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**NATION'S FIRST CURB MARKET**

Merely Informal Gathering Under Buttonwood Tree, and First Transactions Were Government Securities.

New York's famous curb market has a romantic history. New York has had its street market since trading started in the first bonds, then called stocks, authorized by the first American congress in 1789. The traders then gathered under a large but-towood tree and the first transactions in government securities were conducted informally.

In 1792 the leading brokers banded themselves together into an organization and trading was limited to those recognized by the association. The first market was simply called the "Stock Market," and trading continued in the friendly shade of the old tree for 25 years. In 1817 quarters were taken in the Tontine coffee house, and the early organization became the New York Stock and Exchange board. In 1827 the market was moved into the Merchants' Exchange building, remaining there for eight years, and until 1879, when the New York stock exchange with which it merged, acquired the site of its present home in Broad street, other quarters housed it from time to time.

A new market then sprang up, whose transactions were for many years conducted according to a set of simple rules drawn up by E. S. Mendels, an early broker in this market, and later known as "the father of the New York Curb Market." In 1908 Mr. Mendels, with the consent of the brokers doing business on the curb, formed a "Curb Agency," and established a listing department, and out of this grew the New York Curb Market association, which was organized in 1911.—Detroit News.

**Profit in a Fine.**

The existing peculiar conditions in the international money market can produce very strange and paradoxical phenomena. Here is a case in which the exchange actually transformed a punishment into a reward. In 1916 a man from across the Baden frontier was arrested in Switzerland for smuggling. He was released on bail of 5,000 francs, which then cost him 7,500 marks. For some reason the case dragged on and was decided only quite recently. The accused was sentenced to a fine of 3,000 francs cost. He received as the balance of his bail, 1,700 francs, which he charged for 24,000 marks. Consequently, his little adventure brought him in a net profit of 16,500 marks. As one of the humors of the exchange this deserves to be coupled with the case of a Swiss brewer, which is said to have found it economical to label its beer bottles with Austrian kroner notes.—London Morning Post.

**Coming Pilgrim Celebration.**

An interesting article concerning the construction of a model of the Mayflower is published in Boys' Life. The little craft will be a perfect model of the ship which brought the Pilgrim fathers to America. She is being built in England. When the vessel takes the water, her estimated weight will be only 180 tons. This little boat will make the voyage to America just 300 years after the original Mayflower made it. The trip will be part of the great celebration to commemorate the settlement of New England three centuries ago. Another interesting feature of the celebration will be the motion pictures which will reproduce the famous scenes of the sailing of the Mayflower and her landing at Plymouth. These pictures are now being prepared both in England and America and will be shown in the United States.

**Street Lights That Twinkle.**

Street signs that twinkle are being put up all over the great Westminster core of London. The signs are of glass, with the street lettering in "ruff-flu" silver gilt; they are hung on buildings near lamp posts and at night are radiant with reflected light. In the case of minor thoroughfares the street itself and what it leads into both appear on the sign, as well as "Borough of Westminster." The signs vary from nine inches to two feet in width, and are three feet long. Apparently they are giving satisfaction although a few broken ones are already noticeable.

**Modern Pyramid for an Ancient.**

Japan is preparing to build a pyramid to the memory of its first emperor, Jimmu Tenno. The construction will be located somewhere in the suburbs of Tokyo and for this purpose it has been decided that every subject of the empire shall make a stone. A number of prominent persons have volunteered for the service and the work of gathering the material will soon be commenced. It is the intention of the designers to make this the highest structure in the far West.

**Pleasure Missed.**

"O!" said Marjorie as the dessert came on, "how I wish you had told me this morning, mamma, that you were going to have strawberries and cream for dinner!"  
"Why, what difference would that have made?" inquired her mother.  
"O, lots!" with a sigh. "I could have looked forward to it all day then."

**Platinum.**

It would appear that there has almost ceased production of Russian platinum. In normal times 90 per cent of the world's output came from Russia, and the United States takes about one-half of the world's production.

**REDHEAD**  
By HELEN IVERS.

© 1920, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.  
Ruth Haynes pulled her hat down as far as possible and tucked stray tendrils of auburn hair underneath. As she did so she spied her brother Fred at the door of the room.  
"Oh, Fred!" she cried. "I just hate to go out. Those horrid boys whom I meet every day infuriate me so. It's 'Redhead! Redhead!' until they can't see a single speck of me. And they lie in wait for me every night, too."

"Go a different way, Ruth," Fred called. "Don't mind them. Why, my best chum in college had—"  
But the front door banged and Ruth was on her way.  
"I won't go a different way!" she determined. "I'll just show those horrid creatures what Ruth Haynes can do when she's angry."

"Just let them say 'redhead'?" was the rhythm to which she walked. Just as she was passing between two houses she saw them. Fortunately their backs were toward her, so that she could have passed by unseen—and would have, had not a faint cry reached her ears.  
"Whom are they annoying now?" she wondered.

Her first thought was to avoid being seen by them, but a second cry caught her attention, and unperceived, she crept up behind the boys and peeked over their shoulders.  
A pitiable sight met her eyes. The boys, who were not content to tease those able to protect themselves, were tormenting a tiny, rusty-colored kitten. The boys looking on with delight were not prepared when an irate figure flew at them, which in an instant freed the kitten and held it protectively in her arms.

