Loup City Northwestern

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LOUP CITY, - - NEBRASKA.

The Mustache.

There is more than humor in the rise and fall of the mustache, although the country was amused several years ago by a humorous lecturer, who discoursed on the subject. It is contrary to the British army regulations for an officer to shave his upper lip. From time to time the war department has issued general orders expressing its disapproval of the growing disregard of the regulations, and now it is reported in London that King Edward is contemplating some action which will compel the officers to return to the old custom. The mustache has long been regarded as a military badge. Only one regiment in the Austro-Hungarian cavalry may go smooth-faced, and this is because during the Seven Years' war recruits were so scarce that this regiment once had to go into battle when there were nothing but beardless boys in its ranks. It behaved with such gallantry that its members remain beardless to this day. The decline of the mustache in military England is said to be due to the preference of American girls for smooth faces and the liking of English army officers for American girls, a combination which produces new fashions and outlaws old customs.

Graceful recognition of one to whom the first settlers of New England owed much, if not their very lives, has recently been made by the Rhode Island commission for marking historical sites. Over the famous Massasoit spring, in the town of Warren, a tablet was erected to the great Indian chief who owned and ruled much of what is now Massachusetts and Rhode Island when the Pilgrims were settling the country. One of the sons of Massasoit was educated at Harvard college. Another son, although he had not the advantages of a college education, succeeded in making a name for himself. He was the famous King Philip whose war is a part of colonial history. Massasoit himself was a warm friend of the white settlers. The tablet was unveiled by Princess Wootonekanuske, otherwise known as Charlotte L. Mitchell, a lineal descendant of Massasoit.

If China is awakening, are the western nations awakening to China? Dr. Arthur H. Smith, the well-known American missionary, shows in an interesting book that this country has not followed its missionaries and its ministers of famine relief with any deep intellectual or even commercial understanding of China. It is strange that this nation, at once mercantile and generous, should have made so little effort to understand the Chinese on their own soil, and should have failed to heed the plain statement of Li Hung-Chang that "if Americans want the trade of China they must come after it." Our attitude toward China has been like our attitude toward South America. American consuls have been preaching to us for years to learn the countries to which we ship our goods. Yet no traders are so little at home as are Americans in countries across the seas.

The Rev. George Clark Houghton, the rector of the Little Church Around the Corner, in New York, has given new fame to that place of worship by announcing that no marriages will be performed there hereafter unless the names of the contracting parties are announced beforehand. Therefore couples who want to be matrimonially united on the sly will have to go elsewhere. This is a good way to prevent young people from making fools of themselves, says Boston Budget, and is in accordance with a time-honored custom in the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches.

A New York man who gave a beggar the price of a meal nine years ago received recently a letter inclosing a $1,000 bill in payment. Only initials were signed, so the receiver has no idea who sent the money. Maybe it came from the beggars' union to stimulate giving. We cannot tell. Almost everything is being put on a business basis these days.

In January next a statue of Emile Zola will be placed in Paris near the Palace of Justice. The occasion will be the tenth anniversary of the publication of the famous letter of accusation with which Zola bombarded the war department in behalf, not so much of Alfred Dreyfus, as of the honor of France.

In the case of the New York man who courted a girl seven years before he found courage to ask her to marry him, it is safe to say that the girl was looking around meantime and led him on only when all her other prospects looked hopeless.

Pugilism may be something like matrimony after all. In a fistic match at a certain stage we ask, "Did he take the count?" Of the New York heiress we ask, "Will she take the count?"

The crown prince of Germany gets up every morning before seven o'clock to be at his desk in Berlin as an ordinary bureau clerk, and works like the others. The stress of modern times is forcing the king business to put itself on a progressive business basis.

Anna Gould, we are assured, is not looking for another husband. The old one cost her too much money to incline her to purchase a new matrimonial partner.

How to Make Furniture Shine.

Take faur tablespoonfuls of turpentine, two ounces of white way, four ounces castile soap. Place together in a clean enamel saucepan and dissolve slowly over a gentle heat. Next add a sufficient quantity of boiling water to form it into a cream.

For Success in Life.

Whoever will prosper in any line of life must save his own time and do his own thinking. He must spend neither time nor money which he has not earned.—David Starr Jordan.

Nitgoren in Animal Charcoal.

Why animal charcoal removes the color from colored liquids, while wood charcoal has no effect, has not been understood. A European chemist now finds that the action of the former is due to the presence of five to seven per cent of nitrogen.

On the Make.

Some men who believe in making the most of their opportunities unfortunately regard every other man as an opportunity.—Philadelphia Record.

Extremes in Brazil.

Brazil has no middle class. There are, but two clos esreht ham ahmlü are but two classes there — the rich and the poor.

Mistakes Some Women Make.

She is a foolish woman who thinks she can make a front by putting everything on her back.—Exchange.

