

NO USE FOR WALKING STICK

Average American, in Hustle of Life, Has No Time for Unnecessary Cargo.

Now that we are reminded of it, we realize that the great American people are seldom seen to possess a walking stick.

The idea is, of course, fantastic with the fantasy of transpantine common sense. The hustle of life surely extends to travel in the case of a nation which would consider itself degraded if it spent longer than a week in a complete journey through Europe.

No. The walking stick is a matter purely of personal choice. Most Americans chance to feel no need for a walking stick whereas we do.

TROUT FISHING AT NIGHT

Full Instructions Are Given by the Greatest of All Anglers, Izaak Walton.

You are to know there is night as well as day fishing for a trout; and that in the night the best trout come out of their holds.

Strength in Advancing Age.

To Hugo the years that bend and weaken and weaken the genius of the master seem but to bring fresh strength and energy and beauty.

Fascination About Paper.

Chinese rice paper, said Lord Redcliffe in his address before the Royal Photographic Society, had no rice whatever in its composition.

An Author's Insight.

There is no surer mark of genius than the intuitive insight into character and social conditions which the author has no personal experience.

THE LEGEND OF THE LARK

Very Pretty Tale Found in Folk Lore of the Aborigines of Japan.

The Alnu (the aborigines of Japan) have many legends about birds, one of which is very pretty. It is thus given by a recent writer:

The skylark used to live in heaven. One day the God in heaven sent him down to the earth with a message for the gods who reside here, telling him to return the same day.

AT THE TOP OF THE HEAP

Champion Hot Spender and Cutup Found at Pittsburg Amusement Park.

"Talk about your hot spenders and regular dare-devil cutups," said a Pittsburg motorman, "but I saw the champion Coal Oil Johnny of the lot at an amusement park the other day.

"O, I got the price," he shouted, "and don't you think I haven't." And he hauled out a handful of small change. I insisted on his going to the back end and he put up an awful argument and got all fussed up.

Literature for Criminals.

Scientific burglary is perhaps practical to a greater extent in America than in England. They have even a literature on the subject which the police find difficult to suppress.

One by a celebrated chemist incidentally divulges secrets that would make the fortune of a forger. Another by a well-known lawyer describes an infallible means of proving an alibi.

An Airboat.

The aeroplane is an airboat rather than a flying machine, says St. Nicholas. The only action of the bird that it imitates is the bird's soaring.

AS TO PRAISING OF MEN

One Man Who, Grown Older, Has Changed His Views on This Somewhat.

"I used to think," said a man now older than he was, "that no man ought ever to be praised, that it was up to every man to do his duty and to work to the best of his ability without praise or coddling."

"You have to use discrimination about this, I will admit. There are men who, if you praise them, get a swelled head, throw out their chests and think they are the whole works and straightway begin to deteriorate or to require praise all the time, but there's an astonishing number of men of quite another sort."

"I know lots of men who work not only faithfully but well, men devoted to duty who take a pride in what they do whatever it may be and who think of that only, never looking for praise; but, like the rest of us, they are still human. And now suppose some day such a man pulls off a job that is really a little better than his daily good work?"

"Why, what I feel like doing and what I do now is to say to him, 'Billy, it was a good thing,' and I find it does no harm, but on the contrary I used to think that it was up to a man to do his duty and that if he didn't he was a poor sort, and as far as that's concerned I think that way now, but then does no harm, and it may be for the man that gets it a source of very great comfort and pleasure."

AS DONE IN THE DAKOTAS

Drummer Digs Up Price, but Objects to One Family Hogging Everything.

"I don't exactly like the way they do things in North Dakota," said the Chicago drummer as he was asked about business in the west.

"It's social and mercantile mixed together. For instance, I admired a young lady in one of the villages out there. I called her 'honey.' I called her thus because her real name was Samantha. You wouldn't call me one you loved 'Samanth,' would you?"

"My admiration grew cold, and she sued me for breach of promise. They said that calling her 'honey' was the same as asking her to be my wife. Quicker country, eh? I should smile. The girl served the papers on me herself. I skipped, and she was deputized as a constable to overhaul me. She did it. Come to find out her father was the jailer, and she came and looked at me through the cold, cold bars."

