

New News of Yesterday

by E. J. Edwards

Famous Quarrel Explained

Hitherto Unpublished Version of the Real Cause of Thomas C. Platt's Resignation From the Senate Given by E. J. Edwards.

In a recent number of a popular magazine the late Thomas C. Platt tells, in his autobiography, his version of the situation that led him and Roscoe Conkling to resign from the United States senate a few weeks after President Garfield had sent to that body the nomination of Judge William H. Robertson as collector of the port of New York. In one place the senator says that when he learned that the man who had been instrumental in defeating the Grant movement for a third-term nomination had been favored by the president without the knowledge and approval of the New York senators, who had fought for Grant's nomination, he, Platt, walked over to Conkling and exclaimed: "I shall send my resignation to Governor Cornell tonight." Then the two went into conference, Conkling insisting "that we should wait and fight it out in the committee to which the Robertson nomination had been referred." But, "I finally induced Conkling, on May 14, to join me in offering our joint resignations."

Why did Senator Platt not desire to "fight it out in the committee" to which this nomination, which was so distasteful to him, had been referred? Because "we have been so humiliated as United States senators from the great state of New York," is the reason he gives. That may have been the reason in part, perhaps, but as the belief is quite general in old-time national political circles that Senator Platt did not reveal all he knew about the Robertson incident in his autobiography, I am telling today a hitherto unpublished version of the real reason of Platt's resignation, and I tell it on the authority of the late Col. John R. Van Wormer.

"The real, and not the ostensible reason of Mr. Platt's resignation from the United States senate dates back to the closing days of 1880 and the first days of 1881 when, prior to the Republican legislative caucus at Albany, the party leaders were busily engaged in trying to determine upon the man to succeed Francis K. Roan, a Democrat, in the United States senate," said Colonel Van Wormer. "That legislature was Republican by a safe majority, and, therefore, Mr. Kernan could not be re-elected.

"Now, there was a strong element of

the party in favor of the election of Richard Crowley, who had represented one of the New York districts in congress for a number of years. 'Dick' was a very popular man. He was a very strong Etalwart, the name of the party faction headed by Conkling.

"But there was a wing of the party, under the leadership of Chauncey Depew, which, while not exactly opposed to Senator Conkling, was disposed to be friendly to Judge William H. Robertson, who had taken such a leading part in blocking Conkling's plans for a third-term nomination for Grant. This Depew-led wing was rather favorably disposed towards the nomination of Tom Platt for senator.

"But when we who were backing Crowley heard that Levi P. Morton, who, it was thought at that time, would be secretary of the treasury under Garfield, looked with favor upon Platt's candidacy, we at last had a meeting with Platt. At that meeting we told him that if he would pledge himself not to make any war upon Judge Robertson for upsetting the Stewart's plan to nominate Grant—that he would not encourage any further factional disturbances in the party—we would throw the Crowley support to him, and thus assure him of the

senatorial nomination and election.

"It would be impossible to conceive of any more earnest assurances than Mr. Platt then gave us. He declared he was sick and tired of factional disturbance and wanted to bring about a general reconciliation, and with that pledge made to us Mr. Platt was able to secure a sufficient number of votes to place him in the United States senate.

"A few weeks after Mr. Platt had taken his seat, President Garfield, unknown to the senator, sent to the senate the nomination of Judge Robertson as collector of the port of New York.

"Tom Platt was in a fix. I have heard that the night following the announcement of the nomination he did not sleep a wink. He had more to be worried about than Senator Conkling, even, for there was that pledge to us old Crowley men. It was that that bothered Tom Platt most, and it was that that finally forced him to reach his unalterable determination to resign. 'I can't vote to confirm Robertson's appointment,' was his conclusion. 'But, on the other hand, I am under pledge to those who made my election as senator possible not to oppose that appointment with my vote. I am between two fires. There is nothing left for me to do but to resign from the senate.'"

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Confession of John J. Ingalls

How the Brilliant Kansan Told E. J. Edwards That He Could Project Himself into the Future and Determine Coming Events.

In midsummer of 1883 I was on my way to the New Mexican ranch of Stephen W. Dorsay, former United States senator from Arkansas, and during the national campaign of 1880 prominently before the country as secretary of the Republican national committee. It was a visit that resulted in Senator Dorsay exposing the manner in which he had collected and used \$200,000 in new two-dollar bills for the purpose of making the state of Indiana return a majority for the Republican candidates.

