

PUBLISHED AT DECATUR, ILLINOIS

# Death of the Flowers

By William Cullen Bryant

THE melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year, Of wailing winds, and naked woods, and meadows brown and sere.

Heaped in the hollows of the grove, the Autumn leaves lie dead;

They rustle to the eddying gust, and to the rabbit's tread. The robin and the wren are flown, and from the shrubs the jay,

And from the wood-top calls the crow through all the gloomy day.

Where are the flowers, the fair young flowers that lately sprang and stood

In brighter light, and softer airs, a beauteous sisterhood? Alas! they are all in their graves; the gentle race of flowers Are lying in their lowly beds, with the fair and good of ours. The rain is falling where they lie; but the cold November rain

Calls not from out the gloomy earth the lovely ones again.

And now when comes the calm mild day, as still such days will come,

To call the squirrel and the bee from out their Winter home; When the sound of dropping nuts is heard, though all the trees are still,

And twinkle in the smokey light the waters of the rill,

The south wind searches for the flowers whose fragrance late he bore,

And sighs to find them in the wood and by the stream no more.

And then I think of one who in her youthful beauty died, The fair meek blossom that grew up and faded by my side. In the cold moist earth we laid her, when the forests cast the leaf,

And we wept that one so lovely should have a life so brief; Yet not unmeet it was that one like that young friend of ours, So gentle and so beautiful, should perish with the flowers.



( and a series )





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With Mueller Service Box Repair Lids you can, with a minimum of time, labor, and material cost, make damaged service boxes like these better than new. BECAUSE . . .

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Mueller Clean-Out Auger for service boxes is an indispensable tool. Boxes must be kept clean to reach the curb stop.

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MUELLER RECORD

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Plumbing, Water and Gas Brass Goods 82nd Year in Business

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# THE WANING YEAR

The year is on the wane. Brilliant autumn has come again with its vellow, mellow ripened days. It is the third act in the eternal drama of the years, and to many minds the prettiest. Spring and summer have their charms and seasonal beauties, but what is more glorious than a perfect autumn day if the mind's attuned to nature and in accord with her various moods. There is no sadness in nature. It is those whose melancholy temperament see joy in nothing and sadness in everything. They forever fit nature to their moods rather than fit themselves into nature's moods. It is a most unhappy mental condition and those afflicted thus are to be pitied. They miss one of the greatest gifts and greatest pleasures given to all mankind without stint or partiality.

# . . . HOME DANGEROUS PLACE

The National Safety Congress met in annual convention in Atlantic City recently. The members discussed methods of promoting safety and of preventing accidents. One of the most unsafe places, it was again found, is the home. There are many contributing causes, the principal one being carelessness and disorder, such as cluttering stairways, especially those leading to the basement, with brooms, buckets, and baskets, leaving handles of pots on stoves stick out, using chairs and rickety ladders when reaching for something high up. Stairways should be adequately lighted. The experts attending the convention were agreed that half the deaths and accidents occur in the kitchen. The total of home accidents is ap-There were 31,500 persons killed palling. last year, 4,650,000 injured - 141,000 permanently. Of the home fatalities last year, 16,500 were due to falls, all but 3,500 of the victims being over 65 years and only about 700 were children under 14. The experts attending the congress picked the bathroom as the safest place in the house. Safety begins at home, or should.

I.ANDING OF THE PILGRIMS

(Anniversary of the Pilgrims' Landing) Wild was the day; the wintry sea Moaned sadly on New England's strand. When first, the thoughtful and the free, Our fathers, trod the desert land.

They little thought how pure a light. With years should gather round that day; How love should keep their memories bright. How wide a realm their sons should sway.

Green are their bays: but greener still Shall round their spreading fame be wreathed

And regions, now untrod, shall thrill With reverence, when their names are breathed.

Till where the sun, with softer fires, Looks on the vast Pacific's sleep. The children of the bilarim sires

This hallowed day like us shall keep.

-William Cullen Bryant.

# Little Sermons

Work. The finest opportunity for man. A refuge from boredom. There is no end to its possibilities or its consolations. And hope is a sort of sunshine which illumines the path.-B. Lessing.

Emergencies have always been necessary to progress. It was a darkness which produced the lamp. It was fog that produced the compass. It was hunger that drove us to exploration; and it took a depression to teach us the real value of a job.

There is no greater obstacle in the way of success in life, than trusting for something to turn up, instead of going to work and turning up something.

# THE MUELLER RECORD

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C. N. WAGENSELLER, EDITOR

# DEVELOPMENT OF CLOCKS

# Sun Dial was Man's First Method of Measuring Time

Horology is the measurement of time, which includes everything from the sundial of Ahaz, referred to in the second book of Kings to the last minute of the modern timepiece of the present. The thought came to attention by an attractive booklet of Gulf Industrial Lubrication entitled "A Picture Story of Clocks and their Manufacture."

# Sun Dial First

The sun dial was for many centuries the one means of giving approximate time.

The Greek water clock came next. It was known as Clepsydra which measured time by the passage of water through a small aperture. This about 150 years B. C. This was used for several centuries.

The invention of the first mechanical clock is credited to Henry de Vick of Wurtenberg. This was in 1362 A. D. This clock was made for Charles V of France.

# Elaborate Clepsydras

Prior to this, however, elaborate mechanical Clepsydras were in use. Some of them had not only a hand to move over a dial, but struck the hour, had lions to roar, cocks to crow, drums to beat and other entertaining features. One of these clocks was in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, in 1286. The famous Strasburg clock was built in 1350.

It was during the 16th century that watches came into use. Mechanical clocks had further developed from that time until 1725 when the mechanism reached a state of perfection comparable to the time pieces we know today.

# Collecting Clocks a Hobby

Collecting old clocks has long been a hobby participated in by royalty. Louis IV, Louis VI and Queen Victoria were in the group. King Edward VII had more than three hundred clocks which are still in Windsor Castle today.

Raised weights were at first used as the motive power for driving clocks. Where there is sufficient room and no necessity for moving the clock this is the best method. However, a weight driven timepiece cannot be portable, a fact which led to the invention of the main spring by Peter Hile of Nuremberg and about 1500, smaller clocks

# PAYS POETIC TRIBUTE

# Verses In Memory of C. E. Lincoln by R. E. Bower

In the September Record we mentioned the death of Charles E. Lincoln, salesman representing Mueller Co. in Indiana. He had many friends in the plumbing, water and gas trades and among them, R. E. Bower, sales manager, P. & H. Supply Co., Lafayette, Ind., who sends us the following poetic tribute to the memory of his friend. The verses not only have poetic merit but they give a true insight to the life and character of Charlie Lincoln.

# "Tribute To A Man"

You've done a lot o' livin' In your short span o' life You've done a lot o' givin' You've seen a lot o' strife.

You've done a lot o' singin' A little cryin', too, You've done a lot o' bringin' Joy to those near you.

You've done a lot o' workin' A little playin', too You've been a friend to others Who trod life's path with you.

You've lived a life worth livin' You've had your ups and downs But you've shown your worth in givin' A smile for every frown.

You've left behind a troubled world Of war and greed and care But I hope I'll have the honour To meet you over there.

You've earned the highest tribute Of life since time began I'm proud, Sir, that I've known you My friend, you've been a Man. "RED" BOWER.

were made which could be more easily moved.

# The Advent of Watches

Just when watches were first made is unknown but presumably they came into use soon after the invention of the main spring.

Electrically operated clocks to most of us are of recent date, but electric control of clocks was first used in Great Britain sixty years ago. Alexander Bain was first to apply it to clocks. Generally electricity was used in three ways. 1. To control clocks at a distance by a standard clock; 2. to bring the difference in a circuit to the same time, usually at the end of each hour; 3. as the motive power.

# H. K. BELL DEAD

# Prominent Engineer of Lexington, Ky. Succumbs To Emergency Operation

In the death of Howard K. Bell, consulting engineer of Lexington, Ky., the engineering profession suffers a great loss. Mr. Bell, aged 62, died September 1, following an emergency operation for appendicitis.

In his career as a consulting engineer, his talents had won him high honors in the



# Howard K. Bell

water works field. He was a graduate of Georgetown College '93, University of Kentucky, Engineering College '04. Past president of Kentucky-Tennessee section of the A. W. W. A., author of treaties on water filtration design, chief engineer and manager Lexington (Kentucky) water works, 1906-10, general contractor 1910-13, and designer and builder of water plants 1914-25.

## Designer and Builder

He established his consulting engineering business in 1921 and since that time had been actively engaged in design and engineering supervision of construction on numerous water works, filter plants, sewerage systems, sewage disposal plants and other concrete and hydraulic structures. The many such structures designed by him in Kentucky, Southern Ohio, and West Virginia, due to their enduring quality, stand as a fitting monument to a life devoted to advancement of the engineering profession and the art of hydraulic structure design. He set a worthy standard for conscientious service to his clients, and for honest conduct of business.

# Business Will Continue

The firm will be continued by his associates, Grant S. Bell and James K. Latham,

dance with the policies of the late Howard K. Bell, Grant S. Bell, son, became identified with the firm upon his graduation in 1929 in Civil Engineering at the University of Kentucky. James K. Latham, a graduate of the same institution in civil engineering, joined the firm in 1937. Profiting by the experience and methods of the late Howard K. Bell, these two younger members are splendidly equipped to carry on the business on the same high plane and with the same conscientious service created and upheld by the late founder.

under the present firm name and in accor-

# SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

# Where the Swallows Come and Go On A Certain Day Each Year

San Juan Capistrano is an outstanding small town of California. It is a quaint little place with about 500 population. The seventh of the Franciscan missions was built there in 1776. Only the ruins remain, but the atmosphere is still strictly that of old California, which gives to the town romantic remembrances of the past and its people. It still retains its Spanish, Mexican and Indian descendants coupled with their old languages and early customs. The houses are of adobe, and the surroundings appeal to travelers and artists because of their natural artistic beauty.

# Swallows Bring It Fame

In recent years the little town has become widely known because of the swallows which come back to the old mission on a certain day and leave on a certain day. Their arrival is the 19th of March and their departure, October 23rd. It is said that these birds have followed this schedule for 68 years. This arrival and departure has become an event of semi-annual importance to Californians. The coming of the birds on each March nineteenth is chronicled in the papers and broadcast by the radio, and the same procedure is followed when they depart on October 23rd.

# "Hindeed!"

"Wot's all this about Mrs. A. 'aving 'er hexpenses paid to the seaside?"

"That's right. She's going as a delegate from the guild."

"Delegate, hindeed. She ain't arf as delegate as me."—Atlantic Two Bells.

Idleness travels very slowly and poverty soon overtakes her.

Home is where the heart is, the chief delight in going away from home is the joy of getting back again.

# COUNT NOSES NEXT YEAR

# Decennial Census Will Show Big Increase Over 1930

The sixteenth census of the United States will be taken during the coming year. Some job! In the 1930 census it required 100,000 enumerators to do the work. It probably will take 110 to 120,000 in the coming task but there will be no difficulty in securing the field force. In addition to the enumerators there is an army of clerks in the census bureau at Washington and district supervisors.

## System Old As Government

The census furnishes an interesting study. It is as old as the government. In fact it was provided for in the constitution as you will find by reading Article 1 Section 2, which says, "Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this union according to their respective numbers. The actual enumerations shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the congress of the United States and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct."

From the foregoing it will be seen that the census was to be the basis for congressional apportionment and direct taxation, but as it grew it became of great value in many other respects and its value increases each time. It is now an inventory of practically all branches of business, providing basic information as a foundation for measuring possibilities of the future.

# Only Two Or Three Questions

In the first census of 1790 there was only a single schedule. Now there are hundreds of them divided to meet the needs of all branches of business. The original schedule did little more than provide for a very limited list of questions—two or three in fact. These questions had reference to color, sex and age.

The number and extent of these inquiries gradually increased, particularly after the censuses of 1850 and 1860. It was in the censuses of 1880 and 1890 that schedules relating to manufacturers became so complicated that it was found necessary to simplify the schedules to a considerable extent. In 1902 it was found advisable to organize a permanent Census Bureau under the Department of the Interior, making it a permanent institution which is busy gathering statistical information at all times.