"The only man in town who might have pulled me out was her cousin. The only lawyer was her brother-in-law. The judge of the circuit court was her old uncle. I had no show, and had to come down."

Paid a Ghost's Debt.

An amusing story of an old woman's superstition came before Judge Drummond at Ballisborough, county Cavan, in the course of an action brought by Miss Anne Brady against a local farmer named Connell.

The plaintiff said that in June last the defendant told her that the ghost of her brother Phil who had been dead 25 years, was haunting her because he forgot to pay defendant 70 shillings he owed him. The witness was frightened and paid the money, which the defendant swore on "the poker and tongs" was due. The defendant said, after Phil died, walked nine miles to the wake to see if he could get an opportunity of mentioning the debt, but he was not given a chance.

How Clouds Are Colored.

The color of a cloud depends on the manner in which the sunlight falls upon it and the position of the observer. It will be noticed that high clouds are always white, or light in color, and this is because the light by which they are seen is reflected from the under surface by the numberless drops of moisture which go to form the cloud.

Proved.

The Cook—Sure, an' ye don't mane to jell me that ye think it's bad luck to break a mirror? The New Maid (earnestly)—Ay don't tank it—Ay know it! The Cook—Glory be! An' how do ye know it? The New Maid—Every time Ay break one Ay lose my job!

HAPPINESS IN IDEAL STATE

It is Relative Thing, Depending on Environment, Previous Conditions and Status of Mind.

Happiness is the supreme object of man largely, we may suppose, because it is an ideal state, which few beings have attained except for short periods in their existence. Perhaps this is because happiness is a relative thing, depending on environment, previous conditions, and the status of the individual's mind.

Happiness depends on one's training, and still more on the natural tendencies of a person. One man finds delight in books, in earnest study all his life; another finds joy in the open, communing with nature. One holding money before him as the great goal obtains comparative happiness in obtaining it. Another finds in the love of wife and children even greater happiness, albeit he have but the simple means of living. Ingersoll would rather have been the poor peasant tilling in his rocky fields for bread than Napoleon with all his glory.

THREAD USED BY SURGEONS

Time Has Proven That Catgut is Only Material for Buried Sutures.

When Lister first advocated the employment of catgut as a material for ligatures, numerous writers pointed out the objections, both theoretical and practical, to the use of this substance. But time has seen a change and many surgeons at the present time maintain that the only suitable material for a buried suture is catgut, and that silk should never be employed except for skin sutures.

In this, as in so many other points, the surgeon is greater than the detail. It is certain that millions of silk sutures have been inserted in the deep tissue, and have not cut their way out for if a suture does make its way to the surface it is probably always because it was septic.

Novel Way to Raise Money.

To raise a considerable amount of money with very little trouble is to form a story chain, for a winter, says Martha London, in Women's Home Companion.

"A group of ten women meet at the home of one of them on an afternoon and one reads aloud a story, something worth listening to, like 'The Toy Shop' or 'The Man Without a Country' or any of the best short stories; then tea is served and perhaps there is a little music. Each person present pays an admission fee of 25 cents. In the course of the ten guests give a similar tea at her home and the same programme is followed, and each of these guests gives a tea; when this has been done three or four times the chain comes to an end, but the treasury is filled."

For Sleeplessness.

Lack of proper ventilation often causes sleeplessness. Many hills of mankind have been blamed on the "draught" and while to mothers, it seems a bad policy to bring up a child with the draught-of-air fear always present in mind, it is not advisable to sleep with the air blowing directly over the body. But there should be plenty of air in the room. Wear a nightcap, if you are afraid of a cold in the head, and place a screen in front of the window. That will protect the body and yet allow a free current of air through the room. If you are sleepless, fill the lungs with fresh air, breathe deeply and rhythmically, and soon you will fall asleep. A cup of hot milk and long, deep breaths of fresh air are better sleep inducers than drugs.

No Chance for Leak.

Huntington Wilson, assistant secretary of state, is a great admirer of Jim Smithers, chief of the telegraph corps at the White House, who handles all confidential telegrams sent by the president concerning affairs of state or politics.