Sometime during the night the train on which I traveled between St. Louis and Kansas City was held up for several hours by a freight wreck deep ahead. The confusion incident to the clearing of the track caused all the passengers in the sleeping car to be astray early in the morning. That is

all except one, at the rear end of the car, and not until nearly ten o'clock was there a head thrust between the curtains of the lower berth, revealing the late Mr. Ingalls of Kansas.

"Senator, you are a late sleeper," I said a little later in the smoking compartment, "and, apparently, a very sound one. All the rest of us in the car were up early owing to the freight wreck that has made us so late."

The brilliant Kansan smiled. "My method of spending the night in a sleeping car differs from that of most persons," he said. "I usually go to bed an hour or so before midnight. Then, while I sink immediately into a physical lethargy that is luxurious, my mind becomes very active. This mental activity seems to bring to the surface, so to speak, the subconscious quality that is in every human being, and it continues in much about two o'clock, when I sink into a profound slumber that will last for eight hours if the train schedule permits."

"Now, when my mind thus becomes active—and it does so only in a sleeping car—I find that I am studying the psychological side of my nature. You may have heard it said that I am an atheist, or an agnostic, but both accusations are absolutely untrue. I am a profound believer in a first, all-powerful and ever-controlling Cause, and am persuaded that it is a conscious Cause. But there is much that we do not know, and we cannot know, since the mind is mortal, and, therefore, reasoning is confined within mortal limitations. Yet, as my mind is active as I lie in my berth, I find myself absolutely convinced, and not by any process of reasoning, that the vital, conscious element in my nature existed before my birth, and must exist after my death. I—that is to say, that part of me which I recognize as my consciousness—has existed from the beginning and will exist forever."

For a few moments Mr. Ingalls sat looking thoughtfully out of the window.

"And as I have pondered upon this," he continued, "I have found it possible to project myself into the future; I know, for instance, at what time my service in the United States senate will end, although I do not know why it will end. To know that would involve considerations entirely apart from my projected consciousness. And I also know, or am convinced that I do know, the time of my death, although I do not know the place or cause. It is a consciousness that has given me great peace of mind. It has absolutely relieved me from all sense of personal danger. Ah, the soul, as distinguished from the intellect, it has never been explained and never will be. It is not a part of our mortality."

Sixteen years later, with perfect serenity, John James Ingalls approached his end. And I have often wondered since then whether his great peace of mind as he faced the grim reaper of us all would justify the impression that he had predicted accurately the time of his death.

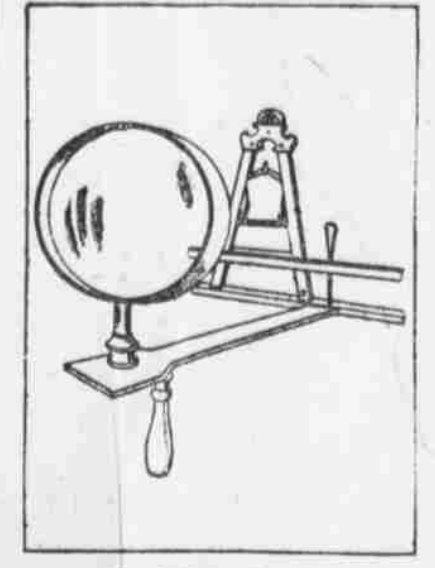
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SCIENCE AND INVENTION

TO DETECT SPURIOUS NOTES

Value of Tester in Banks or Other Places Where Much Money is Handled Readily Seen.

For the purpose of better detecting counterfeit notes a New York woman has invented a testing apparatus which brings the notes under the vision of a strong magnifying glass. The device closely resembles the old-fashioned stereoscope. First there is a long arm with a handle at one end and a magnifying glass mounted above the handle. The other end slides through a supporting frame with spring pressed arms and hooks at the tops of two uprights. And midway above the two uprights and extending above the grooved rail that holds the note is a wire to keep the note from



Bank-Note Tester.

sending it in the center. When there is any suspicion about the genuineness of a bill it is the work of a few minutes to adjust the note in the stand and inspect it carefully under the glass. The most skillful counterfeit will not stand this test. The value of such a device in banks and other places where a great deal of money is handled will be readily seen.

