

TESTING OF THE NEW BOY

An Important Informal Occasion at the Edge of the Old Swimming Hole.

The boys knew very well how to take the conceit or vanity out of their comrades. In the summer days all the boys of the village used to gather at a place on the river, known as Thayer's swimming place, about half a mile from the town pump, which was the center from which all distances were measured in those days.

After they came out, the boys would sit on the bank and have a sort of boys' exchange, in which all matters of interest were talked over and a great deal of good natured chaff was exchanged.

Making Musical Instruments. As a large share of the \$1,350,000 import of musical instruments into the United States last year came from Austria, the following note on their manufacture may be of interest.

Musical instruments to the value of \$153,029 were shipped last year from the town of Graslitz, in the Carlsbad consular district, to the United States. In 1905 the shipments amounted to \$112,299 and in 1907 to \$178,910.

The Waste of the Wind.

Everyone who wants a cheap motive force has tried to harness the wind. Every child has made a paper propeller or a windmill. But can it be said that the possible uses of the wind have been as arduously investigated as such recently discovered forces as steam and electricity and gases?

We cannot help thinking that the wind will be more variously employed some day in the same way that probably the problem of laying under contribution the great physical fact of the tides will be solved.

Lattice Screens for Inns.

Many quaint old inns are to be seen in King's Lynn and the sign of the Lattice Inn is one of the oldest in existence. In the olden times the windows of inns were kept open, and in order to hide the revellers within a lattice screen, painted to resemble a window, was placed in the window.

Aeroplanes.

It cannot be urged too strongly that no time should be lost in acquiring flying machines, dirigible balloons as well as aeroplanes, for the military service, and engaging instructors to teach aviation. France, Germany, England and Italy are rapidly training officers in the new means of reconnaissance, and the United States has not yet made a respectable beginning in the business or got beyond the experimental stage.

A Snake in the Grass.

Country Editor—I'm very sorry, Mr. Skipper, that such an error crept into your columns. Mr. Skinner (warmly)—Crest nothing! Such a pleasant insinuation as that was must have wriggled in, by hook!

CHRIST-LIKE COMMON SENSE

Mutual Service the Basis of Confidence and Means Justice, Peace, Plenty and Virtue.

Mutual service is the basis of mutual confidence. Mutual service means justice, peace, plenty, virtue. It means the beginning at least of that mutual love which is the crown and glory of the divine life of a perfect humanity.

CORONATIONS OF OLD DAYS

Quaint Ceremonials That Formerly Were Observed at the Banquet in Westminster Hall.

Westminster hall saw some picturesque pageants at old-time coronations. Among these, according to a writer in the Queen, was a coronation banquet, at which were observed some quaint ceremonials. The first course was brought into the hall with much courtly splendor.

These three, with many other attendants, escorted the gentlemen pensioners, who bore the hot dishes for the king's own eating. At this banquet cups of wine were offered by the lord mayor of London and by the mayor of Oxford; the lord of the manor of Lynton presented a plate of wafers, and another lord of a manor gave three cups of maple unto his sovereign.

Ancient Discourse.

The vicar was a very old man. He had been in the parish forty-two years. During his last year the curate was practically in charge of the services, but now and then, when he was able, he occupied the pulpit. His eyesight was bad, and he was altogether unfit to compose fresh sermons, so had to fall back on old ones.

The Man in the Stocks.

Thomas Hardy lived to see many changes in his native Wessex. "I have seen with my own eyes things that many people believe to have been extinct for centuries. I have seen men in the stocks. I remember one perfectly when I was very young. I can see him now, sitting in the scorching sunshine with the flies crawling over him."

The Main Requisite.

A pale, intellectual looking chap, wearing eyeglasses and unshorn hair, visited an athletic instructor not long ago and asked questions until the diplomatic athlete finally became weary.

This Commercial Age.

"Are you acquainted with him at all?" "Only in a business way. I married his daughter."—Spokesman-Review.

WHERE TUBS PRECEDE BOOKS

Denmark School Children Must Bathe Before They File in for Prayers and Recitations.

Denmark is one of the cleanest countries imaginable. In a Copenhagen public school one may see an interesting sight. Mounting the spotless stone staircase to the first flight every morning you may see at eight o'clock the children assemble and answer to their names and then march to a dressing room. Here they undress, and each child neatly folds its clothes and puts the tidy bundle on the floor.

Of course the boys and girls are washed separately, and they perform this ablution by grade, the tiniest ones coming first. The floor of the wash room is of cement and in the center is a latticed wooden floor. Around the top of the walls runs a nickel shower pipe, the water of which is regulated by the teacher.

Each child puts his or her tub under the faucet and pours the necessary amount of water into it and proceeds to scrub—not himself or herself—but the child in front. When all are clean the teacher turns on the showers and they are all thoroughly rinsed with first hot and then cold water.