Assembling the vast amount of information which will be turned into the Census Bureau has been greatly simplified by the use of tabulating machines.

In the days of Rome the censors periodically enumerated the people of a certain district but not on a complete scale. Sweden is given the honor of a modern census on something like a scientific basis in 1749, but in the French colony of Canada periodical enumeration of the people had been made many years prior to Sweden's efforts.

# U. S. First On Big Scale

The first country of large area to take a census was the United States in 1790. England rejected a decennial census in 1753 and did not adopt it until 1801.

The first census in the U. S. showed a population of 3,929,214, slightly more than Chicago's population according to the 1930 census, but less than Illinois, metropolis shows now. The total U. S. 1930 census showed 122,715,046, an increase of 17,064,426 over 1920. Estimated increase in the 1940 census will show a population of 139,779,432.

That's about the figure the experts are naming.

# BIG BOY FROM ALTON

# Robert Pershing Wadlow, 8' 9½" Visits Decatur Again

Robert Pershing Wadlow, the Alton giant, was in Decatur recently, going from Morris, Illinois, to his home. Twenty-one years of age he stands 8 ft. 9½ inches, weighs 500 pounds, and is still growing up and out. He is unquestionably "the tall man of the world." Doctors say that he is the tallest man known in all medical history.

At present he is the special representative of a leading shoe manufacturer and apparently enjoys his work. Speaking about shoes, he wears a No. 39 and they, of course, must be made to order, the same being true of all his wearing apparel. He is passing from boyhood to manhood and those who have met him at different times note changes, which include greater self-possession and less self-consciousness.

## An Old Chestnut

While here someone in the crowd sprang the old chestnut, "How's the weather up there?" The giant disdained answering, but smiled good naturedly. This reminded us of a very tall young man in our home town, but nothing like Wadlow, but still unusually tall. We small boys would ask him, "What time is it up there?" He would raise his hand for a good swinging sweep landing on top of heads and intone: "The clock strikes one." We never asked him but once.

# MUELLER RECORD

# President's Wife A Student 🔹 🔹



Mrs. J. C. Hessler and Prof. L. M. Cole

The 700th student enrolled at Millikin University was a distinguished keen eyed, gray-haired lady, Mrs. J. C. Hessler, shown here with her instructor, Prof. L. M. Cole. This of itself might not possess interest to casual readers of Mueller Record, excepting for the fact that the "distinguished, keeneyed lady" is the wife of President J. C. Hessler of Millikin University. Mrs. Hessler is a worker in metals and has been pursuing her studies under Prof. Cole for two years.

In former days, Mrs. Hessler was a student in the School of Education, Chicago University, and became interested in working with copper and glass and has many fine specimens of her skill and artistry. Now Mrs. Hessler is devoting her time and talents to pounding out pewter ware, and her friends are confident that her dexterous artistry will be manifested in any product evolved by her active mind and executed by her skillful hands.

# HELPS COUNTY RESIDENTS

That advertising helped bring ruralities into the fold of the city purchasers who demand modern equipment is shown by a recent investigation.

Of the wired farm homes, nearly 80 per cent have electric radios, washing machines, and irons. In almost all of the drug and toilet goods classifications purchased by farm families, advertised brands are preferred over others.

# NOVEMBER, 1939

# VERSES BY A GREAT POET

# November is the Birth Month of William Cullen Bryant

William Cullen Bryant made literary history while he lived and today stands forth as one of America's most distinguished men of letters. Bryant was born November 3, 1794, at Cammington, Massachusetts, being descended on both sides from Mayflower pilgrims. Educated for the law he practiced for ten years, then abandoned the profession and devoted himself to literature. In 1815 two of his famous poems, "Thana-topsis" and "To a Water Fowl" appeared in public prints. The former was written at the age of 21 and is still a favorite with all those who love poetry. "Thanatopsis" means "meditation on death". One authority says it is the Greek vision of death. In addition to his poetical writings Bryant became the editor of the New York Review for one year and then became identified with the New York Evening Post as Editor, remaining as such until his death in 1876. This being the birth month of the great poet, it seems appropriate to give our readers two of his best known poems, "The Landing of the Pilgrims" and "Death of the Flowers". The reader will find the former on the first page and the latter featured on the front cover. Read them.

# I'M TELLIN' YOU

OACS.



• Link sausage is bought at chain stores, of CONTRE

• Dr. Louis J. Karnosh, Cleveland, in an article to the American Medical Journal savs counting sheep to induce sleep is n. g. and keeps a person awake instead. Quite agree with you Doctor. We quit on sheep some time ago and now count little white pigs.

• The Scotch verdict of "not guilty but don't do it again" has found a running mate in the Irish verdict of "an act of God under very suspicious circumstances."

• In our favorite paper we read the war news of "25 years ago", then turn to the telegraph page and reread it in the war of today.

• ITSWAR! ITSWAR! ITSWAR! We swear itswar, and we did not want any smore swar.

• We have always been patriotic and loyal in observing all holiday periods including Ground Hog Day, St. Valentine's day, Halloween and Indian summer only to find there is no such summer-just a bit of nice weather-Oh, Hum-live and learn.

• Some people like Scotch all right even if it does make them "tight" as a Scotchman.

• The man who stole and drank a pint of gold paint confessed that he felt "gildy" the next morning.

• It sometimes happens that a college education enables a man to get a job from a man who never made the seventh grade.

 An accident insurance company doubtless for good reasons, issues a pamphlet on "how to park a car." We suggest an amendment-"how to drive a car."

• Triangular doughnuts with a little handle make dunking easier and more convenient, but adds no beauty or refinement to the spectacle.

• We never lose a game of solitaire because of a clever innovation which is two jokers kept handy and used as "pinch hitters" when no other card will play.

• With the turbulent roar of the World series still ringing in our ears, we are reminded that baseball is the Great American Game skillfully played by

Crosetti	Lavagetto
DiMaggio	Camilli
Gomez	Lodigiani
Lombardi	Majeski
Bingiovanni	Mancuso
Bordagaray	And a few Americans

• Necessity is the mother of prevention which explains why so many do not get what they want in this world.

(Continued on Page 24)

# PACKAGED PARTIES

# Bright Girl Strikes An Idea That Goes Over

Beulah Kuh is known as "the party girl", and has extended her activities to selling "parties" by mail — that is, she supplies the plans, instructions, favors and all the little gimcracks" that contribute to the enjoyment of social gatherings.

Beulah is not a novice but has behind her a successful career as a planner and director in person of social affairs. When the socialites, the bored, famous, the wealthy, or just plain homefolks become helpless in planning their social events, they sound the tocsin and Miss Kuh is the answer.

From her experience she evolved the plan of the "packaged party" and supported by an advertising company has put it over.

All party prospects have to do is to send general specifications to Beulah Kuh. She creates the party "theme", buys the favors, games, etc., required for the number of guests specified, and delivers the whole thing complete by mail in a gaily decorated package into which she tucks a friendly 'thank you" card.

A "party package" for adult parties ranges in cost from \$20 up. A party for children averages about \$11.

#### MUELLER RECORD

# Keeping Pace With The Auto



The fact that nearly everybody drives a car does not mean that nearly everybody knows how to drive. A small per cent know how to park a car, which we are told is a very simple chore. George Barton, head of the Chicago Motor Club engineering department, gives the following instructions:

1. Pull up alongside and parallel with the car ahead, about two feet to the left.

2. Turn wheels to the right as far as possible and back slowly until your right front fender will just clear the left rear fender of the car ahead.

3. Then stop, cut the wheels to the left as far as possible and back into place.

This procedure will save a lot of jockeying back and forth into position, and at the same time put you into the safest position as far as other traffic is concerned.

Engineer Barton addresses his advice to "Madame Motorist". We trust that he is not laboring under the delusion that all men know how to park a car. If he is we rise to point out that they don't.

#### \* \*

A survey of opinion among traffic engineers throughout the nation finds them almost unanimously of the opinion that the parking problem can be solved only through provision of adequate off-street municipally-operated parking facilities.

#### \* \* \*

Mechanical changes in the 1940 cars are comparatively few but there are enough changes to make your present car look old. The mechanical changes are mostly refinements.

The major development of the year, and one which practically the entire industry will share, is that of the Sealed beam headlight. Made in two types, one entirely of glass and the lamp itself a bulb and the other a metal type in which a bulb is used. The new system is installed at the factory as a complete unit. When a lamp fails—if ever—an entirely new unit will be substituted at the service station.

The new lamps contain two beams controlled by a foot button on the floor board. The high, or "country beam", provides fifty per cent more light than does the old-style beam. The low, or "traffic beam", also provides more light than does the old system.

Other improvements are: steering post gear shifting levers will be almost universally used; overdrive will be more widely available; distortion-proof safety glass in windows will be widely used; cushioning will be refined; and last but not least, there will be some application of hydraulic drive, with some units installing an oil coupling ahead of the clutch, making it possible for motorists to shift gears without declutching.

# \* \* \*

An Italian inventor in Naples has just about found a much-needed remedy to stop car thievery. He has perfected a gadget which saves the car, announces the theft, and incarcerates the culprit all at the same time.

When the thief has driven the car about a hundred yards it stops by an automatic device and cannot be restarted. Not only that, but the doors lock externally, the horn blows, and a red sign appears bearing the word, "Stolen"!

It's too had there isn't another instrument inside the car which would give the fellow a spanking, too!

#### \* \* \*

To show automobile insurance prospects "how to park a car," the Aetna Casualty & Surety Company, Hartford, Conn., distributed a novel card with a diagram of two parked cars. "Your" car — to be parked between them — is stapled on card and runs in a curved groove with three positions marked to manipulate the parking.

#### . . .

# Words, Words

During the World's War over thirty-eight million words were sent by cable by the war department at a cost of \$1,210,900.

And what a basket full of verbiage there will be during the present European mess.

# Bungalows

We call all small houses bungalows, but they are entirely different from the original house of that name. The word itself is Anglo-Indian, adapted from Banga, meaning Bengal. It originally applied to a small one-storied house of light construction, usually of unbaked bricks with a thatched roof and surrounded by a veranda.

Alice: "I adore Keats!"

Ikey: "Oy, it's a relief to meet a lady vot still likes children!"



Bobart:-

"Think that day lost whose low decending sun views from thy hand no worthy action done."

The better the deed The better the day.

# Pope:-

"Conceit is to nature what paint is to beauty; it is not only needless, but impairs what it would improve."

Conceit may puff a man up, but never prop him up.

South:-

"No man ever offended his own conscience, but first or last it was revenged upon him for it."

To thine ownself be true.

# Richter :---

"Every man has two educations—that which is given to him, and the other, that which he gives himself. Of the two kinds, the latter is by far the most valuable."

Education polishes good natures and corrects the bad ones.

Tacitus :—

"When men are full of envy they disparage everything, whether it be good or bad."

#### A sneer cannot be answered.

Plutarch:-

"When two discourse, 'if the one's anger rise, the man who lets the contest fall is wise.' "

He overcomes a stout enemy that

overcomes his own anger.

# Zimmerman:-

"Happiness consists not in possessing much, but in being content with what we possess. He who wants little always has enough."

Those who have learned contentment have won happiness.

# Bulwer:-

"Earnestness is the best gift of mental power, and deficiency of heart is the cause of many men never becoming great."

Life is real. Life is earnest.

# Morley:-

"A sudden lie may be sometimes only manslaughter upon truth, but by a carefully constructed equivocation, truth always is with malice aforethought deliberately murdered."

Be slow to believe an evil report; deliberate well before repeating it.

# Carlton:----

"There will be mistakes made in divinity, while men preach, and errors in government while men govern." Mistakes will happen. Poe:-

"His eyes have all the seeming of a demon that is dreaming."

A man with shifty eyes will bear watching.

# Cibber:-

"That same face of yours looks like the title page to a whole volume of roguery."