NEW SAPPHIRE NOT GENUINE

French Scientist Discovers Solution of Problem That Has Baffled Many Heretofore.

News comes from Paris that at last artificial sapphires have been produced, after many unsuccessful experiments. Artificial rubies are now an old story. The artificial stones have all the properties, chemical, physical and optical, of the natural gems. The only way in which experts can detect them is by finding them too perfect, as the natural gems have microscopic irregularities and inclusions. The artificial product.

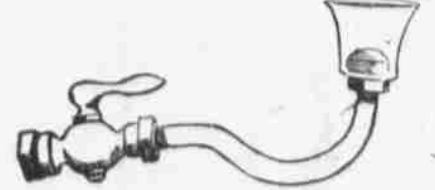
The stumbling block in the making of sapphires has been the color. Either the experimenters could not produce desired blue, or the stone would have a crystalline structure that made its detection easy.

Now, however, M. Verneuil has submitted to the academy of sciences stones which he has made, colored with oxide of titanium, which, after a severe examination, are pronounced identical with true sapphires, though it is just possible that cutting them in gem form may reveal some irregularity of reflection or refraction.

SANITARY DEVICE FOR HOME

Simple Drinking Fountain Shown in Illustration Herewith Has Many Points of Superiority.

While the managements of public institutions are making rapid progress in securing sanitary conditions, the average person is looking forward to having the same benefits in his own home, says Popular Mechanics. The ever-flowing drinking fountain in public school buildings makes a germ-proof method of obtaining water without the aid of a glass or tin cup. Practically the same sanitary drinking



For Home Use.

fountain has made its appearance in a device that may be attached to any water pipe connection for use in homes as well as large and small school buildings. This simple fountain, as shown in the illustration, has a few points of superiority, one of which is the glass over-flowing cup. When the water is turned off for the night or at times when there is no use for it, the pipe and cup are completely drained through small holes provided for that purpose. The valve is set to make the overflow right on the water pressure.

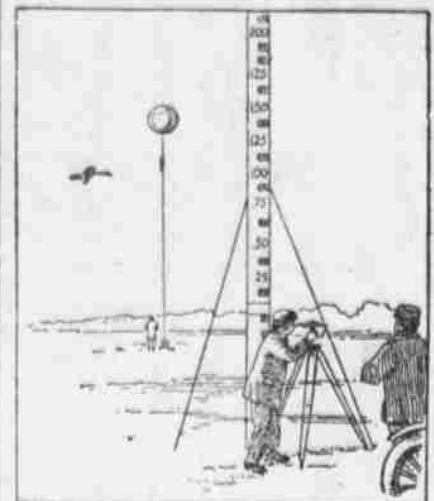
Uses for Resin.

The United States consul at Chemnitz has sent to the bureau of manufactures a sample of a new substance called resinite, invented in Germany, which can be used for the manufacture of articles which are now made of celluloid. The material is produced in a variety of modifications by the union of formaldehyde and carbolic acid in connection with certain metallic salts. It has many advantages, but the most important in comparison with celluloid is its resistance to flame—it is non-combustible. This latter quality ought to make resinite take the place of celluloid in a short time, as the inflammability of the latter product is so great that people who use articles made from it are in danger whenever they approach fire.

MEASURE HEIGHT OF FLIGHT

Means of Determining Distance Aero-planes Make in Air by Giant Leveling Pod.

The small captive balloon, the giant leveling pod rising high in the air, and the man, with the transit, are means adopted at aviation meets for determining the height reached by the contesting



Aviation Field at Brescia, Italy.

aeroplanes, says Popular Mechanics. The photograph was taken at the moment Rougier was passing the indicator during aviation week at Brescia, Italy. England's first permanent aviation field has a complete system of height-measuring devices, also.

MOTOR CAR USED IN 1861

Elijah Ware Raced Machine Against Fast Horses Nearly Fifty Years Ago—Was Successful.

"It is generally understood that the era of the motor car dates from 1870, but it has recently been found," said Jesse W. Perkins of Portland, Me., to a Washington Post reporter, "that Elijah Ware, once a well-known railroad construction engineer in Boston and vicinity, invented a very successful machine in 1861.