WILL BUILD RUSSIAN CANAL

Minimum Depth of Proposed Canal Between Black and Baltic Seas to Be Fourteen Feet.

A committee has been formed at St. Petersburg to prepare for the construction of a canal between the Black Sea and the Baltic. The engineering project, which has been prepared by M. Rugetschel, is to build a canal with a minimum depth of 14 feet.

The total length of the canal from Riga to Kherson is 2010 versts, a verst measuring 3,501 feet. Of this 485 versts would follow the bed of the West Dvina from Riga to the village of Breshenkovichi. From there the canal would follow a new route for 95 versts, joining the Dnieper at the town of Kopius. For the remaining 1,520 versts the Dnieper would be utilized, except at the rapids, where a new canal would have to be excavated.

The cost of the canal is estimated at \$150,000,000. The plan is to raise money by bonds on the foreign market, but to exclude foreigners from holding any of the share capital. The government is to be asked for a guarantee, and only Russian labor, material and machinery are to be used.

He Bailed on the Constitution.

John Lowe, who once was a member of the crew of the historic frigate Constitution, has died at his home in Portsmouth, N. H., after a short illness. He was born in New York January 9, 1824. When he was seventeen years old both of his parents died. After a limited amount of schooling he learned the trade of a stone mason, but in 1853 he enlisted in the Marine Corps at Brooklyn navy yard and after a short stay at the yard barracks was assigned to the Constitution, then commanded by Commodore Isaac Mayo.

Great in More Ways Than One.

"One peculiarity of automobiles that I don't remember to have heard mentioned," said a man who had just sent a suit of clothes to the cleaner, "is found in their great ability as mud and slush splashers. An ordinary narrow rimmed wheel cuts into mud and slush and doesn't scatter either so much, but the broad, round faced tire of an automobile moving rapidly throws wide sheets and sprays far out from its wheels. When you see an automobile coming swiftly along a muddy or slushy street you want to stand back—way back. This I have learned by experience."

MUST PAY OWN TAILOR BILL

Uncle Sam Willing to Pay for Statues, but He Positively Will Not Crease Man's Trousers.

Chicago.—Uncle Sam's solicitude that the public buildings and drives of the national capital shall be maintained in the most artistic and approved style does not extend to his public men.

He is willing to spend millions for capital city plans, for guaranteeing that the Washington of the future shall be patterned after the most careful and exact designs, but when it comes to paying money to make certain that the trousers of the government officials are properly creased and their cloths in as apple-pie order as the capital's streets, he draws a distinct and impassable line.

And it remained for Daniel H. Burnham of Chicago, master city planner and chairman of the fine arts commission, to find it out. Incidentally he raised a question as to what are legitimate traveling expenses and what are not that is likely to cause a warm debate before it is settled.

Some weeks ago Chairman Burnham of the commission left Chicago and went to Washington to attend a meeting of the fine arts commission. Anxious as its chief, to uphold the aesthetic and refined nature of this organization, he found on unpacking his wardrobe that many of his clothes were in imperative need of a presser before they would be in shape to do credit to the vista of Pennsylvania avenue.

Without giving the matter a second thought he turned the tailor's bill with his railway ticket and Pullman expense, over to the treasury department expecting to be reimbursed. The bill amounted to \$4.75, and the auditor certified it as a matter of course.

Not so, however, Comptroller Tracwell—who can, on occasion, be considerable watch dog of the treasury. Mr. Tracwell scrutinized the bill, repeated the performance, and then after some deep thought wrote out a formal opinion as follows:

KEEP PINK LAMPS LIGHTED

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett on Cheerfulness—Greatest of Qualities Except Love.

Boston.—"Forget your devils and keep your pink lamps lighted. A pink lamp always makes everything look lovely. I am the disciple of happiness. Be happy and you will be good. Unhappiness is the world's greatest evil. Unhappiness is indecent."

So said Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, the novelist, in talking her religion of cheerfulness. "Cheerfulness," she said, "is the religion of which I am the apostle. It is the greatest of qualities except love. Love is the biggest thing in the world."

"People should forget their devils and keep their pink lamps lighted. That is a little word among my friends. So we'll tell each other all the nice things whenever we can. You must sacrifice everything to happiness. If you are happy you know you are bound to be good, for you can't be happy unless you are good."

"People who believe in an inferno for evildoers do not belong to this age. They don't belong to the time when people walk on two legs. They ought to go back to the days when the man on earth went about on all fours."

"There's fine power in suggestion. Just keep thinking lovely things about your personal devil and you'll come out all right. Every time your belief in a devil gets uppermost in your mind, why, say there is none, and keep repeating it. You will find it a splendid practice and you will soon convince yourself."