The title page does not always give

# Lavater:-

"Be neither too early in the fashion nor too long out of it; nor at any time in the extremes of it."

Modesty in dress is an evidence of good breeding.

# Addison:

Addison:—

"Nature has sometimes made a fool; but a coxcomb is always of his own making."

And generally very poorly made.

# Diogenes:-

"As houses well stored with provisions are likely to be filled with mice, so the bodies of those who eat much are full of diseases."

"Put on the pot," said Greedy Gut, "and we will sup before we go."

"and we will sup before we go.

# Swift:---

"One principal object of good breeding is to suit our behavior to the three several degrees of men—our superiors, our equals, and those below us."

Every man has obligations belonging to his station.

# Herbert Spencer:-

"We are creatures of habit. We succeed or we fail as we acquire good habits or bad ones; and we acquire good habits as easily as bad ones. Most people don't believe this. Only those who find out succeed in life."

Habit is overcome by habit.

## .

# HOT AND COLD PLACES

With winter "just around the snowbanks" it may interest you to know that the coldest place in the world is Verkhoyvansk, just inside the arctic circle in northeastern Siberia. If you had to build the furnace fire and arose in the morning to find you'd neglected to prepare kindling you would have a mighty cold job. The official low temperature there is 90 degrees below.

On the other hand should you wake up some morning under a tree at Azizia, North Africa you would find a temperature of 136 degrees above. That is the hottest place in the world. It's the hottest place we ever heard of. Beg pardon, we are in error. There is one other place presumably hotter, but we have no official returns from there, and what's more we don't want any.

# INDIAN SUMMER AGAIN

# Scientists Knock The Bottom Out of Poetic and Romantic Beliefs

Indian summer is in season, liable to occur any day or it may hold off until December. We have all heard about Indian summer from the old folks since childhood, and those who passed it on to us doubtless heard of it from their old folks.

We have also heard of Squaw winter, which is defined as a cold, wet spell preceding Indian summer. There is considerable indefiniteness about both of these periods, and yet everybody seems to like them.

Especially Indian summer's delightfully acceptable days of mild temperature and hazy atmosphere, producing that lackadaisical feeling akin to that other folk lore of weather known as spring fever.

It's a definite, mellow pause during which one is predisposed to become somewhat sentimental if not goofy, and rave about the glories of the season. Some claim a belief that the summer came from the Indians' favorite gods, whoever they may have been. Scientists scorn the idea, and some soft-pated writer likens it "to a young girl's love" while on the other hand some hard boiled man dubbed it "Old Wives' summer." One U. S. Weatherman says: "While Indian summer is just a sort of superstition, it seems to be acceptable to a lot of people."

Ingrown beliefs or superstitions like this can't be dispelled apparently, but it will do no harm to quote the Encyclopedia on the subject. It says,

# Scientists Explain It

"It is a period of delightful weather, characterized by a hazy atmosphere with dry fog, and a greater warmth than the period immediately preceding, occuring in some parts of the United States, generally in November or early in December. The haze was formerly said to be caused by dust in the upper strata of the air, due largely to the smoke of forest fires and also to the particles from the decay of falling leaves, but later scientists attribute it to what they term the annual formation of the "aerial gulf stream" or "vapor plane", a high current generated in Equatorial seas by ascending masses of vapor-charged air which, flowing northward, sweeps over the southern states and descends toward the earth or ocean as it approaches New England and Canada. The presence of this mantle of vapor arrests radiation".

And here endeth Indian summer.

# DR. GALLUP TELLS US

# Canvasses 100,000 Persons To Learn Public's Reading Habits

Everyone who writes for the public must have some conception of what people want and will read. Reading tastes are just as diversified as food tastes. Some want jokes, others poetry, statistics, sporting news, financial news, fiction, and so on to the end of the column. To satisfy all tastes the modern paper carries various departments for various subjects, and these are generally written by a specialist in some particular line.

# Human Interest and Jokes

Nearly everyone likes stories of the human interest kind and nearly all like jokes. Regarding the latter some want them raw while others prefer those of subtle character smack with the risque point well concealed, which calls for discerning judgment in maintaining a middle of the road course, and still keep the joke fresh and broad enough to please the reader.

## What People Read

An analyst recently made an extensive survey of newspaper readers to ascertain what they read. This analyst was no less a person than Dr. George Gallup, who has contracted the habit of settling all questions while the rest of the world is wondering and guessing about them. He is our national prophet and his accuracy is due to the fact that he gets his facts first. Here is what he found out after interviewing 100,000 newspaper readers.

# Division of Readers

Nine per cent women and six per cent men look at crossword puzzles every day. Seven per cent women and four per cent men read the articles on bridge. Five per cent women and nineteen per cent men look at stock prices. Forty per cent men and twenty-six per cent women study radio programs.

The weather, the news stories, the comics, the picture page, the comic cartoon, the oddities cartoon and the editorial cartoon get the largest percentage of adults of both sexes.

More women read death notices and more men the sport page and more men are interested in the horoscope than women. Only one per cent of women read baseball scores and two per cent racing results.

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In every experimental science there is a tendency toward perfection.

The old guard never surrenders.

# MUSTN'T RING TONIGHT

# Rose Hartwick Thorpe Author of Famous Poem Dies at San Diego

There died recently at San Diego, Mrs. Rose Hartwick Thorpe. The mere name means little or nothing to the average reader until it is known that she wrote, "Curfew Must Not Ring Tonight".

This author was a native of Mishawaka, Indiana, born in 1850, the daughter of William Hartwick. Early in life she evinced literary talent, and produced a number of books, but nothing with the lasting qualities of her famous poem.

### At Sixteen Years

This poem was written 73 years ago at the age of about 16 years, and has been published and republished, declaimed by innumerable school children on "speakin' day" and dramatized for the stage, and today stands as a classic in literature.

Like all great literary efforts which leap to sudden popularity it has been ridiculed and burlesqued.

In this connection it is interesting to know something about the curfew law. Many U. S. cities have a curfew ordinance designed to send children to their homes at some specified time but we have never known one to produce the desired result. Decatur has a curfew law which is spasmodically invoked. At one time it wasn't a bell, but the Mueller whistle which blew a stentorian blast or we may say screamed, because it was of the siren variety.

# Curfew In England

It is popularly believed that England in early days had a curfew law but encyclopedias do not support this belief. They tell you about it, and tell you briefly, thusly:

"Curfew was introduced from the continent into England by William the Conquerer. It was merely a provision of martial law, not a deliberate measure of oppression. The curfew bell was rung at sunset in summer, and at eight o'clock in winter. At this bell all fires were put out and all lights extinguished and the formal sounding of the curfew bell has continued in some districts until this day."

It's sounding now on this little article lights out.

## . . .

# Has Wide Spread

In the Record mail bag a few days ago came a letter from Milton E. Springer, in which he says: "I am very desirous of securing your "Little Magazine of General Interest". We trust Mr. Springer has already received it at his address in Panama City. It was mailed immediately.

# ETIQUETTE

Q. How should a club sandwich be eaten? A. By persons with a mouth spread of not less than six inches.

Q. Which way should a man in a theater face when passing those already seated?

A. He should face the stage thus avoiding knocking knees of those sitting. Stepping on feet is still popular but not polite.

Q. Should a man precede a woman entering an automobile or should he climb over her feet?

A. This is a very delicate question, involving as it does lateral and longitudinal proportions, and calls for quick decision, after one searching glance at her "dogs".

Q. Should a napkin be completely unfolded?

A. Of course it should, you boob! How else would you get it tucked in at the neck?

Q. When a man is engaged to a girl, does each call the other "fiance"?

A. Fiance is "him" and Fiancee is "her". Both pronounced efe-ahn-say. After the marriage the masculine form changes to Finance. See?

Q. How long should a formal call be?

A. Approximately 20 minutes unless the host shows signs of loosening up for another round.

Q. If I drop a napkin in a cafe should I pick it up?

A. Leave it to the waiter. That's his job. If he is not up to snuff and you are skillful in the use of your "dogs", you can get a pretty good free shine during the meal.

#### . . . .

# Sea Tramps

Ocean steamers are called tramps when they do not belong to any regular steamship company but are operated by individuals.

A man without mirth is like a wagon without springs, in which one is caused a disagreeable jolt by every pebble over which it passes, says Henry Ward Beecher.

Insky: "When I began in business I had nothing in the world to guide me but my own intelligence."

Hojack: "You sure had a bad start."

She: "This is an ideal spot for a picnic." He: "It must be. Fifty million insects can't be wrong."





Christmas is just around the corner, standing in the shadow of Thanksgiving. In a few days the Christmas spirit will begin to percolate. As the Mueller Record is not issued in December, we decided

to do our bit in the November issue-prime the pump for the big gush on December 25, so to speak.

Going through our files we found the following written several years ago. It reads no worse now than it did then, so here it is.

# Mind Pictures

We are not entirely guiltless. We get that way ourselves about Christmas and other things, when we permit our fancy to blow backward on the wings of memory. And sometimes thinking it all over, more or less seriously, we have to smile as we did when we read this one.

"In the old days, too, great yule logs blazed and crackled in broad chimneys, the spitted fowl turned leisurely before the fire, and the steaming kettle on the crane gave forth its savory odors. All is different now."

Fine to recall those days . . those good old days that the average man or woman of today knows little or nothing about and would not adopt them if they did. You know they would not.

This line of mind pictures is generally the product of aspiring writers who never met a yule log, never tasted a spitted fowl or met up with a steaming kettle on the crane, probably live in a steam heated apartment, get savory odors in an up-to-date restaurant but are mildly demented on "those good old times." Grandfather and grandmother, who know something about them by personal contact, would not go back to them. They worked and scraped for years to get away from them and they are mighty glad they made their escape and celebrate it annually instead of their wedding anniversary.

Yule logs, hearths, and all that line of talk is good for Christmas writing but for living over again, it is nix.

I hate to say it just because It sounds so mean and shocking; But nature beat you, Santa Claus, At filling Peggie's stocking.

Mrs. Jones: "Look, dear, how picturesque; the Browns are bringing in a Yule log." Mr. Jones: "Yule log my eye; that's Brown."

# Conversion of Scrooge

"What today, my fine fellow?" said Scrooge. "Today," replied the boy, "why Christmas Day." "I don't know what to do!" cried Scrooge, laughing and crying in the same breath. "I'm as happy as an angel. I am as merry as a school boy, I am as giddy as a drunken man. A Merry Christmas to everybody! A happy New Year to all the world. Hallo here! Whoop! Hallo!"

-Dickens' Christmas Carol

Sarcasm Lady Bountiful: "Here's a penny, my poor man. Tell me, how did you become so destitute?" Beggar: "I was always like you, mum, a-givin' away vast sums ter the pore an' needy at Christmas time."

Song

Why do the bells of Christmas ring Why do little children sing?

Once a lovely shining star, Seen by shepherds from alar, Gently moved until its light Made a manger's cradle bright.

There a darling baby lay, Pillowed soft upon the hay; And its mother sang and smiled: "This is Christ the Holy Child!"

Therefore bells of Christmas ring, Therefore little children sing. —Eugene Field

"Numerous indeed are the hearts to which Christmas brings a brief season of happiness and enjoyment."

## -Pickwick Papers.

# With Fixin's

Mrs. Newed entered the dining room and proudly placed the turkey on the table. "There you are, dear, my first Christmas turkey!" Mr. Newed gazed with admiration at the bird's

shape. "Wonderful, darling! How beautifully you have "Stuffed !" she echoed. "But, my dear, this one wasn't hollow."

December 25 was a New Year's day in Anglo Saxon times.

The original mince pie was made of mutton and baked in shape of a manger.

Christmastide extends from Christmas Eve to the Epiphany, January 6.

The old English name for Christmas, "Cristes Maesse," is found in records dated 1038.

In England and Ireland Christmas Day is a holiday only; in Scotland it is a bank holiday by statute.

(Continued on Page 12)

# Always Something New

(From Nation's Business, September 1) • Ink for use on glass or porcelain applicable with pen, brush, or stamp. Resistant to acids, alkalis and solvents, and high temperatures. Made in red, white, blue and black.

