MUST HAVE BEEN THRILLER

No Amount of Jostling Could Disturb Straphanger Deeply Absorbed in Novel.

An inbound College avenue car was filling rapidly. The poor, tired straps took on their usual human burden. "Step forward, please!" the conductor shouted. There was a movement forward by the crowd—a movement forward by all except one passenger. He was one of those human paragons of self-content that had selected a nice, clean strap and purposed to stay with it. What cared he even if it were near the door and all new passengers had to battle their way through the aisle he so contentedly blocked?

"Step forward, please!" the conductor roared again.

Forward went the human sardines—all except Mr. Sweetie. He stuck to his strap and read on. No, it was not the evening paper. It was a novel that held his soul's interest. It seemed plunged in the very depths of romantic bliss. The crowd kept coming. The crowd kept battling to get past him. Finally one young woman, seized with a curiosity to know what held Sweetie's heart interest in such perfect key, oozed over toward him, got her head in under his arm and learned the title of his story. It was, oh, it was: "A Rose Garden Husband!"—Toledo Blade.

Small and Blue.

At a tea one afternoon, just as I was going upstairs to get my wraps, one of my girl friends said: "I wore my new hat. Try it on and see how you like it. It's a small blue one." While I was turning around before the mirror viewing the hat from all sides a woman I hadn't met came into the room. I noticed that she stood and watched me while I took off the hat and put on my own, but thought nothing about it—until she passed me in the hall wearing the small blue hat that I had thought was my friend's.—Exchange.

A Hope.

"You see, Charley dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "the reason women are such a success in politics is that they reason directly and work immediately for the happiness of the home."

"Good for them!" exclaimed the voice behind the newspaper. "Let's hope they'll go after this servant problem and get it out of the way first thing!"

The Widow's Spite.

The Parson—Mrs. Smithers seems very cross with me—didn't you notice she almost cut me?

The Friend—I'm not surprised.

The Parson—But why?

The Friend—Don't you remember when you were preaching her husband's funeral sermon you said he had gone to a better home?—London Passing Show.

Self-Defense.

"Why are so many young people sent away from home to study music?"

"Most natural thing you could imagine. Folks around the house don't want to be bothered hearing them practicing."

Double Acting.

"You advertise this as the best hotel in town," said the man who had stayed overnight.

"It certainly is," replied the clerk. "Well, that may be a good boost for the hotel, but it's a terrible knock for the town."—Boston Transcript.

Benevolent Intent.

"I don't see how you can argue that your demand for a complicated system of fares is philanthropic."

"Of course, it doesn't appear on the surface," said Mr. Dustin Stax. "But my idea is to keep the passenger doing mental arithmetic so hard that he will forget about the discomforts of overcrowding."

Quite to the Point.

"I had a sharp dispute with my husband."

"What about?"

"Pin money."