One day he was asked what the chances were of Smithers ever letting any of the official secrets leak out. "I think if anybody suggested that," he replied, "Smithers would smother him to smithereens."—The Sunday Magazine.

SPARE MINUTE FOR THE EYES

Nothing Gives Eyes Such Complete Rest as Habit of Closing Them Occasionally.

If you will spare a minute every half hour to the eyes they may be spared to you many years in consequence.

A well-known oculist declares nothing gives the eyes such complete rest as the habit of closing them occasionally for a minute or two. In threatened cases of eyestrain he has sometimes advised no other cure and the patient has recovered his normal sight.

Where one uses the eyes constantly, especially for close work, as the woman who does fine sewing, embroidery or painting, the relief to eyes of lifting them from the work and closing them while one slowly counts twenty-five cannot be overestimated. Another rest is to change the point of vision from time to time. Look away from what you are doing and gaze blankly into space. Do not attempt to concentrate on anything, merely look out of the window or into a distant corner of the room.

Do not begrudge the time for this eye resting. It is the best sort of investment you can make and will not take half as much time or money as visits to the oculist.

INTRODUCTION ANNOYED HER

Haughty Little Miss Shows Her Regretment When Presented to a Terrier.

There is a little East End girl, still under six, who reaches the limit in the matter of sensitiveness. Likewise, she has her points in respect to dead-ness. She was taken out to Lakewood about a week ago to spend a few days with her aunt. The little Miss played around in front of her aunt's place for awhile. Then her aunt let a playful young terrier into the yard, saying to the child:

"This is your little four-footed cousin." Five minutes later the aunt returned to the front yard to call the kid into the house, but she wasn't anywhere to be seen. The fox terrier was playing alone. There was a scrambling hunt for the child, and all kinds of alarm, but the little girl didn't turn up. The aunt hustled to town. The little girl was home with her mother.

"She had walked right to the car for town as soon as the fox terrier pup was presented to her. "Why didn't you stay at aunt's?" her mother asked her in surprise. "She introduced me to a dog," replied the haughty little person.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Prayer Ten Centuries Old.

Among the documents and manuscripts taken by the Peilout mission of France from a cave in Chinese Turkestan, where they had lain during ten centuries, is a French manuscript recited by the French Academy of Sciences. The manuscript is in one of the oldest known Hebrew texts. It is a prayer formed of passages taken from the Psalms and from the prophets, written in beautiful square Hebrew, with a very rudimentary system of vocalization.

Evidently the manuscript was carried on the person of the man who owned it. Hebrew scholars believe that the document dates from the eighth or ninth century of the Christian era, and that it belonged to a pious Jewish merchant of Arabia. No such paper was known in Arabia in either the eighth or ninth century, therefore it is supposed that the manuscript was transcribed for its owner when he was in China, where such paper was to be found.—Harper's Weekly.

Counteracting Lack of Sunshine.

A house built in Brooklyn was designated, as far as could be, to counteract the lack of sunlight, which the house's situation made unavoidable. The chief means for giving the impression of sunshine were yellow tinted walls and amber glass skylights. Moseley in the yellow tones was avoided because the location of each room offered some peculiar problem which was best solved by a tint different from that of the rest of the house. It is said that even on gray days there was enough of the stimulating effect of sunshine to prevent dull spirits, and the effect of the design on the health of the occupants was most beneficial.

Bank With Royal Depositors.

The English banking world is congratulating itself upon the receipt of a large and acceptable account. In fact, King Manuel of Portugal has honored the house of Coutts on the Strand with the deposit of his private fortune, and England is so much richer for Manuel's loss. This firm of Coutts is a remarkable establishment, by the way, for it has attracted the patronage of nearly all the royalty which has had occasion to leave money in London. Every English king from George II. to the present George has kept his wealth in their vaults, and Louis Philippe, the shah of Persia and Leopold of Belgium have all patronized the Coutts.

How It Looked to Him.

Mrs. Dresser was looking over the floor's bill. "How many pounds are there in a peck, Henry?" she asked. Her husband looked up from his newspaper. "Are you trying to figure out the weight of your latest cologne, my dear?" he asked.