• Flashlight for photographers has novel invisible safety jacket to check bursting and shattering. Also protected by contact with other bulbs or by static.

• Transparent cellulose tape can be printed as it is dispensed from the roll by a new counter top printer. The message is on the adhesive side and non-smearing. The printed message is changed instantly by changing the printing wheel.

• A bookkceping machine of high speed has been developed to post an original ledger, an original statement, prove figures on both records, and provide a journal — all in a single operation.

• An electric refrigerator with separate compartment for storage of frozen foods, ice cream or ice at sub-freezing temperatures.

• Venetian blinds without cords. Run on guides which prevents slapping in the breeze and may be removed individually or in a bundle for easy cleaning.

• Hole saws for high speed to cut holes in hard alloys or anything a hack saw will cut. A mandrel makes possible attaching these saws to drills as small as one quarter inch.

• A self-lighting flare is now available which has a device for attaching to car bumpers so that it may be used when lights fail or when driving in fog. It may also be used in changing tires and as a signal.

• For fire-fighting in the range between hand operated units and fire trucks there is a trailer unit readily attached to almost any passenger car, powered by a gasoline engine and delivering 150 gallons of water a minute at 100 pounds pressure. The pump unit is self-priming without auxiliaries.

• A new coffee percolator made of stainless steel with copper clad bottom for quick

heat transfer. It has a cool plastic grip and cover knob and an easy pouring spout.

• A new print dryer which dries in 15 minutes without curling or warping. It handles both glosses and matte prints. Air warmed electrically and circulated under controlled conditions.

• A new desk for secretaries combines a typewriter pedestal and desk. The pedestal and stationary rack slides out from the desk leaving the desk top clear for work. Available in several sizes from 36 to 60 inches.

• For key chains and car keys and other uses there is now made a miniature facsimile of your license tag. It is made of a light plastic.

• A new building unit consists of a concrete block faced with structural glass. The glass is firmly banded to the concrete. The blocks, available in several sizes, can be used as load bearing units.

# MR. HANSEN'S JOKE

From Geo. F. Sullivan

Mr. Edwin H. Hansen, superintendent of Peninsular Utilities Co., Calumet, Michigan, tells this one on himself when he visited several cities recently. He passed through Decatur. This (he thought) was a rare opportunity for a visit to the Mueller Co. factory. Seeing a police officer, he asked to be directed to the Mueller Co. factory. The police officer said he did not know of any Mueller factory in Decatur.

Mr. Hansen said: "Mueller Co. is the largest factory in Decatur."

To which the officer replied, "Are you kidding me?"

Then a bright thought struck him, and he said, "Say, Mr., do you know you are in Indiana?"

## . . .

# (Continued from Page 11)

The Puritans forbade Christmas festivities on the grounds that they were pagan.

It takes four or five years for the smallest Christmas trees to be ready for use.

Christmas pudding was originally plum porridge, and was served at breakfast, not at dinner.

Boxing Day originated long before William the Conqueror. It is a survival of the old Roman custom of giving "Strenae" present and money made over to slaves and servants at this season. It once extended for a period of several days, being called "boxing-time."

# THE POT'S OPENED • • • • • A BIT OF HISTORY AND HUMOR CON-CERNING THE MODERN PLAYING CARDS















Upper row shows 16th century specimens of French playing cards. Lower row shows German playing cards of the same period. Courtesy of William Bond Wheelwright, editor, Paper and Printing Digest.

Playing cards are by many persons believed to be a device of the devil, and to be shunned by all moral, law abiding and Christian citizens. This supposition may be true. The research fiends are in doubt about the origin of cards but think that something allied to them came from the far east. It is clear that the modern playing card has little illustrative resemblance to the early decks which bore symbols of fruit, flowers, etc.

It would seem there is nothing evil in a deck of cards or in playing a game with them. The evil is, as in most cases, located in the brain and mind of the people who play. It's a case of abuse and not use. Crookedness, deceit, fraud and manipulation for self-gain may be present in some degree in practically all human transaction.

It does seem, however, that playing cards have a peculiar influence on some people to win by fair means or failing in that, by foul means. There are those who "go crooked" in a game of solitaire.

Dude Rancher: "I believe in calling a spade a spade." Bronco Bob: "You'd better, there was a man here

Bronco Bob: "You'd better, there was a man here who nearly lost his life by tryin' to call a spade a club."

Let's admit that cards do incite the gambling instinct, that they do provoke bursts of temper, sharp criticism, endless conversation

NOVEMBER, 1939

and domestic eruptions. On the other hand they teach self-control, exercise of the mental faculties, a desire to win fairly and honestly, speed up weary hours and promote sociability. It all depends on how one regards and uses cards.

Gus: "What kind of a hand did you hold last night?"

Bus: "One of those dainty little kind that slaps you smack in the face for getting fresh!"

Present day cards were designed in 1392 by Jacques Gingonneur, court painter to Charles VI of France, who had lost his reason. They reached England a few years later, and at first were hand painted. In the early days in France (1397) by an edict of the provost of Paris, working people were forbidden to play certain games on working days, and cards were included.

In these days cards are much the same the world over, and probably furnish amusement for more people than any other known diversion.

"Look, here, you're cheating!"

"I am not. I had that ace long before the game began."

There are many interesting facts about cards, which have been dug up during the centuries For instance good old fashioned

(Continued on Next Page)

seven up lends itself most readily to the operation of the card shark.

He: "Does your wife play contract bridge?" Friend: "No-judging from the cost I think it must be toll bridge."

Three card monte is a Mexican game which has proved in hundreds of instances that the hand is quicker than the eye as well as sustaining the claim that there is a sucker born every minute.

Mrs. Henpeck (sarcastically): "I suppose you've been to see a sick friend—holding his hand all eve-ning!"

Mr. Henpeck (sadly): "If I'd been holding his hands I would not be overdrawn at the 'bank'."



After the draw is over, Eyes become glassy and cold, With eager, searching, glances, Trying to guess what you hold.

There is only one way in poker, To solve a problem so deep. Lay down a hand like the picture:— Saying, "Take a look, please, and weep."

Soiled playing cards may be cleaned by rubbing with a cloth dipped in spirits of camphor, but a dirty player couldn't be cleaned with a barrel of lye.

"Do you ever play cards for money?" "I sometimes think I do, but the other fellow al-ways gets it."

How many different hands can be held in auction bridge was asked and the answer, accredited to E. V. Shepperd, says that of the 635,013,559,600 different hands that may be dealt may be distributed among the four players in 53,644,737,765, 488,792,-839,237,440,000 different ways.

We neither affirm nor deny the correctness of this information. It's too much to ask of any sane person, but pause just long enough to remark that we know now, why so many bridge addicts have that wild light in their eyes.

"Funny how he is so lucky at cards but then loses his winnings at the race track." "Not so funny. He can't shuffle the horses."

# 

# A Brutal Game

"Don't you think there's something brutal about football?"

"Yes, the price of the seats."

# "OLD FASHIONED" WINTER

# Experts Say Climate is Gradually Warming Up

The weather is a never ending subject of conversation, and yet few really know anything about meteorology. It is a very ancient subject as well as a deep and scientific one. Originally the term applied not only to atmospherical but to astronomical phenomena as well. It is some two thousand years old and the term was first used by Plato 400 years B. C. The oldest daily register of the weather dates from 1337 when William Merle began to observe in Oxford and continued his records until 1344. The wind vane is the oldest of meteorological instruments and was used before the Christian era.

# Speculation Still Prevails

Old as the subject is, there is still much speculation on meteorological subjects, and much erroneous belief, possibly as a result of old "signs" and superstitions. Among these is the belief of a great many that we do not have the "old-fashioned winters" our forefathers tell us of, now comes a convincing argument in an assertion by the United States Weather Bureau, which reports that for the last 50 years, there has been a definite "warming up" of the climate. This change is easily detected statistically, although it might not be noticeable otherwise. By no means, however, does this mean each year is a little warmer than the preceding one. On the contrary, some of the coldest years on record have fallen within this period. But in the long run the tendency is upwards.

## Don't Be Too Trustful

In a few million years, perhaps, we will no longer have winter. In the meantime don't be trustful and give away your overcoat, ear muffs and galoshes.

There are some reasons, perhaps, why our winters do not seem so cold as those talked about by old settlers. A half century ago the prairies were not well settled as now. The winds had a wider sweep. In the city big homes and business buildings were not so well built. Then again steam, hot water, and gas heat were practically unknown, or at least were not in general use. Then again buildings were not built so substantially. These are a few of the reasons that may have an influence. Another and a better reason is that we have learned how to protect ourselves against cold and now we are learning with air conditioning how to protect ourselves against heat in the summer time.

#### MUELLER RECORD

# MAW and PAW



# Just Like Cherub

Bingo: "You are my Cherub." Mrs. B.: "Why your Cherub?"

Bingo: "It's like this, you never seem to have any clothes, you're always up in the air, and you keep harping."

# At Last, The Reason

Wife: "All men are fools."

Husband: "Yes dear. We are made fools so the girls wouldn't all be old maids."

# And He Came

"How'd you get along with your wife in that fight the other night?"

"Aw, she came crawling to me on her knees."

"Yeah, what did she say?"

"Come out from under that bed, you coward."

# Kids Are Kids

Dad: "Now children, tell me who has been the most obedient during the last month, 'and done everything that Mother asked him to do?"

Chorus: "You, daddy."

# Trapped

Mister: "Dear, I told you not to stay up for me."

Missus: "You're all wrong. I'm just getting up."

# The Back Seat Buyer

Customer: "I've come back to buy that car you showed me yesterday."

Salesman: "That's fine, I thought you'd be back. Now tell me what was the dominant feature that made you decide to buy this car?"

Customer: "My wife, sir."

# NOVEMBER, 1939

# Settles Unemployment

Mrs. Nagger: "Loafing, loafing, continually loafing!"

Hubby: "Well, it beats doing nothing, don't it?"

# Just Like A Woman

Maw: "When you wake up one morning you will find that the world is ruled by women."

Paw: "Um," he said, "that's just like a woman, that."

Maw: "What's just like a woman?"

Paw: "Why, to get the better of a man while he's asleep."

# Remembered Courtin' Days

Pa: "I think I'll have to go downstairs and send Nancy's young man home."

Ma: "Now, Elmer, don't be hasty. Remember how we used to court."

Pa: "For gosh sakes; I hadn't thought of that. Out he goes."

# Inspiring Old John

"Schultz, why don't you fight against your longing for liquor. When you're tempted, think of your wife."

"Say, when the thirst is on me, I don't know what fear is!"

# Got His Number

Willie: "Mother, do fairy tales always begin with 'Once upon a time'?"

Maw: "No, dear, not always, they sometimes begin with. 'My love, I will be detained at the office tonight'."

### Then The Fight Began

Wife: "You know, I suspect that my husband has a love affair with his stenographer."

Maid: "Oh, I don't believe it. You are only saying that to make me jealous."

### Details Wanted

Wife: "How was your stag dinner?"

Hub: "Well, one rather odd thing occurred. Jim Blankton got up and left the table because some fellow told a risque story he did not approve of."

Wife: "How noble of Mr. Blankton. And what was the story, John?"

# Time To Turn

Daughter: "Just think—the silk in this dress came from an insignificant little worm."

Mother: "That's no way to talk about your father."

# It Was A Famous Victory

# Decatur's Rescue Hose Team Made Record In 1881 That Has Never Been Beaten & & &

It was back in the days of "Get There, Etc."—1881—that Rescue Hose team of Decatur, came home from the Iowa State Firemen's Tournament with \$1,500 cash, a billiard table, and the World's Record.

And Decatur people staged a two-day celebration, at which Senator Shelby M. Cullom, then governor of Illinois, appeared before a gathering of several thousand wild enthusiasts to welcome home the victorious running team and laud them for their success. This was back in June, 1881, and of



Center: Herman Martin, one of the two or three survivors of the famous Rescue Running Team. Left: Adolph Mueller. Right: Frank Hall, known as Commodore of the Mueller steamboat "City of Decatur."

the members of that team only one or two, so far as we know, are still alive.

