

New News of Yesterday

by E. J. Edwards

Famous Political Blunder

How David Bennett Hill Tried to Keep Judge Maynard Out of Contest in Which He Was Defeated.

WHEN the standard biography of David Bennett Hill, former governor of New York and United States senator, and once a leading candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, is written, it will contain a letter which has now for 16 years been kept in Governor Hill's safe in Albany. It will be an extraordinary revelation with respect to a most dramatic incident in Governor Hill's career. It will put him in absolutely new light upon a matter for which he was subjected to the severest criticism. In order that there may be good understanding of it, it will be necessary to repeat some political history.

In the last year of Hill's term as governor of New York—1890—a very close election took place in the state. For some days there was doubt whether or not the Republicans had secured a majority in the state senate. In any event, the majority would be a very small one, possibly no greater than one vote.

The issue at last centered upon the election of a senator in Dutchess county, of which Poughkeepsie is the county seat. There were strong suspicions that the returns had been tampered with, and that the correct returns would show that the Republican candidate for senator had been elected. The matter was taken to the courts, and Justice Edgar M. Cullen, now chief justice of the New York court of appeals, and a Democrat, decided that the Republican returns were the correct ones, and issued a mandamus to the state canvassing board to accept these returns. But through what many regarded as the interference of another justice, Isaac H. Maynard, the returns thus mandamus were not sent to the state canvassing board.

Instead, the Democratic returns were sent, and of course, these being the only ones before the state board, they were compelled to declare the Democratic senator elected. In that way the Democratic party secured control of the senate, and Governor Hill was severely criticised because he seemed to support Judge Maynard, certainly because he did not, when the facts became known, take action looking towards the possible impeachment of Maynard.

Three years later the state of New York was to elect a member of the highest court, and Judge Maynard was nominated by the Democrats. It was the common impression that Mr. Hill, who at that time was United States senator, had forced the nomination, and when Judge Maynard was beaten by a hundred thousand majority, this defeat was regarded all over the country as a criticism more of Hill than of Maynard.

The real facts are now narrated for the first time, and they follow: Senator Hill reported to some of his friends that Richard Croker had said that Maynard, if nominated, could be elected. The friends replied: "Croker is mistaken; he cannot be elected."

"I will make further investigation," said the senator, "and having done that, I will consult with my colleague, Senator Murphy." The latter had been elected senator through the capture of the Democratic legislature in the manner above described.

Meeting his colleague in Washington some time later, Senator Hill said: "The general impression in New York is that if we nominate Maynard he will be defeated."

"We have got to nominate him, and in my opinion he will be elected," rejoined Murphy.

Again Hill made an investigation, and became definitely satisfied that Maynard would be overwhelmingly defeated. He therefore determined to write Maynard. The senator began the letter to Maynard by saying:

"I am about to write a letter which will give me more pain than any I have written since I entered public life. I am going to tell you frankly that in my opinion, in the opinion of practically the entire bar of New York state, and a majority of the Democratic leaders, you cannot be elected. I would therefore suggest to you that you, in some discreet and satisfactory way, make it known that you must not be considered as a candidate for the court of appeals bench."

Judge Maynard received this letter by messenger. In due time that messenger returned to Senator Hill with this reply: "Judge Maynard says that he can afford to be defeated by the people, but he cannot afford to be humiliated by his party. He therefore will not withdraw, but will insist upon his nomination."

"Very well," replied Senator Hill. "If he insists, I have no doubt his nomination will be made. But I am afraid he will regret it."

And regret his action Maynard surely did.

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He Outwitted the Speaker

How Congressman Belford of Colorado, Long Ignored by J. Warren Kefauver, Finally Won Recognition by Clever Ruse.

ONE of the quaintest of the personalities who came from the remote west to Washington in the early eighties was James B. Belford of Colorado.

For some time after he came to congress Judge Belford was silent, being disposed to familiarize himself with the proceedings of the house. At last he began to rise regularly in his place soon after the session began each noon and call in a booming voice: "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker!" Soon the regularity with which Judge Belford arose and bawled "Mr. Speaker!" was a recognized incident of the house, and one which occasioned

much merriment.

But cry aloud as he might, Judge Belford failed to catch Speaker J. Warren Kefauver's eye for weeks; and when finally he did gain recognition of the chair the manner in which he did so was published far and wide. But the explanation of how Judge Belford came to employ the ruse that led to his being recognized has hitherto remained unpublished.

"That was a very skillful ruse you employed to compel the speaker to recognize you," I said to the Colorado congressman.

"After the first few times I had failed to catch his eye, I made up my mind that I would call 'Mr. Speaker!' every day until the end of congress if I had to, in order to gain recognition," said Judge Belford. "I felt sure that sooner or later I would catch the speaker's ear and eye. It was getting to be a somewhat tiresome repetition, however, and finally I asked a friend that else I could do to gain my object."