Evls That Rapidly Multiply.

Indiscretion, malice, rashness and falsehood produce each other. — L'Enclos.

No man can be brave who thinks pain the greatest evil; nor temperate who considers pleasure the highest good.—Cicero.

Too many dollars in a man's pocket have been known to crowd the sense from under his hat.

MRS. FENTON OTTLEY.

Model School by a Woman's Club

By Mrs. Fenton Ottley

Prominent Southern Woman Tells How Woman's Club Rendered Practical Assistance to a Community—Deplorable Conditions in Public Schools Where Children Attend Only Three Months a Year—Interest Stimulated by Model County Schools—College Graduates Teach Children Domestic Sciences, Carpentry and Gardening.

(Mrs. Fenton Ottley, one of the leading women in public reform movements in the south, is a charter member of the Atlanta Woman's club, and has been its president. She has served also as secretary of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs for the state of Georgia, as first chairman of the state industrial commission, which did much work for the reform of child labor abuses, as chairman of the state commission on arts and crafts, and as one of Georgia's committee of three to consider the color line question. Mrs. Ottley is a Mississippian by birth and rearing, but has resided in Atlanta since her marriage, her husband being a banker of that city.)

The possibilities of Georgia pine are being exploited from one end of the country to the other, but what thought is being given to the possibilities of the Georgia boy?" So wrote President Branson, of the state normal school at Athens, Ga., a few years ago. The educational renaissance now beginning in the south is based upon recognition of that greatest of "waste products," undeveloped human life, of which so much exists in the states south of Mason and Dixon's line.

Since most of the people live in the country—the average population of Georgia, for instance, being 35 to the square mile, with 1,500,000 persons living in one-room cabins—it is easy to see that the country school must be the evangel to the people. In its improvement lies the solution of the problem of general social betterment. The tremendous and systematic crusade now being organized throughout the southern states by the southern educational board purposes working almost entirely through this agency, devoting itself to the perfection of the rural school and such normal institutions as furnish teachers for it. This field of endeavor is certainly wide.

Out of 700,000 children of school age in Georgia barely 280,000 go to school 100 days in the year. Eight-months schools are the exception, the rule being five months, while many communities do not have school longer than three months each year. In these schools, when existent, the poorest and most meager instruction is too often given, owing to the poor pay of teachers.

All this seems in a fair way to be revolutionized by the efforts of the southern people, spurred on and encouraged by the southern educational board. In view of this great movement in the country schools it is interesting to note that the forerunner of the model country school, as planned by educational enthusiasts, was initiated and carried on successfully by the clubwomen of the state of Georgia a few years ago. By their efforts and under their charge two model country schools were maintained five months the first year in rural districts. On visiting them a committee of the southern educational board declared them "ideal." These schools, begun as an experiment and an object lesson, have been carried on since then with pronounced success.

Their history is interesting, particularly for the striking example it affords of what may be the outcome of an active and whole-hearted cooperation between the representative women who make up the clubs of the various states and the educators and educational experts of the sections. President Branson, of the Georgia state normal school, had addressed to Mrs. Lindsay Johnson, then president of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, a letter in which he asked if that association would undertake to raise $1,000 for the maintenance for five months of a model county school which should furnish an object lesson of what a county school should and might be. The Federation of Women's Clubs, a body of 6,000 representative women, having been long devoted to efforts for educational betterment, and, as Mr. Branson knew, particularly interested in the problem of the rural school, at once accepted the suggestion and pledged the requisite sum.

The school was to be a part of the county system, its location to be decided by competition among the county superintendents of the state, the school to be awarded to the highest bidder and the federation pledging itself to supply the difference between this highest bid and the necessary $1,000. All the money was to be placed in the hands of the Georgia federation, and the school was to be inaugurated by the federation, and remain under its control. Mr. Branson, on his part, pledged to undertake the technical direction of the school.

So much interest was aroused, and the bids of the counties ran so high, that it was found possible to supplement the efforts of two communities, instead of one, with the sum raised by the federation. Hence, while Danielsville, Madison county, with a bid of $700, secured the first school, Watters district, Floyd county, was able, with $650, to secure a second. The tragedy of the situation lay in two splendid bids of $500 from Bartow county and $450 from Rabun county, the latter the most mountainous county in Georgia. To those who understand the meaning of these guarantees from such sections there is infinite pathos in the thought of such sums as these having been gathered for such a cause and in vain! One thousand dollars more would have done noble service.

The two sections securing the schools furnished contrasting but excellent fields for the social experiment. Danielsville, the county seat of Madison county, is a typical village of the best character. Its people are, many of them, educated and refined, but the county is essentially rural, since only one edge of it is crossed by a railroad, Danielsville itself being six miles distant from it. About 500 people center at Danielsville. The best of them threw themselves heart and soul into the effort not only to secure the first model school, but to guarantee its perpetuation. The president of the county board of education, a well-known lawyer, besides his other efforts, threw his home open to the teachers, who were thus assured the comforts of daily life.

