



Whether Common or Not

By Will M. Mumpin.

Seasonable

It made the young recruit hot; No wonder he was flustered, The foeman peppered him with shot Right after he was mustered. —Catholic Standard and Times.

Let him who at this tale shall halt, And frown on it as spicy, Just take it with a pinch of salt And he will find it nice. See? —Cleveland Leader.

Now here's another started, Who knows where it will fetch up; Still, if his foeman chased him, let Us hope they did not ketchup. —Houston Post.

We hate to knock these filling chimes! We'd say if you should ask, though, For relish these installment rhymes Can scarce be called tabasco!! —Buffalo News.

Say, boys, this game is mighty fine— We strike the booster lyre, And earn the steak that we can dope With good old Worcestershire.

No Need

"Is Hirsuteman going to the seaside this summer?" "No; he is going to camp by the side of the strong box containing his railroad stocks."

Kismet

His mother insisted on naming him Reginald DeMontague Platnategent Marlborough Jones. "Well?" "Well, the boys call him Shorty."

Near-Limerick

There was a young man in Hoboken Who said he would quit chewing gum. At the end of a week He said it's no use And purchased a package of cigarets.

Spring

Now comes the fair and gladsome spring, With green and waving trees; And also comes that blamed old thing That makes me sneeze and sneeze!

Frigid

"This paper says the biggest block of ice in the world is to be found in Greenland." "O, fudge! The fellow that wrote that never figured in national politics in Indiana."

Wonderful

"That was a wonderful invention of Loggers—a shell that would pierce any armor plate." "You bet, but not so great as his invention of an armor plate that no shell could pierce."

The Winner

The Bingtown Bazzo having offered a prize for the best story of narrow escapes from death, Farmer Strong came into claim the money. "But what is your story?" asked the editor. "Well, I had intended to come to town last Thursday, but I got so interested in that story of Congressman James Softleigh who was cured of an incurable case of consumption by takin' 'leven bottles of Je-ru-my that I forgot it and sent my hired man. An' th' hired man wasn't lookin' an' let a railroad train hit him at th' crossin'. It might a been me if it hadn't

been fr that story about Congressman Softleigh." And the editor had to dig up the reward.

The Puzzle

"I must give them a riddle hard to solve," mused the Sphinx. "What shall it be?" The silence that brooded over the desert was thick enough to cut with a knife. "Ah, I have it," exclaimed the Sphinx. "How long will it take the people to get onto the fact that they are being jobbed?" Knowing that something like forty centuries must intervene before the answer came, the Sphinx quietly went to sleep.

Our Own Lexicographer

Mollycoddle—A man who objects to our rough riding. Dividends—Hose output. Vested Rights—Our own, but not the other fellow's. Wall Street—A well known aquatic resort. Franchise—The right to rob the rest of us. Expert—One who can conceal his ignorance behind high-sounding words. Jury—Twelve victims who have no means of self defense.

Self Interest

"Ah, I love to have the little folks around me!" exclaimed the prosperous looking gentleman. "I take such an interest in them. What would this old world be without them?" Of course it pleased us mightily to hear a man talking thus, and we were anxious to know who he was. So we asked a friend. "O, that's Erasmus Plantagenet Squeezeem. He runs a sweat shop and employs child labor." Then it dawned upon us that we cannot always sometimes tell.

Harriman

I've some questions I would fire, Harriman, Harriman; I would rise up to inquire, Harriman, Harriman; Do you like the water cure? Are your motives good and pure? Why, then, wriggle on the skewer, Harriman, Harriman; Why, then, wriggle on the skewer, Harriman?

While you're looking out for Fish, Harriman, Harriman; Honestly, now, don't you wish, Harriman, Harriman, That you'd made your sucker string Somewhat shorter now, by jing! Thus brought down your suffering, Harriman, Harriman; And preventing big stick-ing, Harri-man?

Simian Philosophy

The Great Naturalist penetrated into the heart of Africa and at last reached the center of the Monkey Kingdom. Addressing the Head Simian the Great Naturalist said: "I have come to help you improve your condition." "Thank you," said the Head Simian. "What are you about to do?" "I will teach you organization so that you will not have to work so many hours a day." "So kind of you," murmured the Head Simian. "But we don't work even an hour a day now." "I will show you wherein you may

get more of the fruits said of the Great Naturalist. "Impossible, because we get it all now," said the Head Simian. "But I would civilize you." "Thanks; but we have no vices now." "But let me teach you civil government." "No, thank you," said the Head Simian. "We know nothing of grafters here." "But the arts and sciences?" "You can search our dominion in vain for art, jails, science, poor-houses or lunatic asylums, and we rather like the average." "But let me teach industry," pleaded the Great Naturalist. "Not much," exclaimed the Head Simian. "We have no trusts, no soulless corporations, no sweat shops, no filthy tenements, no paupers, no child slaves, no hopeless widows and orphans and no millionaire philanthropists who give away money filched from their helpless fellows." "Then let me live with you and enjoy life among you," said the Great Naturalist. "We must decline," said the Head Simian. "A study of your history reveals the fact that an outsider once penetrated into your garden and raised a great disturbance. We are taking no chances. Goodby!" Before the Great Naturalist could protest the Head Simian gave a signal and the Monkey Tribe disappeared into the forest fastness.

Brain Leaks

True love goes all the way. Agitation is the mother of reformation. A lot of reforms are exhausted in the preliminaries. It's a mighty mean dog that will not make friends. The man who puts his trust in himself and God usually lands. It is a waste of time to take part in a three-handed game of love. Money may buy a reputation, but it will not purchase a character. A lot of men try to hide their ignorance behind a screen of profanity. A word of cheer costs nothing, and its dividends are beyond computation. The charm of most spring poetry lies in the fact that it was written last winter. The man who admits failure and accepts it seldom has any successes to boast about. A lot of men imagine that today's headache means that they had a good time yesterday. Men who measure success by money accumulated usually misfigure about a foot to the inch. "Good Enough" is a workman who is always depending for a job on "Lest" quitting work. You cannot help admiring the man who refuses to accept your opinion without proof to back it. A man will have to hunt a long while for the crown won by bearing crosses of his own manufacture. A lot of men who are always talking about dying for their rights are never sensible enough to vote for them. Just because their wives do not raise a fuss a lot of men are deceived into believing that their wives accept the excuses they make. Speaking of the increase in the price of shoes, we have a couple of little ones that Mr. Rockefeller could not buy if memories went with them. Our idea of diplomacy is prevailing upon a man to do something we want him to do when he does not want to do it without letting him know that he is doing it because we want him to do it. Lincoln is the home of a very remarkable woman. When asked by her husband to attend a social function she did not say: "I haven't a thing to wear." She merely wore the best she had and enjoyed the occasion.

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