They are Herman Martin of Denver, who was here during the summer visiting relatives and old friends, and George Brett, the champion hose coupler of the world, who is reported as still living in Seattle.

It was the visit of Herman Martin that recalled the historic race, and it was with his aid that we secured authentic facts of the race, after several years unsuccessful attempts to do so. Also assisting were the editors of "Water Works Engineering" and Chief William Sorenson, of the Council Bluffs Fire Department.

Younger men of today know nothing of the glamor and the glory of a Volunteer Fireman's tournament, where competing teams ran with "de masheen," strung out the hose, connected to the hydrant, etc., to show their speed and familiarity with actual conditions at a fire.

# HERMAN MARTIN'S STORY

Complying with your request will try and give you a few pointers on hose cart racing in the early days. Now, in the first place they ran four hundred yards, but changed it to three hundred some time later.

The couplers always started at the head of the team and as the Young Brothers started to pull the hose to make connection at the plug they stepped behind the cart.

At the proper time Fred Litterer broke the coupling and George Brett put on the nozzle.

The boys were good — none better in all the United States. I guess they won every match in which they ever competed.

As a rule they were the main thing on the team. If things didn't go all O. K. at the coupling it was all off. The nozzle had to fit up tight or we lost out.

So no matter how fast you ran if the couplers didn't do their work you were sure up a tree.

Chief Dick Devore was some runner. He ran one hundred yards in less than 10 seconds.

He and Peter Troutman were lead men on the team. Then came Fred Mueller and myself.

I held the record for three hundred yards for 33 seconds and Fred Mueller was next with 33<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> seconds.

In regard to the coupling matches, they laid a strip of hose on the floor coupled together, and at a given signal, if there were two in the match, one broke the coupling and the other put on the nozzle. Sometimes there would be only one man and he would break the coupling and also put on the nozzle.

George Brett was the champion of them all.

There were two events at the Council Bluffs Tournament, giving Decatur Rescue Team outstanding prominence. The first of these was the winning of the sweepstake race on Friday, June 10, in the remarkable time of forty-two seconds defeating all the crack running teams of the west, including

# MUELLER RECORD

Council Bluffs and the Bates team of Denver, considered dangerous rivals. The record of that race follows:

Decatur's time, 42 seconds, was the fastest ever made, and insofar as we know, still stands. "The Fireman's Journal" of that day said: "The time made by the Rescue team of Decatur has never been beaten at a firemen's tournament, and for this reason the tournament will always be remembered.

On Saturday, June 11, 1881, there was only one event on the program, that being the challenge hub to hub race between Council Bluffs and Decatur. Concerning this race "The Fireman's Journal" said: "The only race on this day was that between Rescues of Council Bluffs and Rescues of Decatur. This was a hub to hub race of 300 yards for a purse of \$1,000. This race being the last of the tournament had been looked forward to with great interest because it was thought the time of the previous day would be beaten. The wind, however, was unfavorable and blew full in the face of the running teams. The time made was as follows:

Rescues of Council Bluffs.....46 seconds Rescues of Decatur.......433/4 seconds

"This gave the Decatur team the prize of \$1,000, one-half of the gate money, and a \$300 billiard table offered by Brunswick & Balke Co."

"Taking it all in all, the third annual tournament of the Iowa Firemen's Association was the most successful tournament ever held in the west."

### Officers and Team

The Decatur team was made up from the fastest runners in the Decatur Rescue Fire Department.

George Kraft-Captain.

Frank Winebrenner-1st Assistant.

Richard Devore-2nd Assistant.

Fred Litterer, Coupler.

George Brett, Coupler.

Emil Young, Plugman.

William Young, Plugman.

Wm. Rawley, Herman Martin, Tony Walser, Elmer Troutman, Fred B. Mueller, Wm. Hardin, Mark Gates, Louis Bickes, Harve Downing, Ed. Leach, Chas. Barnett, Wm. Stewart, Henry Cullen.

George R. Brett, coupler of Rescue Hose team, was a small, wiry man with powerful hands and wrists. He retained the title of champion of the United States throughout his life. He was challenged many times for single competition, and with a long personal acquaintance, the writer has no recollection of his ever having been defeated. In single competition, the contestants stood with hands above their heads, the broken coupling at their feet. At a given signal they stooped over, grasped the two separate parts of the coupling, screwed them together in fractional seconds without the use of any mechanical device. The writer has seen Brett perform this feat so perfectly in one motion that a strong man had to exert himself in unscrewing the coupling for the following test.

## Council Bluff Challenge

The challenge for the famous race came from the Council Bluffs firemen, included the following stipulations:

Race to \$250 to \$500 a side.

Hub to hub-side by side.

Two or four wheeled carts weighing not less than 500 pounds, carrying 500 feet regulation hose, actual service, safely. Caswell coupling of 8 threads to the inch.

Distance 200 yards to hydrant.

Attach and lay one line of hose 300 feet from hydrant, break coupling and attach pipe ready for water; all connections to show three full threads.

Each cart to carry not less than 350 feet of hose reeled in one line, all coupling made.

Couplings must be broken with hands or spanners.

Every person taking part must start at starting point, company not to exceed 18 men. Plug men will attach at hydrant or engine, assisted by one man if the company so elect.

Pipe must be carried from starting point either on cart or by pipe men, and couplings to be made complete.

Pipes and nozzles used must be not less than 24 inches in length and five pounds in weight.

Captains of teams to draw for position.

Each team to select two judges and said judges to select a fifth man for final referee and also a starter.

#### Associated Press Story

The following is the Associated Press story of the famous race. It appeared in all papers in the U. S. taking this service and gave Decatur wide publicity.

"Council Bluffs, Iowa, June 11. The most successful firemen's tournament ever held in the west closed in this city today with a grand special hose team race for a purse of \$1,000. The contestants were the Rescues of Decatur, Illinois, and the Rescues of Council Bluffs, the latter being the champions of Iowa. The race proved the most

(Continued on next page)

# NOVEMBER, 1939

# (Continued from page 17)

exciting of the week, and was closely con-tested in the run, the Decatur team winning by their marvelously quick coupling. At the outcome the Bluff's team was twenty feet in advance, but lost several seconds in making the coupling, and the Decaturs got



Two survivors of Decatur's Volunteer Fire Department. Wm. Danzeisen and Wm. Barnett holding chief's silver trumpets. These were lavishly ornamented and generally used on parade or gala occasions.

first time in 43¾ seconds. The Bluffs time was 46 seconds. The Decatur time is a second and three-fourths more than they made yesterday in the sweepstakes race (42), which was one second better than that made by the Rescues of this city in the race that gave them the championship, being 43 sec-The Decaturs are famed for their onds. couplings, which are marvelous, and on this feature they depend for success in a big race. The tournament has proved most wonderfully successful. Fully 20,000 strangers were in attendance, and 4,000 firemen.

#### 

Pernicious Propaganda The Horse and Mule live 30 years And nothing know of Wines and Beers; The Goat and Sheep at 20 die, And never taste of Scotch and Rye; The Cow drinks water by the ton, And at 18 is mostly done; The Dog at 15 cashes in, Without the aid of Rum and Gin; The Cat in milk and water soaks, And then in 12 short years it croaks: The modest, sober, bone-dry Hen, Lays eggs for nogs, then dies at ten; But Sinful, Ginful, Rum-soaked MEN Survive for three score years and ten.

"What would I get," inquired the man who had just insured his property against fire, "if this building should burn down tonight?"

"I would say," replied the agent, "about ten years."

# SNAKES AT \$50 PER FOOT

# The Python is Large But Harmless With Ingrowing Appetite

How would you like to have a snake for a pet? Let us suggest a python as an unobtrusive member of the household. One python quality which commends itself is the fact that it eats only four times a year, that is, it is commendable until you have investigated the reptile's habits. A meal for this big snake consists of 20 to 25 chickens or rabbits and the eating fiesta is on tap for three days. In a pinch a python can eat a pig weighing eighty-five pounds.

They can do this because of nature's provision for a dislocation of the jaw when necessary. We have watched with avid curiosity persons in public eating places who must be near relatives of the python.

# Upkeep Quite An Item

One barrier to having a python for a house pet is the original cost and then the upkeep. They are sold by the foot and the price is generally \$50 per foot, bringing the total up to about \$1500 for the snake.

The python is non-poisonous and is found in the tropical parts of the old world. The Malay Peninsula specie grows to a length of 30 feet while the African specie seldom exceeds fifteen feet. The larger Asiatic forms are capable of crushing and swallowing mammals as large as a half grown sheep.

The females of some specie apparently incubate their eggs or rather coil themselves around the eggs for the purpose of protecting them for there is no evidence that the eggs are warmed by the process.

•

# 

"Here's something queer," said the dentist, who had been drilling and drilling into a tooth. "You said this tooth had never been filled, but I find flakes of gold on the point of my drill."

"I knew it," moaned the patient, "you've struck my back collar button."

Bride (to salesman): "Please, sir, I'd like a little oven."

Salesman: "Er-pardon me. Not while your husband's around."

"Her niece is rather good looking, eh?" "Don't say 'knees is,' say 'knees are'."

Mr. Heinsheimer: "Ah, yes, my wife is

versed in the culinary art." Mr. Stein: "Ach, nein! Mine iss py far de verst!"

Stage Hand (to manager): "Shall I lower the curtain, sir? One of the livin' statues has the hiccups."





"Boy," said one. "How come you got in disheah jailhouse, anyhow?"

"Nigguh, h'it wuz jus' a misunderstandin'."

"How you mean h'it wuz a misunderstandin'?"

"Well, suh, h'it wuz disaway. Ah thought that thing wuz a cash registah, an twant nuthin but jus a typewritah."

#### Reasonable

"You've plenty of nerve, Rastus. The idea of stealing my chickens and then trying to sell them to me."

"Well, boss, I thought you'd pay a better price for these chickens since you raised 'em yo'self. You'd know what you wuz buyin'."

# Hardly Worth While

Rastus: "Heah's dat quartah ah borrowed from yuh last yeah."

Mose: "Yuh done kep' it so long dat ah don't know if it's wuff while for me to change my mind about yuh jes' fo two bits."

# Hoot! Hoot!

Marcellus: "Whaffo' yo' lookin' so unnecessary, Mose?"

Mose: "Ah feel like a dumb owl."

Marcellus: "Reveal you' meanin', man."

Mose: "Oh, ah just don't give a hoot."

# Such As Is

Tired Traveler: "Can I get anything to eat in this dirty dump?"

Negro Waiter: "Yas suh, you kin."

Traveler: "Such as what?"

Negro Waiter: "Such as it is, sah!"

# Found Out At Last

Eb: "I see where deys foun' the bones o' ol' Chris Columbus."

Zeke: "Shore nuff? I didn't know he was a gamblin' man."

# NOVEMBER, 1939

# Innocent

"But you cannot withdraw your plea of guilty after the case has been heard. How is it you wish to reverse your plea now?"

"Well, you see, jedge, dat speech ob mah lawyer done 'vinced me I'se innocent."

# No More Work

"I'se got a new job, so I cain't do yo" washin' no mo'."

"What is it, Mandy?"

"Mah new job is dat I cain't work. I'se on relief."

# Simpson No Simp

Tired Worker: "Boss, is you got a man on your books by the name of Simpson?"

Boss: "Yeah. What about it?"

T. W.: "Wal, I'se dat fellow, boss. I thought you had it down 'Sampson'."

## The New Parson

"You sure should have heerd de new pastah pray."

"Was he fervent?"

"Fervent? "Why, brudder, he done asked de Lawd for things none of us ebber knew He had!"

## Lacked License

Rastus' lawyer was informing him on the legal status of his matrimonial relationship and his chances for a divorce. "Mistah Brown, I have discovered I kin get you a divorce on account of her father. He had no license to carry a gun."

## Slow Mule

"Doesn't that mule ever kick you?"

"No, sah, he ain't yet, but he frequently kicks de place where ah recently was."