Watters district, Floyd county, is a "crossing" of the Southern railroad, just out of the little city of Rome. Its people are rougher than the country folk, and the life led there by the three young teachers was hard enough to furnish missionary conditions.

Both schools thrived surprisingly. The people, who looked upon it at first as a sort of vagary of their superintendent and the clubwomen, soon became deeply interested in the plan. The school at Danielsville, opening with 86 pupils, very soon had 125, a great number of children coming in from the county to board. At Watters about 80 remained in attendance.

At both places a kitchen and workshop were added to the schoolhouse, which belonged to the county, and about $200 was spent in permanent improvements. The success of the experiment may be gathered from the fact that the five-month schools, maintained as an experiment, were replaced by eight months' sessions in both counties the succeeding year.

The plan is that each school shall become a blooming garden, the general headquarters of the people of the neighborhood, where library and reading rooms shall help to render it attractive and necessary to patrons, as well as to pupils.

It is safe to say that these two model schools in purpose, plan and detail will be the model indeed for thousands of others which the new educational movement in the south will produce. That they have been successfully initiated, maintained and administered by women furnishes a fair answer to that already rapidly vanishing question: "What can women's clubs do?"

Some men get credit for being modest, when they do not talk about themselves only because they fear they cannot do the subject justice.

HAD NO DOUBT OF HIS FATE.

Mr. Jerome Evidently Was Aware of His Wife's Culinary Ability.

Some weeks ago the wife of Judge Blank, of Pacific avenue, lost her cook, and since she had no other resource she rolled up her sleeves and for a week provided such meals as the judge had not enjoyed since those happy days when the Blanks did not keep a cook. The judge's delight was so great that by way of appreciative acknowledgment he presented Mrs. Blank with a beautiful ermine cloak. Quite naturally, the incident was a good deal noised about among the social acquaintances of the Blanks and a spirit of envious emulation was developed in certain quarters. It was in this mood that Mrs. Jerome recited the story to her husband. "What do I get, Jerry?" she asked, "if I will do the cooking for a week?" "Well," said Mr. Jerome, "at the end of a week, my dear, you'll get one of those long crepe veils."—San Francisco Argonaut.

How He Did It.

Early in the morning session, when the pupils were feeling bright and happy, the teacher thought it a good plan to give them sentences to correct, both as to grammar and sense. She accordingly wrote on the blackboard:

"The hen has four legs. He done it."

Thoughtful little Ignatius, at the foot of the class, pondered deeply, and at the end of 15 minutes' time, allowed for correction, he wrote:

"He didn't done it; God done it."

Preacher's Comforting Remarks.

At an evening prayer meeting in a Maine village the senior deacon, Dominicus Jordan, arose to make appropriate scriptural remarks about the death of the late Miss Simpkins. In conclusion the deacon said: "I respected Miss Simpkins, the members of this church respected Miss Simpkins, the citizens of this town respected Miss Simpkins, but now she's dead and gone to the Lord, and the scripture saith, 'The Lord is no respecter of persons."—Exchange.

Riley and the Weather.

While going to the office of his publishers on a bright morning in September, James Whitcomb Riley met, what seemed to him, an unusually large number of his acquaintances who made the conventional remark about the weather. This unremitting applause pleased and amused him. When greeted at the office with "Nice day, Mr. Riley,' he stopped at the door and answered drolly: "Yes—yes—I've heard it very highly spoken of."

SOMETHING OF A CYNIC.

Papa Had Extreme Views on the Subject of Marriage.

Miss Marie Cahill, the actress, chose the chorus girls for her new play, "Marrying Mary," by measurement. The Bertillon system was employed.

"By this excellent system of measurement," said Miss Cahill the other day, "one gets, in a chorus girl, the real thing. Mirage is avoided. You know what a mirage is? Quite sure? Well, at any rate, I'll point out its meaning to you with a story.

"A boy looked up from his book one night.

"'Father,' he said, 'what is a mirage?'

"The father answered glibly from behind his paper:

"'The union of a man and woman till death or the law them do part.'

"'But,' said the boy, 'that's marriage, ain't it?'

"'Same thing, sonny; it's the same thing,' replied the father. 'A man imagines he sees wonders and delights where there is nothing. Fight shy of 'em both, my boy.'"

Utility.

A sleeper from the Amazon
Put nighties of his grammazon—
The reason, that
He was too fat
To get his own pajamazon!
—Buffalo News.

Thy sum of duty let two words contain—Be humble and be just.—Horace.

A man must stand erect, not be kept erect by others.—Marcus Aurelius.

There are countless roads on all sides to the grave.—Cicero.

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