"His success may be judged from the fact that Mr. Ware was in the habit of racing his car with fast trotting horses on the old plank road at Bayonne, N. J., and was able to go over fields, up hill and down dale. He was always thinking of some mechanical schemes, but could not order his groceries without being cheated or imposed upon. The house is still standing where he built his auto. The machine's appearance, when completed, resembled a modern fire engine more than an automobile. Wood was used for fuel, and a small iron boiler generated steam for the oscillating engines. With the steel and brass machinery and gayly painted woodwork it must have had quite a dashing appearance.

"When Mr. Ware completed and first tried his engine a crowd collected to see the first run. As a whole the people looked unfavorably at Elijah's achievement, and some went so far as to have it denounced by police authorities as a public nuisance, because they thought it would frighten the horses. But it seems that the people who tried to help him were the most annoying. When one man asked if there was anything for him to do, Mr. Ware replied, 'The trouble is there are too many trying to help.' Mr. Ware ran his machine very slowly in the streets, and those who saw him say that his steam carriage made less noise than the modern automobile. On the roads he went like the wind, according to witnesses in the country. The people under stovepipe hats and poke bonnets must have been surprised when the glittering engine came whizzing along the peaceful roads, without ralls, kicking up dust and vomiting smoke wherever it went."

Concrete Tubes.

Concrete tubes, posts, etc., are produced by centrifugal action at a factory in Saxony. A steel skeleton may be used to give strength to the pipe, and this is inserted in a mold, with a suitable cement mixture, and this mold—which is in two sections—is given 500 to 1,000 revolutions per minute for 10 to 15 minutes in a series of special machines. Asbestos fibers is introduced to prevent the separation of sand, from the concrete. The pipes formed are given uniform thickness by keeping the molds in a horizontal position, and the shape may be varied by inclining the molds. The centrifugal force molds, presses and dries the plastic mass.

Combination Kitchen Utensil.

A combination kitchen utensil invented by a Michigan woman resembles a metal mug. One side is perforated to form a strainer, and over this is hinged a curved plate which, when drawn up, permits the vessel to hold anything except liquids.

NOTES OF SCIENCE AND INVENTION

The Syrian mission press at Beirut prints the Bible in Arabic for 50,000,000 people who speak that tongue. It was about 1720, at Amsterdam, that Fahrenheit made his first thermometer, which has served as a model ever since.

LANCIES OF FASHION

Now doth the busy card send commerce her winter's work. At this season of the year the house smells of wet woodwork. While the weather is very pleasant, it is also very enervating. Brocades shot with metallic effects make royal looking gowns. Lapis-lazuli is enjoying a revival for earrings and brooches. The milliners and furriers are not at all pleased with October's behavior. Chantilly lace veils, in colors matching the costumes, are exceedingly chic.

The apple tree is the most faithful of the fruit trees. It will bear sometimes for a hundred years. Tiny brocade boxes, silk-lined and with little frills of "Val," are lovely gifts. Silk stockings or handkerchiefs may fill them. Small bowl-shaped hats in black velvet with a single flower at one side are odd blossoms preferred, are worn by exclusive women.

Not Awed by Car.

To illustrate that royalty does not inspire awe in American children, a woman who recently returned from a long trip abroad related this incident: "We were at Bad-Naueheim when the czar was a guest there. My little boy attracted the attention of some member of the Russian party, and he was present by invitation one day when the czar, the grand duchess of Hesse, Captain Drentelen, the czar's military secretary, and Baron Wasenbach played tennis. When the boy returned one of the young people, a tennis enthusiast, asked him: 'Well, how did the czar play?' 'Rotten!' was his expressive but shocking reply."

Worth Remembering.

One thing I have learned, and I think it is worth remembering, that a heart heaven may be reached and touched everywhere, that one can help or hinder happiness by a tiny word—Amy Le Peuvre

TIMELY SUGGESTIONS THAT WILL HELP THE HOSTESS

A New Year's Eve Party.

This really clever affair was original with the hostess who gave it last year. It came to my notice too late for use this year, so here it is now, all fresh and newly embellished. There were twelve guests with the hostess. Each one was assigned a month in the invitation and she came dressed to represent that month. Then each girl had the privilege of asking a man who was to come representing an event or prominent person associated with the month represented by his "fair lady."

On arriving it was most interesting to see the way the girls took to represent the months and their escorts the events. For instance, an animated firecracker accompanied "July," a "Santa Claus" came with "December," who was clad in pure white with a sash of holly.