# Keeping Them Honest

"Your neighbors are honest, I hope?" one asked the old Negro.

"Yessir, dey is."

"But you keep that loaded shotgun near your hen coop."

"Yes, dat's to keep 'em honest."

# Wild Poppy

Mistress: "You say your baby's name is Opium? What an odd name. You know opium is a product of the wild poppy, don't you?"

Mandy—"Yassum, an' if dey evah wuz a chile had a wild poppy, she's got one."— Capper's Weekly.

# Roy Makes A Hole In One



# Roy Evans as he appeared swatting the pill for 151 yards and a hole in one.

Smiling, happy, good natured Roy Evans, traveling for Mueller Co., from our New York division. Just look at him, his face and eyes radiating happiness, contentment, and the joy of living. But oh, boy, you should have seen that face the day he made a hole in one. The face in the picture herewith looks like a thunder cloud in comparison to the illumination of Roy's face upon accomplishment of that one sizzling stroke which sent the pill whizzing through the air for 151 yards, to settle and nestle in that 6th hole. What is given by the gods to a golfer more desirable than a hole in

# GAS NOTES

Builders have quickly recognized that the installation of a gas heating system insures the owner of a new home the finest automatic equipment fitted to the finest fuel that any man can buy.

Hot water is recognized as one of the most useful and effective weapons in the protection of the home and the health of its occupants. An automatic gas water heater is one of the cheapest weapons because it provides a 24-hour hot water service for a few cents a day.

## \*

Modern gas appliances for cooking, water heating, refrigeration and house heating are



Roy as he appeared telling about his prowess after his mighty stroke.

one? According to verbal descriptions it was a magnificent spectacle of human happiness, and Roy has been under the thrall of the great event ever since.

The game was played at the Reading Golf Club, Reading, Pennsylvania, September 12, in the company of Mr. Ed Horner, District Superintendent of the Reading Suburban Water Company, and Bill Reinicker, Chief Engineer of the Delaware Valley Utilities Company. It was on the 6th hole which is a par three of 151 yards.

Three zippys, four zowies, and six whoopees for Roy.

the answer to the four big needs of the home —comfort, cleanliness, quiet and economy.

Gas equipment provides the continuous comfort of air conditioning 24 hours a day, not now and then; for it is no stop and go system. There's no heating lag, hence, fuel is saved because none is wasted in reheating the system.

# \*

When gas is the fuel behind modern appliances for the home, there is only one cost ---the monthly reading on the meter.

## . . .

No beneficial results can be expected where the base is unsolid.

# Decatur's First Community Center



This is the first community center to be built in Decatur, and was only recently dedicated. It was made possible through the generous donation of a Decatur couple who modestly refuse mention of the gift in print. It was their own idea, however, and they made a donation of \$12,000. The total cost was \$28,000, and the building was erected by the Works Progress Administration project. It was sponsored by the Decatur Park District. The location of the house is in a section of the city whose citizens had no means of assembly and limited provisions for recreation. Now they have what is considered the finest park building in the city. There are spacious grounds surrounding the new building, with baseball diamond, tennis, croquet courts, and horseshoe courts. The location is not far from Lake Decatur.

The building contains, on the main floor, an auditorium with a stage, a library and office for the director which can be converted into a kitchen by opening doors which form a false wall along part of one side, concealing a sink and electric hotplate units, and a memorial lobby with a plaque dedicating the building to "wholesome recreation." In the basement are two club rooms, a large game room, rest rooms and an oil heating plant.

Setting off the slate-roofed limestone building is a floral court at the entrance from Marion street. A concrete retaining wall along the sidewalk is faced with limestone.

The building is decorated throughout in rustic style. Huge stained oak beams and wrought iron light fixtures and stair railings carry out this motif. The central light fixture in the auditorium consists of two wrought iron lamps suspended with the bows of an oxen yoke.

A "concerted lawn" which has been sodded, will provide Decatur with its first and only al fresco theater. On the northwest side of the building the theater will include a stage at the west end and a concert lawn on which chairs can be placed. A wide stairway leads up to the lawn from a ramp in front of the community building.

# One Way Around

"Gif me two pounds of that salmon." "That isn't salmon. That's ham." "Who asked you vat it vas?"

# NOVEMBER, 1939

21

# Organizing 49th State . . . .



Governor Swickart, his car of state, studying state document on his way to his office.

Presenting Mr. A. Swickart, water commissioner, but this is just one of the honors crowding upon him. He is proposed as governor of the 49th state of "Absaroka—the nation's playgrounds", and he is entitled to all honors if the scheme of forming the state does not fall through. Even should this occur "Governor" Swickart will suffer no reverses in fortune because he is having a barrel of fun, organizing a new commonwealth.

The whole thing started in fun "Governor" Swickart, in a humorous vein suggested that Montana, Northern Wyoming, and the Black Hills section of the Dakotas be bunched into one state known as Absaroka. From a local subject to jolly about and kid over the news spread as the newspapers gave the idea publicity and letters are now pouring in from all over the country from jesters and crackpots. Some of these urge that portions of their states be included.

In the meantime the Sheridan jokers have prepared printed stationery and advertising and are keeping the irons hot. The letterhead reads as follows:

## PROPOSED

# State of Absaroka

\_\_\_\_\_ 49th \_\_\_\_\_

# Office of Governor SHERIDAN, WYOMING

The envelopes carry a corresponding corner card and both are ornamented by the head of a bighorn done in red ink.

If the state fails of organization and subsequent admission to the union it won't bother the promoters much. They will have had their fun—to say nothing of the advertising of the northwest section.

Good luck to "Governor" Swickart and his jolly mates.

# THANKSGIVING IN VERSE

Ah, on Thanksgiving day,
When from east and from west,
From north and from south,
Come the pilgrim and guest,
When the grey-haired New Englander sees around his board,
The old broken links of affection restored,
When the care-wearied man seeks his mother once more,

- And the worn matron smiles
- Where the girl smiled before,
- What moistens the lips and what brightens the eye?

What calls back the past, like the rich pumpkin pie.

-Whittier,

When the rain is falling Upon us here below,

I hois' my ol' umbrella And I am glad it isn' snow.

An' when th' snow is falling It's mighty far from nice,

But I along a-singin' 'Cause I'm glad it isn' ice.

- An' when th' ice is freezing, I still is standin' pat.
- I know I won't get sunstruck An' I'm glad o' that.

So come along Thanksgivin' You's welcome as can be;

You'll find the cabin ready,

'Cause de weather can't fool me.

(-Heavy Stuff Magazine)

Truth lies within a little and certain compass, but error is immense.



They Found Out: Three young girls, Joliet, Illinois, placed railroad spikes on the Santa Fe track to see what would happen. They did. Train wrecked—two killed.

Bowlegs: John C. McPherson wins the championship — World's most "bowleggedest" cowboy. Spread of 5 inches between knees. No chance for correction—John's 72.

Honest: John B. Smith is a Decatur Negro and an honest one at that. He bought a case of beer at a package liquor store, took it home, but was back in the store in half an hour with two paper sacks containing \$800. They had been hidden in the case of beer for "safe keeping". Smith got \$10 for his honesty.

Fish Story: Thomas Mallett, aged 44, lost his life trying to land a 15 pound carp, which jerked the pole from Mallett's grasp. Stripping to his shorts the fisherman jumped in the river and was near grasping his pole when he sank to his death. The body was recovered soon after and the floating pole was found and brought to shore with the big carp firmly hooked.

Died at the Wheel: Cecil T. Pyle, of St. Louis, died instantly at the wheel of his car south of Decatur. A companion stopped the car.

Welcome Wrong Man: The National Association of Insurance Agents met at Boston recently, and scouts were sent out to bring before the mayor's greeters, William H. Menn, president. The scouts brought back a shrinking retiring man, who protesting still stood to hear flowery orations and get key to the city. Getting in a word edgewise at last, he explained that he was not the man wanted. Finally Mr. Menn was located and the speeches and ceremonies repeated.

Chain of Circumstances: It was a long, long way awindin' but electricity finally killed R. M. Cody, farmer of Oklahoma City. The break of his truck's steering gear was the beginning of an unusual chain of circumstances as follows: Truck rolled 250 feet down hill; struck a 4000 volt high line pole; one of the wires fell on a metal sign 200 feet away; the sign charged a barbed wire fence; the fence set fire to dry grass; Cody threw water on the fire, which splashed

NOVEMBER, 1939

to the fence and the water conducted electricity to his body, killing him.

Lot of Company: Mrs. Helen Sprinkle, Oakland, California, sues for divorce on the grounds that her husband "has a WPA mentality", believing that the government would support him the rest of his life. Anyway Mr. Sprinkle has a lot of company in this belief.

G'wan, said he: A hold-up man stuck a gun in the back of John W. Horner of Denver, who had a \$300 payroll with him. Mr. Horner, in an annoyed tone of voice, said, "Oh, go on, beat it." The would-be hold-up man did.

Seventeen Year Search: For seventeen years the government has searched for Albert Leopold, Kansas City, to deliver to him a medal won in World war. During all that time Leopold has been a Kansas City post office employe. A comrade hearing of the search, told Leopold who will now get his medal.

# Don't Let It Worry You

If your efforts are criticized, you must have done something worthwhile, and you may earn something valuable.

If your business rival plays more golf than you do, you have more time to attend to his customers than he has.

If your neighbor drives a better car than you do, that doesn't make your old car any the worse.

If someone calls you a fool, go into silence. He may be right.

If your competitor gets business by unscrupulous methods, he can't hold it that way.

If the world laughs at you, laugh right back at it. It's just as funny as you are.

-Gulf Coast Lumberman.

# No Casualties

Father: "Who broke that chair in the parlor last evening?"

Daughter: "It just collapsed, all of a sudden, father, but neither of us was hurt."

#### Bugs

"A moth leads an awful life."

"How come?"

"He spends the summer in a fur coat and the winter in a swimming suit."

## A Spectacle

And then, of course, there was the optician's daughter. Two glasses, and she made a spectacle of herself.

23

HE SMILETH

# "Ads,`` Signs, Names

Speaking of names, the West Company's Docket furnishes some that give us a smile. These are gleaned from court records. St. Peter and Sons vs. St. Peter. They seem to be just outside the pearly gates, and oddly enough they start a great many in that direction. Both undertakers.

Devorse vs. Devorse — want a divorce. Polite vs. Polite—may have been but not now.

Goodfellow vs. Goodfellow-not so good? Bologna vs. Weiner-Hot Dog!

Oscar Elmer Loveless vs. Helen Loveless —Forwarned is forearmed — loveless people should not marry.

Received from Goldwin Goldsmith, University of Texas, Department of Architecture, Austin, Texas, a postcard, reading "Add to Pronunciations, Spelling, etc.

Sinjun-St. John.

Ever notice that in the south we do not have a Baptist, but a Babtist?

Wm. Webb, Canadian meat dealer, pasted this sign in his window. "This business has been compelled to close owing to bad debts. A list of names and amounts owing will be shown here in a few days." That's when the cash came rolling in.

The Wyanet, Illinois, Record appeared with one page blank, except for this note in small type. "Don't laugh. We had a helluva time filling the other three pages." This proved to be the most interesting page in the publication.

# Let Cohen Stay Awake

A merchant, unable to sleep, tossed fretfully on his bed and muttered unintelligible words. The wife of his bosom sought the cause of his restlessness. In answer to her inquiries he said:

"You should expect me to sleep when my note to Cohen in the bank comes due tomorrow for \$5,000 and there's only \$2,000 there to meet it."

"It is," said the faithful wife, "then I tell you what I should do, Ike. You should get up and go over to Cohen's house and tell him and then come back and go to sleep. Let Cohen stay awake."

It's the part of a good shepherd to shear his flock but not to flay them.



Fred Kroschwitz smiles. In fact, he grins. His friends in the trade have undoubtedly noticed that Fred smiles most of the time. He does not even know old man Grouch. If he did he would cross the street to avoid meeting him. But you have doubtless guessed what it's all about before reading this far, because we all know that there is only one event in a man's life which brings radiance to his countenance in large volume and that's the coming of the stork. The old bird reached the Kroschwitz on October 10 and left the cutest little girl-Jane Ann-to brighten their home at Trenton, N. J. Fred is a Mueller salesman attached to our New York division, traveling in New Jersey. . . .