Mrs. Burnett then digressed to personal habits and said, on the subject of cigarette smoking by women, that the question was a personal one, and each woman must decide for herself whether she wished to smoke.

AROUND THE WORLD ON BET

Accomplished Woman to Girdle Globe on Wager That She Couldn't Do It—Her Plans.

New York.—Starting from her home in Glen Ellen, Cal., with \$200, Mrs. Hilda Gilbert, authoress, musician, dramatist and the other day for Gibraltar on the Minnetonka, with the intention of girdling the globe with what additions to her funds her abilities as an entertainer may bring her. She is making the trip as the result of a wager with Mr. and Mrs. Jack London that she can "make her own way" around the world.

Mrs. Gilbert is the daughter of G. H. Meyer, a wealthy manufacturer of Buffalo, and could easily make the trip in luxurious style if she so desired. She intends to give guitar and mandolin concerts in all parts of the civilized world.

New Tango Dance in Paris.

Paris.—A new dance has become the fashion in the drawing rooms of Paris this winter.

It comes from Buenos Ayres, and is called the "Argentine Tango." The music is a kind of habanera, and the dance itself, which is extremely graceful, is an improved version of the Berlin polka, with ten varied figures. A roomful of people dancing the Argentine tango looks extremely pretty, and there is little doubt that the new dance will soon find its way to the United States.

FARM PAYS IN PHILIPPINES.

American Who Started on Small Scale in Islands is Rapidly Growing Wealthy.

Manila.—Three years ago an American landed in Manila with a capital of \$76 and a theory. The American was J. H. Christen, the capital was cash and the theory was that any able-bodied man with the right stuff in him could make more than a bare living out of God's green earth, coupled with steady, hard work, irrespective of country, people or climate. There were plenty of people here to tell him, both in an official and unofficial capacity, that farming on a small scale and without capital was impossible for a foreigner in the Philippine islands, but Christen stuck to his theory, and as a result has a property valued at more than \$5,000, which is now beginning to yield "velvet," as the saying is. The story of Mr. Christen's success is interesting in that it shows some of the difficulties that the American pioneer in the agricultural field over here has to contend with.

Mr. Christen first took up a homestead of forty acres, the limit allowed by law, on the Polillo river, in Rizal Province. He built a house with his own hands and planted out crops of garden truck. The crops were coming along nicely when a flood of October 26, 1907, devastated the surrounding country and ruined every plant on his place. Instead of giving up, then and there, as many others would have done, Mr. Christen made an application to the bureau of lands to have his homestead rights transferred to another tract of land, and the application being granted, he moved to a tract on Talm Island, in Rizal Province, situated in Cuso Canyon. He chose this locality because the hills surrounding it seemed to offer good protection from the elements.

During the first year he worked on an average sixteen hours each day and lived on the products of his land only. When he began his enterprise he weighed 219 pounds. At the end of a year he weighed only 160. But he had at least something to show for his labors. His rooster and hen had increased to a flock of more than a hundred chickens, and he had several acres under cultivation which promised to yield good results. The second year's work was not so hard, and the yield of his first crop was put right back into the farm, in the shape of additional live stock, imported seeds and plants and general improvements.

Now, at the end of three years, Mr. Christen has 700 chickens, a number of ducks, guinea fowls, turkeys, hogs, rabbits and goats, and more than 5,000 producing plants. Among these plants are 1,500 clusters of banana trees, yielding some choice market varieties, 50 orange and lemon trees, 1,500 kapok trees, 1,000 Hawaiian papaya trees and 75 para rubber trees, besides beds of almost every variety of garden truck.

FLOWER SALADS ARE LOVELY

French Chef Declares Those Who Don't Try Roses Know Not What They Are Missing.

London.—Why do not English people eat chrysanthemum petals, rose leaves, snowdrop roots, nasturtium flowers and acorns?

London misses many remarkable favors owing to its conservative taste, in the opinion of a famous French chef.

"In France," he said, "people eat frogs' legs and snails, and these English people know about, but will not touch."

"They might, however, try nasturtium flowers in their salads. They are very wholesome, and their taste very well and look very nice, too."

"Then there are snowdrop roots, which are said to be highly nutritious and to make a better 'sleep' than orchis root (a sleep, you know, is a sort of salad made from orchis root)."

"In Turkey the women eat rose leaves made into a confection with sugar, and very nice it is. Rose jam is also good. You can, I believe, get it in England, but not easily."

"Then, why not try the petals of chrysanthemums? They make most excellent salad and they can be made to look very well, for they are of all colors."

"How many English people have heard of the acorns which grow on the small oak of southern Europe and Asia?"

"It grows, for instance, in Greece, where it is called exina. The acorn of it is very good to eat if boiled or roasted, and a delicious 'coffee' can be made of them. But the English people say, 'Are we swine to eat acorns?'"