There was an informal dance, and at 11 o'clock refreshments were served. The guests all watching the hands of the clock, at five minutes before 12 all arose, joined hands and sang, "Auld Lang Syne." As the hour sounded the hostess opened the front door for the passing out of the old year and the entrance of the little New Year.

There was a fortune cake containing a good wish or prediction for each guest. The latter were tightly rolled and concealed in gilded nut shells. The place cards were cut in bell shape and had little calendars on them tied with a knot of red ribbon. The one who guessed the month or "vents" or characters was presented with a well-traveling clock; the other two prizes were calendars.

Some Good Games.

Here are some very old games, but I am sure they will be brand new to many of our young readers. The first is called "Catching the Snake's Tail" and comes to us from Japan, where it is a great favorite. The children form in line, each with hands resting upon the shoulders of the player in front. The one who is to act as "catcher" is left out. The first child in the line is called the "head" and the last one the "tail." The "catcher" is placed about fifteen feet from the "head," and at a signal he tries to catch the "tail," or the last child in the "snake" without touching anyone else. The others may defend the "tail" by moving about, keeping the line unbroken, for if the line should be broken it is equal to the "tail" being caught, and that unlucky person must become the catcher while the last named goes to the head of the line.

Now for the second game, called "Feather Play." It is very amusing, although it sounds so simple. All the players are seated on the floor, having first counted "out" to see who will be "it." A hollow square is formed with the players on the floor. A feather is produced, a little downy thing, and blown back and forth by the players. The child who is "it" is to try to catch the feather on one of the children or directly in front of a child when that one becomes "it." The feather must not be touched by the hands of the children on the floor, nor must they rise from the floor; their hands must be kept under the sheet, all manipulations of the feather being done by blowing.

A Jelly Celebration.

A reader writes: "Last New Year's night we had such a jolly time I want to tell you about it for the benefit of all the department readers who may want a real frolic. 'I asked the guests, who were all intimate friends, to come dressed like children not over 10 years of age. At the top of each invitation card was written: 'Backward, turn backward, O, Time, be gone with you.' Make me a child again just for tonight. 'There was a lawyer, a minister, and several prominent business men among the guests, who came garbed as boys; they called each other by their front names, each brought a toy and all entered heartily into children's games. A picnic supper was served on the floor in a room decorated with small trees in tubs, ferns and palms. This was supposed to be a 'grove,' and there were signs up like these: 'This way to the swimming hole.' 'Look out for the dog,' etc. There was stick candy, gum drops and heart mot to candies. The women brought dolls and played 'Come to see' most natterly, as most of them had youngsters to keep them in practise. We had a spelling bee, and sung the songs of our school days. The party went down into history as one of the best the hostess had ever achieved, which is saying much, as she is noted for her original schemes.'"

Silver Dress Trimmings.

Silver dress trimmings may be cleaned by covering them with powdered magnesia and leaving them for two hours. Rub the magnesia well in and brush it off with a brush.

Dancing Pockets.

For dancing frocks for young girls the bordered chiffons or plain or flowered nets made over china silk offer splendid possibilities at a low cost.

Embroidered Belts

Embroidered belts are still very fashionable, there are a very large number of coats and skirts which adhere to the natural waist line, and for these, of course, belts are a literal necessity. A piece of Oriental embroidery gathered into a handsome buckle at one end and adorned with a row of eyelet holes at the other makes a very effective belt.

For morning wear a belt of linen, worked with broderie Anglaise, is both useful and pretty, and has the additional merit of washing easily, whilst canvas, worked in cross-stitch or Roumanian stitch, is extremely effective, and very quickly worked, red and blue being a color chosen to match the dress. Another pretty belt for evening wear is embroidered in gold thread in a conventional design of flowers and leaves, the former being then filled in with sparkling jewels.

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Appeal That Got \$50,000,000

How the Bankers of the East Responded Instantly to Secretary Salmon P. Chase's Call for Financial Aid.

The late George S. Coe of New York and New Jersey was one of the great bankers of United States at the time of the civil war and for twenty years thereafter. During the first two years of the war he was more intimately associated with the Lincoln administration on the financial side than any other of the country's prominent bankers of that period. Of course, he thus came into close and intimate contact with Salmon P. Chase, who has gone down in history as one of the country's great secretaries of the treasury.