For a moment the boys were dazed, but soon one of them saw who the kitten's rescuer was.  
"I haven't the least doubt that in a moment the kitten would have been in their possession, but a surprise awaited them. A strong arm flew out, and the youngsters were completely disarmed by it. Soon only the legs of one could be seen disappearing to safer quarters, and the owner of the arm came back to Ruth, who was untangling the string from around the kitten, and handed the girl her hat.  
"Oh, thank you," she said. "I don't know what I should have done if you hadn't come along."

"It was nothing," the young man responded. "You are mighty plucky to start things as you did. I'll walk with you for a way, for fear those boys gather courage again."  
On the way to the office where Ruth was employed, she told him of her daily trials with the boys, while he listened gravely. Pretty soon they arrived at her destination and the young man saying good-by, lifted his hat, Ruth gasped.  
"Yes," he said, "I'm a 'redhead,' too."

The office force was delighted with the tiny rusty-colored kitten, which they christened "Reddy," both because of his rescuer's hair and because of the propensity toward that color showed by his own fur, and Reddy himself evinced apparent delight at the future life he was evidently to lead.

At closing time Ruth put on her coat and hat, and carrying Reddy, was leaving the building, when someone came up to her and she saw that it was her rescuer of the morning.  
"I've been waiting around," he said, "hoping that I shouldn't miss you, for I don't want you to run the risk of being tormented by those youngsters again. Let me carry the kitten."

The exchange was made and they walked off together, past the place where the boys were congregated. The latter feigned not to see our friends, for which Ruth was duly grateful and smiled thankfully at her companion.  
"Why," said he, as they stopped before Ruth's home. "This is—"  
"You really must come in," she interrupted him. "Fred and my mother and dad would love to meet you. I know."

He assented and Ruth rang the bell. A very few minutes later the door opened and Fred appeared, but he did not see Ruth.  
"Jack Evans!" he cried. "I didn't expect you until later. Did you leave anything behind you?"  
Then he saw Ruth, and his amazement was great. He started to speak, but she stopped him, smiling, with: "We shall explain when we get in."

Later everything was cleared—about Ruth's and Jack's meeting, and about how Jack had been one of Fred's best chums in college. Reddy was petted to his heart's content, and everybody spent a very enjoyable evening.

For a long time after Jack called for Ruth on her way to and from work "to protect her," he said, "from further annoyance." His self-appointed duty was only temporary, however, for Ruth resigned her position and took up a "life job" with Jack as financial manager and partner, and Reddy as an honorary member of the firm. Such "Reds" as they were!

**Cause of Trouble.**

Sympathetic Friend—I'm sorry to hear that your marriage to the heiress is an unhappy one. Is it on account of her disposition?  
Hunter—Yes, her disposition is to legdle all her money herself.—Boston Transcript.

**Just Folks**  
By EDGAR A. GUEST

**SHOW THE FLAG.**

Show the flag and let it wave  
As a symbol of the brave;  
Let it float upon the breeze  
As a sign for each who sees  
That beneath it, where it rides,  
Loyalty today abides.

Show the flag and signify  
That it wasn't born to die;  
Let its colors speak for you  
That you still are standing true,  
True in sight of God and man  
To the work that flag began.

Show the flag that all may see  
That you serve humanity,  
Let it whisper to the breeze  
That comes singing through the trees  
That whatever storms descend  
You'll be faithful to the end

Show the flag and let it fly,  
Cheering every passerby,  
Men that may have stepped aside,  
May have lost their old-time pride,  
May behold it there and then  
Consecrate themselves again.

Show the flag! the day is gone,  
When men blindly hurry on,  
Serving only gods of gold,  
Now the spirit that was cold  
Warms again to courage fine.  
Show the flag and fall in line!  
(Copyright by Edgar A. Guest.)

**Sober Second Thought**  
By GEORGE MATTHEW ADAMS

THE impulses of our Nature do not lead us, they arouse us. And no man is fit to contend gloriously for a fact or for a cause until he is thoroughly aroused. But to set upon FIRST impulses is an unwise and most disastrous policy.  
Halter your impulses with Sober Second Thought.

You will never lose anything by carefully thinking things over before you act. In fact, it is our Sober Second Thoughts that give us courage to carry through successfully what comes to us as necessary to be done. Cool heads are always wiser than hot heads.  
Halter your impulses with Sober Second Thought.

Most of the regrets of the world arise from important things done on impulse, which if but introduced at once to Sober Second Thought, would not have been done at all. Many a man has resigned a good position on impulse only to be left for months and years working up to where he left off. Sober Second Thought is a companion worth cultivating.  
Halter your impulses with Sober Second Thought.

**Famous Timepieces.**

There is one timepiece in an eastern museum known as the "resurrection watch," because it has a standing figure whose outstretched arms designate the hours and minutes. Another has nine dials, two of which show the Persian calendar of twenty-nine days and the Arabic calendar of thirty days, beside others indicating the changes of the moon and astronomical phenomena. Watches that strike the hours and those with raised figures, which can be read in the dark, and others shaped after the form of musical instruments, skulls and books, bear testimony of the ingenuity, taste, religious and artistic feeling of the makers.

**To Induce Sleep.**

When one is overtired or worried and cannot sleep, being gently rubbed all over with a towel wrung out of salt water generally has the desired effect. Deep breathing in fresh air is also effective.

**Salvation Army Members Poorly Paid.**

Not one member of the Salvation army in the United States received a salary in 1919 sufficiently large to make necessary an income tax payment, Internal revenue collectors reported.

**Bill Proposes Soldier Dead Memorials.**

An appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the erection of memorial tablets at various county seats in memory of American soldiers killed in the world war is proposed in a resolution introduced by Senator Harding of Ohio.



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