"Then for the poor people there is a very large round gourd largely used in France. It is called 'patron,' and it makes splendid soup, or it can be cooked in a pie with rice. It is cheap and most nourishing."

Rose leaf or orange blossom jam, and jamine jelly were also mentioned, by this chef as being distinctly worth eating.

Heats Square Mile Orchard.

Kansas City, Mo.—To heat a square mile of orchard with oil stoves sounds improbable, but that is what W. H. Underwood of Hutchinson, Kan., will do this spring. Mr. Underwood, who is a fruit grower, is in Kansas City directing the manufacture of 19,500 stoves. These stoves, each of which has a reservoir which holds ten gallons of oil, will be placed in his apple orchard near Hutchinson to prevent damage to the trees by frost.

PARROT A DIPLOMATIC BIRD

Feathered Pet of Belgian Crown Prince With American Minister in Three Capitals.

Brussels.—There is in the Laeken palace a Brazilian parrot which enjoys the rare distinction of having been a diplomatic bird in the American legation at Rio Janeiro, Lisbon and Brussels before finally becoming the royal pet of Crown Prince Leopold of Belgium.

It is a fine specimen of the Amazon bird, with rich yellow and blue colorings, and was acquired by Charles Page Bryan during his stay as American minister in Brazil.

The bird was Mr. Bryan's favorite pet and accompanied him to Lisbon when he was promoted to that post, where it occupied the place of honor in the marble hallway of the Palais For, the sumptuous quarters of the American legation in that city.

It had hardly been installed in Brussels when Colonel Roosevelt paid this city a flying visit last April. A regimental band hired by the burgomaster to welcome the African hunter was playing in front of the legation, and the parrot, whose musical instincts were suddenly awakened, insisted upon competing with the band to the delight of the waiting crowd in the street.

The competition soon grew so fierce that the bird was relegated to a secluded spot in the attic before Colonel Roosevelt's arrival, but it figured prominently in all the papers the next day as among the nobilities present at the reception.

The bird's fame spread rapidly and reached Prince Leopold's ears. When Minister Bryan heard of the young prince's interest in the bird he immediately gave it to him.

During the first few days it was treated as an honored guest in King Albert's study at Laeken, but it was so talkative and so frequently interrupted royal councils that it was removed to Prince Leopold's playroom.

BEEF SECURED FROM MEXICO

Shipments Are Now Coming Out of Chihuahua to the United States in Great Quantities.

Chihuahua, Mex.—The shipment of cattle from this country to different parts of the United States is constantly on the increase, and during the past week two herds were shipped to California, one of them occupying 40 cars and the other 29 cars. The former of these shipments went to Fresno, the other to San Diego, both herds being shipped from ranches in Sonora. During the past season large numbers of cattle have been shipped from this district, the bulk of them going to the big cattle markets in Missouri.

All cattle shipped from this country are thoroughly inspected, both on the ranches and again when they reach the border, and the inspections at the ranches, while it is not recognized by the government at the border, is so thorough that it is very seldom that a herd, when it has been once inspected on the ranch, fails to pass the government inspection on the border.

According to the rules of inspection, when a herd has once been turned back at the border, or has been condemned at the ranch, no more cattle will be accepted for export from that ranch for a period of six months, after this time another inspection may be had; if the cattle pass inspection the shipping may be renewed.

The constant decrease in the cattle ranges of Texas has given a great boom to that industry in this country, and there are numerous cattle ranches moving over the border and locating in Mexico, where sufficient range land may still be obtained.

BEAUTY IN LOCUSTS' WINGS

Rare Relic of Seventeen Year Pest Owned by Pennsylvania Man is Quite Artistic.

Bethlehem, Pa.—James O. Kichline, a veteran resident of North Bethlehem, has a unique relic of the invasion in 1885 of the seventeen-year locusts in this vicinity. When locusts there he spent his spare time gathering the insects. Then, at his leisure, he constructed out of them a wreath and a star. He took a year to do this, and in the construction of the wreath used many thousands of locusts.

The wreath itself is composed entirely of locusts' wings, arranged in flower-and-leaf fashion. The star's center is also composed of locusts' wings, while the six points are made of whole locusts.

The background of the star is made of leaves of locust wings.

The wreath and star stand two feet high by three feet wide, and this piece is but one of the many novelties made during his lifetime by Mr. Kichline, who is seventy-four years old.

New Hair Twist a Wonder.

New York.—There is a new coiffure in town. The Pike's Peak twist made its entree along the Great White Way the other night. If it floats into some theater the man being had better either go to sleep or equip himself with a pair of stilts.

The Pike's Peak twist rises straight up from the dome of the head in a sort of leaning tower of puffs. It made by hand it looks like a day's job. The hair is built up in a mass about 14 inches high, with the split, bandage girdling it up and then a bunch of feathers shaft the bow to give it some thickness.