# (Continued from Page 6)

If every automobile and truck was a horse the towns and cities would be barnyards. Phew!

November seems to be appropriate to a slight revision of Riley's poem, "when the frost is on the punkin", so here it is:

- "When the frost is on the punkin',
- And the fodder's in the shock.
- And the cord wood needs a splittin',

The tramp he cometh not."

Not through a new deal but a misdeal. You may have your choice in selecting Thanksgiving Day. One consolation remains—there will be no difference in the taste of the turkey.

# PARTING OF THE WAYS

David Simmons, Los Angeles, says his wife took his clothes while he was bathing and drove away with them. He missed lodge meeting.

# MUELLER RECORD



• Diner: "Waiter, this chicken has no wishbone."

Waiter: "He was a happy and contented chicken, sir, and had nothing to wish for."

• At Pittsfield, Massachusetts, a partridge flew through Mrs. Elsie Dudson's kitchen window, dropping alongside a hot roasting pan, having been killed by the impact. Hastily putting the roast in the ice box Mrs. Dudson prepared and put the partridge in the roasting pan.

• A Leeds, Alabama, woman sued a grocery dealer for \$5,000 damages because of a rooster "running at large" in the store. She alleged the said "Cock of the walk" "spurred and flogged her" although the storekeeper "had reason to know" the rooster was "violent and dangerous—" Cock-a-dood-del-doo!

• Sheriff Eugene Jones, Redlands, California, tramped a canyon seeking a lost fisherman. Found him on the banks of a fished-out creek. "Don't you know there are no fish in this stream" asked the sheriff. "You never can tell", replied the hopeful fisherman, as he calmly lifted a 13-inch trout from the water.

• William Welshans, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, went to the country to visit a friend. He volunteered to help lead a cow from a stall. Bossie balked, crowding Welshans against a wall and breaking several of his ribs.

• Dog Warden Chester Nichols, Evanston, Illinois, nose prints dogs, claiming this as certain a means of identifying pets as fingerprints are for human identification. • Allen Jessop, paced his beat near Revelstake, B. C., when a grizzly bear showed willingness to battle. Five shots were futile. The bear took Jessop's rifle when he tried to use the bayonet. Jessop scurried up a tree. Finally he came down cautiously, and, sighs he, "the grizzly was dead".

• Kitty: "Imagine! That terrible Mrs. Whatzit seems to think more of her dog than of her own son."

Katty: "Well, my dear, after all, the dog has a pedigree."

• Velma Runyan of our Upkeep Stock Department brings forth a good animal story, the hero of which was her cat, Teddy, three years old, and a family pet because of his intelligence and playful disposition. Teddy was shot with a twenty-two rifle. The veterinarian said he had a split pelvic and kept his legs in a cast. This did not overcome Teddy's self-reliance. He simply learned to walk on his front legs with his hind legs in the air. Teddy is back home again, O. K. except for a slight limp.

• Some dogs are kept in the house to give an alarm when anyone approaches. Like certain spice trees they are valued for their bark.

## . . .

# VERBAL HASH

She was a good secretary, but clock-eyed.
It isn't your position that makes you happy; it's your disposition.

• The world is always looking for men to do things that can't be done.

• Character is within a man; reputation is the voice of those who know him.

• There is one thing a good eye specialist cannot do—to make us see ourselves as others see us.

• The years have taught some sweet, some bitter lessons — none wiser than this, to spend all things else, but of old friends to be most miserly.

• I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come by accident; they came by work.—Thomas A. Edison.

# What A Man Is

A man is something that can see a pretty ankle three blocks away while driving a motor car in a crowded city street, but will fail to notice in the wide, open countryside, the approach of a locomotive the size of a schoolhouse and accompanied by a flock of forty-two box cars.

# Mueller Athletes Company's Guests . . .



At the speaker's table. Extreme left at end: Ed Stille, W. S. Enloe, Loyle Davis, Walter Auer. With backs to the wall, left to right: Forest Kile, Robert H. (Bobby) Mueller, Robert Mueller, George Scharein, the peppery shortstop of the Phillies, Adolph Mueller, C. N. Wagenseller, L. J. Wylie, the outstanding baseball man of Decatur. Front row left to right: Joe Brownback, Frank Taylor, Frank H. Mueller, W. E. Behrns, Walter Beck, pitcher for the Phillies, Junior Thompson, pitcher for the Cincinnati Reds, L. W. (Duke) Mueller, Works Manager.

This company promotes athletic activities throughout the year, especially in the summer. A regulation baseball diamond, electrically lighted, at Mueller Heights, provides for inter-factory softball games. In addition there are tennis, croquet, and badminton courts. In winter organized indoor athletics are carried on in the large gymnasium on the factory grounds.

The wind-up of the summer season calls for a big banquet to team and individual winners. This occurred this year on the evening of October 16. About 150 athletes and guests sat down to a fine dinner in the cafeteria, assembling in the gymnasium afterwards for the speaking and awarding of badges.

## Big Leaguers Present

Additional interest was given this affair by the presence of three big leaguers. They were Junior Thompson, pitcher for Cincinnati Reds; Walter Beck, pitcher for the Phillies, and George Scharein, shortstop of the Phillies. They are all residents of Decatur and all rank high in their profession. They were called on and each responded with a few remarks.

There were brief speeches by Robert Mueller, Adolph Mueller, L. J. Wylie, prominent in baseball affairs in Decatur, and L. W. (Duke) Mueller, Works Manager, who presented sixty-six specially made bronze medals. These were emblematic of the various divisions of sport, and each medal carried the name of the recipient.

# Baseball Quiz

One of the features of the evening was the baseball quiz. Twenty questions concerning professional baseball were circulated and of these Walter Behrns and Leo Wiant had the high score of 18 correct answers. They drew for the prize, a new baseball autographed by the three professional players mentioned above. Two women, Mrs. Howard Gragg and Rosalyn Hawkins, made a much better showing than many of the male fans. They answered 14 of the questions correctly.

# The Success Family

The Father of Success is Work;

The Mother of Success is Ambition;

The eldest Son is Common Sense;

Some of the other boys are Perseverance, Honesty, Thoroughness, Foresight, Enthusiasm and Cooperation.

The eldest Daughter is Character.

Some of her sisters are Cheerfulness, Loyalty, Courtesy, Care, Economy, Sincerity and Harmony.

The baby is Opportunity.

Get acquainted with "the old man" and you will get along pretty well with the rest of the family.

-From the writings of Captain Dollar.

# Just One Figure

It takes an income of six figures to get a man in the rotogravure section, but one figure will get a girl there.

# JUNIOR THOMPSON

# Decatur Boy Who Made Good With The Cincinnati Reds

Here is a Decatur boy, the idol of the baseball fans, who has made good in the National League—meet Eugene (Junior) Thompson, pitcher for the Cincinnati Reds, winning 13 games and losing five in the season just closed. He is a son of a former baseball player who began training Junior from boyhood with the one idea in mind, which was to make a big league pitcher out of him. However, Junior had the talent to put on the finishing touches of his early



training. He is spending the winter in his home town, and off the diamond is a modest, unassuming young man.

# Beginning His Career

Junior began his baseball career with Monessen, Pennsylvania, in 1935, playing half the season, winning five games and losing two.

In 1936 he was with Paducah, Kentucky, winning 20 games and losing 8.

In 1937 he was with Peoria until the latter part of July, winning 12 games and losing 7.

Then he was sent to Waterloo, Iowa, in the Western League, but was there only

## NOVEMBER, 1939

five days, when he was sent to Syracuse where he finished the 1937 season.

In 1938 he went south with Syracuse and played on that team until June 7, when he was sent to Columbia, S. C., in the South Atlantic League, where he won 17 games and lost 7.

#### Reaches the Goal

And then came the time that Junior had been looking and waiting for. Cincinnati in 1939 took him south to the training camp. Baseball reporters began taking notice of the coming young pitcher and his name began to appear in the news dispatches. His first year with Cincinnati resulted in Junior winning 13 and losing 5.

While with Columbia, S. C., of the South Atlantic team, he was picked for the All Star team in 1938, and named as the most valuable player on his team for 1938.

# All Star Freshman

During the season just closed with Cincinnati, he was picked for the Freshman's All Star team of the National League.

With a season of National League experience back of him, Junior's Decatur friends and admirers look for great things from him on the mound for the Reds in 1940.

## Two Other Big Leaguers

Walter Beck is another Decatur boy who has made the Big League. Like most boys he loved baseball and as a "kid" showed signs of possessing a promising wing.

Walter played semi-pro ball and finally tied in with the Memphis team for a season. His next step was in big company with St. Louis Browns and Brooklyn, but returned to the minors for further seasoning. Then he signed with the Mission team of the Pacific Coast League and was next on the Seattle team in 1938. Then he suffered an injury which brought him back home until the 1939 season, when he signed with the Phillies and did his share of the pitching throughout the season, and satisfactorily, too, as his signing up for next year indicates.

Another big leaguer of Decatur is George Scharein, whose picture was not available. He plays shortstop for the Phillies, and his record, like the other two, is a creditable one and we expect to see him back in the Phillies' line-up next season.

Many a man who howls for sanitary drinking cups will take a swig out of any old flask he can get hold of.

It is said that a burned child dreads the fire; and a newly married man certainly avoids his old flames.

27

# MORE ABOUT NANTUCKET

# Record's Article Republished In Oldest Weekly In U. S.

In September we published an article with illustrations on the famous island of Nantucket, and this has just been republished in Nantucket's 118 year old newspaper, "The Inquirer and Mirror", by Harry B. Turner. Our correspondence with Editor Turner brings out additional interesting facts about Nantucket.

# Old Time Newspaper Style

The "Inquirer and Mirror" is a large four page paper, nine columns wide, columns 27½ inches deep, compared with "The Decatur Herald", for instance, with its eight columns 20 inches deep.

"The Inquirer and Mirror" adheres to the old time width of columns, 13 picas, while the present day papers adopt the 12 pica width. In addition, "The Inquirer and Mirror" uses a good quality of paper, which prints clearly and distinctly 133 line halftones, such as are used in the Record. This old paper is a "blanket" sheet. According to the American Press Association, the last of its kind. It has never missed an issue since June 23, 1821. "We cling to this make up," says Editor Turner, "notwithstanding the fact that it is the last of its kind. because it has a certain advertising and unique value which is in keeping with Nantucket. The very suggestion of changing the size and make-up of the paper would bring a howl of protest from our readers."

### Early User of Gas

Among others who read the Nantucket article in the Record was Mr. William Mather, manager of the Nantucket Gas and Electric Company. He called attention to the fact that Nantucket has had gas lighted streets and homes since 1854. Today the citizens keep abreast of the marvelous development of the gas industry and use gas for house heating and other purposes.

## Good Old Nantucket

In addition to the beginning of its gas service in 1854, Nantucket installed electricity in 1889, has a modern sewerage system, water supply, motorized fire department, telegraph, long distance telephone, radio compass station, automatic fire alarm system, and in every way is up to date although on an island thirty miles off the coast.

Progressive in every modern need, but still clinging to old memories and ideals.

Good old Nantucket! Don't surrender those memories and ideals. They are too precious!

# STILL CUSS TELEPHONES

# But It's Nothing New—Old Time Editor's Blast Back in 1863

Some still cuss the telephone, heaping imprecation, execration, malediction, anathema and all the rest of resounding synonyms, on the inoffending instrument, but in its perfected stage, there is little justification. But none of us would think of directing this vituperative abuse to that great benefactor of mankind, Alexander Bell. The first man to turn his vocal armament or rather his typographical bird shot against the telephone, was the editor of the Baltimore County Advocate in 1863, according to the esteemed Kalends of Waverly Press, which republishes the following found in the Advocate in the year mentioned.