"For a number of years before he became a member of Lincoln's cabinet I had conceived a high admiration for Mr. Chase," said Mr. Coe to me when old-time finance was under discussion, "but not until some months after the outbreak of the civil war was I privileged to meet him, and that meeting resulted in one of the most dramatic incidents in connection with big finance of which I have personal knowledge.

"At the height of the uncertainty over the government's financial condition, following the outbreak of war, the bankers of the east—New York, Philadelphia and Boston—received an intimation that the secretary of the treasury was anxious to meet them in confidence, for he had a message of great importance to communicate to them. An appointment was at once made for Secretary Chase to meet us in the directors' room of the bank of which I was then president.

"There, prompt almost to the second, Mr. Chase appeared on the day and hour set and we were introduced one after the other to him. The gracious dignity of the man, a certain majesty of manner—I do not know

how better to express it—the great intellectuality revealed in his face, the noble poise of his head, his entire personality, greatly impressed me, and I am certain that every other banker in that room was equally impressed.

"Soon after the introductions were over and a few casual remarks had been made, Secretary Chase began to deliver his message. He spoke quietly, in a low tone of voice, but every word was distinctly uttered; his was one of the most attractive voices I have ever heard in private conversation, and then it was that I understood what his great charm as a public speaker was. And this was the message he brought to us, substantially in these very words:

"Gentlemen, the government of the United States is in need of gold. It is in greater need of gold than of an army. This is so because it will not be difficult to raise whatever size army we may need, but it is necessary to save the Union. Enlistments will proceed, are proceeding, all over the north. But what are we to do with an army unless we can feed it, clothe it, provide it with equipment and ammunition?"

"Now, gentlemen, I am no financier. It is my duty, under the law, to administer the finances of the country, but it is no part of my duty, nor is it within my power, to raise money until congress gives me that power. You are men of finance. It is your business to know how to raise money. I appeal to you, having nothing to offer except the credit of the government, and the preservation of the Union for fifty millions in gold. You know how to secure that gold. I shall know how to make wise and efficient use of it. This, gentlemen, is the message I had to deliver to you."

Mr. Coe leaned forward in his chair. "He got the gold on the instant," he said, emphatically.

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The Preservation of Venison

Venison, as everyone knows, requires careful preservation. If in spite of every care it seems likely to go wrong, an old English housewife book gives the following recipe for its redemption.

"Take strong ale, and put to it wine vinegar, as much as will make it sharp. Then set it on the fire and boil it well and scum it and make of it a strong brine with bay salt or other salt; then take it off and let it stand till it be cold, then put your venison into it and let it lie in it full twelve hours.

"Then take out from that meer sauce and press it well. Then parboil it, and season it with pepper and salt, and bake it."

The venison, the housewife goes on to say, must be baked in a "coffin"—i. e., inclosed in a paste case well lined with butter. After it is baked pour through a hole in the case some melted butter, three table-spoonsful of vinegar and six of sherry, and let it lie

and cool in this, after which it will be excellent cold.—London Daily Telegraph.

Divorced Woman's Right.

Has a divorced wife, who is married again, a right to flirt with her divorced husband? It is said such a case exists in Atchison, and that when one of the woman's friends told her there was "talk," the woman replied: "Good heavens, the people in this town will talk about anything! Haven't I a right to receive attentions from the man who was once my husband?"—Atchison Globe.

His Identity Disclosed.

Judge—What do you do during the week?
Witness—Nothing.
Judge—And on Sunday?
Witness—I take a day off.
Judge—Oh, I see. What salary does the city pay you?—Lippincott's.

Football in Russia.

Football is taking an extraordinary hold of the Russian youth. A series of matches played recently in a large Russian city attracted over 20,000 spectators at each game. It is the English game according to association rules that is played and the terminology is adopted without translation. It sounds curious to hear a Russian crowd shouting "offside," "corner" or "free kick" as they watch the play. But most wonderful of all is the vocabulary of the reporters who describe the matches. Apparently they are really musical critics of some pretensions for their published reports abound in mention of the crescendo passages and bravura thrills accomplished by the football players.

O-O-O-O-N!

Miss Chatterton (gushingly)—What a magnificent great Dame! And, of course, his name is Hamlet!
Mr. Galley (the owner)—Not exactly; you see, I—e—r, couldn't consistently use that name.
Miss Chatterton—And why, pray?
Mr. Galley—The best I could do was to call her Ophelia!