CEMENT COTTAGES FOR POOR

Method for Construction of Cheap but Substantial Homes for Working Classes.

London.—Two neat little tiled cottages at Newlands Corner, near Guildford, stand for a practical and successful effort to deal with one of the most pressing questions of English rural life—the problem of cheap housing.

In building these comfortable, well ordered dwellings for two of his undergardens at a cost for the two of \$1,500, St. Leo Strachey, editor of the Spectator, has justified the faith which he publicly expressed and which moved him to promote the Cheap Cottage exhibition at Letchworth in 1905.

The argument which Mr. Strachey then advanced and has now established is this: The agricultural laborer cannot afford to pay more than \$1.50 a week house rent out of his wages. Any improvement in his dwelling above that standard must ordinarily be provided by philanthropy. The obvious way to cope with this situation is to cheapen the cost of construction.

This Mr. Strachey, in co-operation with a local builder, has done, by using for the walls of his cottage concrete blocks made in molds on the spot. The ground floors of the cottages have a scullery, a pantry and a large kitchen sitting room, from which an open staircase leads picturesquely to the upper story of three bedrooms.

As Mr. Strachey points out, this extraordinarily low cost of \$1,500 for a pair of cottages—\$2,250 is the figure usually accepted—has been reached not only by the employment of cheap material but by rigid exclusion of showy and unnecessary ornament, by dispensing with an architect and by leaving only a small margin for builder's profit. At the same time he maintains that his experiment has shown that it would be possible for any country landlord to house his people at the same cost by employing the labor and material of his estate. Further, Mr. Strachey asserts, the addition of \$50 to the sale value of the cottages would turn them into a profitable venture for the commercial builder.

MONKEY MADE LOVE TO GIRL

She Boxes His Ears When He Tries to Kiss Her—Simitan Stares Her and Lands in Jail.

Paris.—As 20 work girls came out of a dressmaker's shop in the Rue Boileau at midday an arm encircled the waist of one of them.

The girl protested indignantly. The too-gallant intruder was well dressed in a frock coat, gray trousers, top hat, patent leather boots and wore smart gray suede gloves. But he was a hideous little person.

The girls began making fun of him, when suddenly he caught hold of one and put his face close to hers. She boxed his ears, and he dropped on all fours and bit her leg.

There was a panic. The girls rushed off shrieking, and two policemen arrested the aggressor. The creature was a chimpanzee—the pet of an explorer living near at hand. He was captured after a struggle, and carried off by his master's cook, who went to fetch him at the police station, where he had spent the night.

An amusing item of the story is that the police magistrate got very angry with the monkey when he was first brought in because he refused to answer any questions and turned his back on the official table.

SQUIRRELS HURT THE CROPS

Maine Farmers Turn Upon Little Pets of Law and Want "Peaky Things" Extirminated.

Leviston, Me.—The State of Maine is overrun with gray squirrels, according to reports received at the office of the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game. Thousands of dollars worth of damage has been done to the crops and in some places whole cornfields have been completely destroyed. Farmers are flooding the office of Chairman Brackett of the Fish and Game Commission with petitions asking for protection.

Two years ago a state law was passed making it illegal to hunt and kill gray squirrels. As a result the squirrels have multiplied rapidly and have become tame and destructive. Until the special law was passed gray squirrels were classed as "game animals" and each fall were hunted by the gunners. The farmers who two years ago petitioned the legislature to pass a law to protect the "little peaky" now have their dander up and declare they want every one of the "peaky things" killed off. In some instances the farmers have defied the law and with loaded guns have watched their cornfields from early day until late at night.

The Commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game have promised to do everything in their power to have the law repealed at the next session of the legislature.

Output of Alaskan Gold.

Seattle, Wash.—More than \$10,000,000 worth of gold has been received by the United States assay office here since the first of the year, according to a statement by the assayer. The receipts from January 1 to November 1 from Alaska and British-American mines is given as \$10,507,821.94. Of this \$9,399,109.78 came from Alaska, \$9,828,296.03 from British Columbia and \$97,021.75 from the Yukon territory. Other sources in Canada contributed \$44,994.41.