# The Scoundrel

"A man about forty-six years of age, giving the name of Joshua Coppersmith, has been arrested in New York for attempting to extort funds from ignorant and superstitious people by exhibiting a device which he says will convey the human voice any distance over metallic wires so that it will be heard by the listener at the other end. He calls the instrument a "telephone", which is obviously intended to imitate the word "telegraph" and win the confidence of those who know the success of the latter instrument without understanding the principles on which it is based.

## Editor Decides Off Hand

Well-informed people know that it is impossible to transmit the human voice over wires as may be done with dots and dashes and signals of the Morse Code, and that, were it possible to do so, the thing would be of no practical value. The authorities who apprehended this criminal are to be congratulated, and it is to be hoped that his punishment will be prompt and fitting, that it may serve as an example to other conscienceless schemers who enrich themselves at the expense of their fellow creatures."

# Football

The "football eleven" was first fifteen men. The team was then reduced to twelve members and then to eleven as it now stands.

# Nicotine

Blowing cigarette smoke through a light cloth to determine the amount of nicotine the "cig" contains proves nothing. The yellow stain left is caused by the resinous products that result from combustion in tobacco.

# ANSWER ROLL CALL

Red Cross Always Busy Alleviating Human Suffering



The annual Roll Call of the Red Cross begins November 11 and ends November 30. During that time millions of Americans from coast to coast will be invited to affiliate with their local Red Cross chapters in order thus to help maintain established services, meet new demands as they are made, and carry on an increasing amount of work occasioned by the war in Europe.

One of the primary aims of the Red Cross is to alleviate human suffering, and one of the peace-time services designed to accomplish this in part is instruction in first aid. This work has been going on since 1910 and in that time more than 2,000,000 persons have been taught emergency care of the injured.

Among those receiving this training are the crews of the giant flying boats of the Pan-American Airways. Ground crews and others at many airports the country over have also been instructed in this vital subject.

Much of the Red Cross work is carried on by volunteers. Last year these people produced 890,000 pages of braille reading matter for the blind, 5,000,000 surgical dressings for hospitals in chapter areas, and 350,-000 garments and other supplies for distribution to the needy.

The Gray Ladies of the Red Cross, serving in government hospitals, devoted many an hour to lightening the burdens of veterans and service men confined because of illness. They taught the blind to read, wrote letters for the crippled, and performed many other services that helped speed recovery and make the world seem brighter.

In other fields the Red Cross was active, too. Approximately 100,000 persons were taught how to rescue persons in danger of drowning and how to revive those apparently drowned. Some 60,000 persons were instructed in home care of the ill, while public health nurses of the organization made 1,000,000 calls on behalf of the sick. Much other work engaged members of the Red Cross all over the country.

And all is made possible by the Red Cross membership dollar.

# MYSTERY OF MIGRATION

# Common In Birds, Animals and People But Actuating Reason Unknown

The annual phenomena of migration has been observed since late September. Generally speaking, one thinks of birds when migration is mentioned but all animals have more or less migratory habits. Even the human race is not exempt as the annual "migration" to Florida and California testify.

The phenomena can't be explained. Authorities do not go much farther than to guess the instinct is due to a change of climate and location to a place more suitable for nesting and feeding.

# Birds Lead

Birds of various kinds seem to lead, traveling in large flocks as a rule. Among the smaller specie black birds take a prominent place. In central Illinois in early October they begin leaving their summer homes in the trees for a few days feeding, then all of a sudden as if actuated by the same impulse, thousands of them rise together and with a great clacking head for the south.

# Wild Geese and Ducks

Wild geese and ducks attract the most attention. The "honk, honk" of a flock of geese passing in the night is music to the ears of the sportsmen. The first of the migration of wild geese in this section was just before twilight on Thursday, October 12, when two enormous flocks went over.

This section of Illinois is famous for duck shooting. Statistics just given out estimate that 70,000,000 ducks will pass from their summer home to points south during the migration period. Thousands of these will halt for a time in the Illinois marshes and wild rice swamps.

The arctic tern is said to be the greatest "migrator" of all birds, traveling from the Arctic circle to Patagonia, a distance of 8,000 miles.





#### One Guess Good As Another

Father: "Johnny, what is this '60' on your report card?"

Johnny: "I-I-th-think that's the temperature of the school room."

# Apt Reply

Visitor: "What will you do, my dear, when you get to be as big as your mother?" Bessie: "Diet."

# Take That, Papa

Father: "Do you know that George Washington was at the head of his class when he was your age?"

Son: "Yes, but he was President of the United States when he was your age, Pop."

# May Be Right At That

Jimmy: "Why don't you go to our church?"

Johnnie: "Because we belong to a different abomination."

## Didn't Learn, He Taught

Mamma: "And what did mamma's little baby learn in school today?"

Small Son: "I learned two kids bigger'n I never to call me mamma's little baby again."

# Every Time

School Teacher: "Where do all bad little boys go who do not put their pennies in the missionary box?"

Small Boy: "Please, Miss, to the pictures."

# Right To

"You boys of today want to make entirely too much money. Do you know what I was getting when I married your aunt?"

"No-and I'll bet you didn't, either."

### Inquisitive

Visitor: "Why are you watching me so closely, Robert?"

Bobbie: "I was just waiting to see you tackle your glass of water. Daddy says you drink like a fish."

# You Answer

# Billy: "Daddy!"

Daddy: "One more question, then, only one."

Billy: "How far is it between to and fro."

# A Poser For Uncle

Uncle: "You see, sonny, I always believe in fighting the enemy with his own weapons."

Tommy: "Really. How long does it take you to sting a wasp?"

# Page Popeye

Mama: "Do you know what happens to little girls who tell lies?"

Susie: "Yes! They grow up and tell their little girls that they'll get curly hair if they eat spinach."

# Major Was a Sucker

At a Western Post, a lieutenant transferred from Texas, reported for duty. Upon his arrival the commanding officer said: "Mr. Bush, I have a letter from your former colonel. He tells me that you have one weakness, and that is betting. You must cut that out in this regiment. I won't stand for it. Look at me; you couldn't hire me to make a wager now. What do you bet about anyway?"

"I will bet on anything," said the youngster. "For example, Colonel, I'll bet you \$25 you have a wart on your left shoulder."

"What?" said the colonel. "I'll just take that bet." He pulled off his blouse and his top shirt and displayed a shoulder without a blemish. "There is no wart there," he said. "You lose—give me the money. I hope this will be a lesson to you."

Then he put on his shirt, buttoned up his blouse and dismissed the young officer. Whereupon he sat down and wrote a letter to the colonel in Texas.

"Just as you wrote me, this youngster wasn't in my office two minutes before he bet me \$25 that I had a wart on my left shoulder. Of course he lost. I hope it will be a lesson to him."

In a couple of weeks a reply came from San Antonio:

"The youngster wins. Before he left, he bet me \$100 he would have your shirt off in five minutes after he met you."

# MUELLER RECORD

30

# WORK AND BE HAPPY

# And Pity The Poor Indolent Who Finds No Use For Brain or Brawn

It's the dread of work that makes it work. Viewed in the right light work is play, it's fun, recreation, stimulating and vitalizing to those who accept it in the right spirit. It is healthful, too, in that it calls for the concentration of the mind upon the task at hand. To those who, like Shakespeare's school boy "creeps unwillingly to school," it is drudgery. They belong to a class, which seldom stand forth above or even up to the average in life. It is those who welcome the whistle and greet the day's duties with a smile that earn not only the wages but the satisfaction of having been occupied through the day and go home at night to enjoy an evening of simple pleasure.

## Pity The Idle

The man who faces each day with nothing to engage his mental and physical strength, drooling through unemployed hours, is to be pitied. He belongs to the class who fill hospital cots as victims of nervous prostration. It might better be said as victims of idleness.

Work never hurt anyone. It has made us a nation of strong and virile people, and to thousands has shown the path to happiness, health, and wealth. Those who spin not nor toil contribute nothing to the well being or upbuilding of their country or their fellowmen.

Work whether you want to work or not and you'll find that work not only becomes a habit, which rightly cultivated gives birth to the habit of accumulating money, frequently wealth. This world would be a better and brighter place to live if every man poor or rich had to face each day some stipulated tasks.

There is a fascination in work which makes one put forth efforts to improve the quality of it.

We like to think of work as expressed by Charles Kingsley who said:

## Thank God For Work

"Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance, selfcontrol, diligence, strength of will, content, and a hundred other virtues which the idle never know."

We like the sentiment he expresses, but dislike his use of the phrase "being forced to work." We prefer to look upon work as a privilege and a pleasure rather than compulsory, but are willing to concede the necessity of it, but there is virtues in necessity.

# This The Right Spirit

In closing we make one more quotation, which to our thinking covers the subject of work, in proper spirit.

"We quote from Froebel: "The delusive idea that men merely toil and work for the sake of preserving their bodies, and procuring for themselves bread, houses, and clothes, is degrading and not to be encouraged. The true origin of man's activity and creativeness lies in his unceasing impulse to embody outside himself the divine and spiritual elements within him."

# THE ANNUAL THRILL

# Scientific Toys Will Call On Papa and Mama To Demonstrate

The coming of Christmas is going to give Papa and Mama their annual thrill of showing Johnny and Josey how to operate their new playthings. Instead of the blocks, hobby-horses, and jumping jacks that were given in the days of our childhood, the toys this year will be built on scientific principles according to the foreword of dealers. This will be an added stimulus and a more pressing reason why Papa and Mama will have to show the little ones how to make the playthings work. To us it means additional support of a favorite belief of ours, that we never grow too old to entirely separate ourselves from a childish interest in the things that appeal to children. Stating this in a different way, there is still some of the child left in all of us. Among the scientific toys offered will be a boxed electric eye, a polarized microscope, steam engines, batteries, magnets, chemicals, test tubes, and a wide variety of other miniature toys built on scientific principles. As well as being entertaining, they possess unquestioned edu-cational value. These toys make a strong appeal to the curious minds of children, and do in a small way what the real instruments do in a big way.

Polarized microscopes make possible detection of properties and characteristics that cannot be done otherwise. With it a boy can acquire knowledge as well as entertainment with his plaything, in a much greater volume than he could acquire in study of textbooks at school.

And a little girl with a small stove and kitchen outfit will likewise acquire a knowledege of cooking which would otherwise be deferred until she reached her teens.

# PLUMBING NOTES

The Saturday night bath has been the subject of much ridicule. Primitive as it was it at least had the merit of being better than no bath at all. Now it has won fame, or more ridicule, we know not which, because we did not see the parade, but it was one of the floats in the Veiled Prophet show, St. Louis, last month, and got lots of attention. The Gay Nineties furnished most of the subjects for the parade this year, including ancient automobiles, horse drawn street car, burlesque queens, horse drawn fire engine, campaign parades, Buffalo Bill's Wildwest, baseball player with whiskers and many other features.

Safety razors were looked upon with toleration when introduced, now they are a necessity. So it is with showers. At first a limited number saw their value and convenience and seized upon them. Now everyone wants a shower and no home is complete without two or three of them. They fit in with a modern garage, basement or bath room.

Safety workers frequently point out bath tubs as the most prolific cause of domestic accidents. All wrong if they are speaking of Chicago. The National Safety Council after a study of 4,600 home accidents, point the accusing finger at stairs. Here's the evidence: "The study shows that 23 per cent of all the accidents occurred on stairs and steps, 19 per cent in the yard, 18 per cent in the kitchen, 9 per cent in the living room, 7 per cent on the porch and in the bathroom and 6 per cent in the basement. The remaining 11 per cent occurred in the dining room, bedroom, pantry, vestibule and hallway."

Midsummer sales, the Plumbing and Heating Industry tells us, were 15% in excess of the volume for the corresponding period of a year ago.

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While new construction has furnished the larger part of the plumbing and heating activity there is still a satisfactory volume of modernization work.

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Recently on a local PWA project a local jobber had occasion to deliver to the job several closet combinations and urinals. The watchman signed for the material but when it came to "the battery of urinals," he said: "Here's the urinals o. k .- but where's the battery?"

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