"His answer was that if I wanted to be recognized I should go to the speaker before a session began and get him to promise to recognize me, else the speaker would 'see' congressmen all about and around me without once 'seeing' me. But I answered that I'd be hanged if I'd go on my knees to the speaker and beg as a privilege what I should have as a right."

"Then my friend suggested that the next time I called 'Mr. Speaker!' I announce at the same time that I rose to a question of personal privilege; then the speaker would be compelled, under the rules of the house, to recognize me."

"Well, that suggestion tickled me, so next morning just after the session had begun I called out, as you know, at the top of my voice, 'Mr. Speaker. I rise to a question of personal privilege.' That fetched him at once; he had to ask me what the question of personal privilege was.

"Right then I came pretty near to being floored, for I hadn't prepared myself with any question of personal privilege. For a moment or two I didn't know for the life of me what to say, but I got my wits back as quickly as they had gone, and I shouted: 'Mr. Speaker, since I have been a member of this house I have annexed everything—good, bad and indifferent—there is in Washington excepting the speaker's eye. Now, I ask for an explanation of why that alone has escaped me.'

"I knew the next instant that I had triumphed. Everybody in the house shouted with laughter; the speaker himself could hardly maintain a grave appearance. I stood there waiting for the merriment to subside, and when it was over the speaker said: 'The chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.' There was great applause. Then I offered my little resolution and took my seat."

"After he retired from congress Judge Belford became a member of the highest court of Colorado, and died some two years ago, greatly respected.

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Rounded Out His Career

President Arthur Was Pleased to Make Frank Hatton Happy by Giving Him the Position of Postmaster General.

IN the latter part of President Arthur's administration Frank Hatton became postmaster general, thereby gaining the distinction of being the youngest cabinet officer since Alexander Hamilton; he was only thirty-eight when he became a member of Arthur's official family. A native of Ohio and the son of a newspaper man, he served through the civil war, attaining the rank of first lieutenant. Then he moved to Iowa, took an active interest in politics, and finally became editor-in-chief of the Burlington Hawkeye. In 1881 he became assistant postmaster general, and after he left the cabinet he again became a newspaper editor, first in Chicago and then of the Washington Post. His death occurred in 1894.

A few days before Mr. Hatton's appointment as postmaster general was sent to the senate President Arthur received me one morning at the White House. After we had been talking about half an hour he glanced at the clock.

"I have an appointment now with Frank Hatton," he explained. "I like Frank very much; he has been a most competent assistant postmaster general. I have been told that out in Iowa he is looked upon as a very clever politician. I expect to have an interesting talk with him. And after it is over I want to see you again."

Half an hour later I was once more with the president. I found him signing executive documents—a large pile of them had been placed upon his desk. He continued to sign while he talked.

"Do you think Frank Hatton would make a good postmaster general?" the president asked me as soon as he saw the door leading to the outer offices shut.

"I think he would make a very good one," I replied.

"I replied that I hadn't the slightest doubt of it, adding that the appointment would certainly be a very popular one with the newspaper correspondents in Washington, of whom I was one."

"Frank is very ambitious to serve as postmaster general," the president went on. "As you know, I have transferred General Gresham to the treasury department, and that leaves a vacancy in the postoffice department. Gresham told me that Frank Hatton would regard his career as complete if he could serve as postmaster general, even though that service would be only for a few months."

The president paused in his work of writing his signature and turned towards me with a characteristic very charming and kindly smile.

"Frank has been here this morning at my request. I saw during our conversation that he would be overjoyed if his name were added to the list of the country's postmaster generals. You know we have had quite a number of printers who have served in that office—Benjamin Franklin, Amos Kendall, Montgomery Blair and Thomas L. James. I have heard that Horace Greeley would have been very happy if he had been appointed postmaster general. And Frank Hatton is a printer."

"Well, I have made up my mind to appoint Frank Hatton to the post. It will not be a political appointment; it will be in the nature of a personal appointment, one to give pleasure to the recipient. And I never saw a happier expression on a man's face than I did a little while ago when I intimated to Frank that if he would accept I would send his name to the senate for postmaster general."

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Man We Admire.

Another man we admire is the one who can button a new collar and at the same time keep his temper.—Topeka Capital.

New French Rest Cure

Unique Institution is Opened at Touraine—The Only Duty Enforced on Patients is to Sleep.

The Somnarium is the name of a new fashionable rest cure establishment which has just been opened in Touraine, France. The only duty enforced on patients there is to sleep.

On entering the patients leave the outside world behind. All clothes worn outside must be discarded for new ones. The patients are sufferers from nervous depression, harmless manias, loss of will power, loss of memory, melancholia, d'funkness, or just worry and a too busy Paris season. They leave not only their clothes but their names behind on entering. They assume the names given to the rooms they occupy. The rooms are called after famous doctors, and the inmate of the Charcot room, for instance, is known only as M. or Mme. Charcot.

The practical arrangements of the

Somnarium seem judicious. All the patients for patients in acute stages are painted indigo blue, a color thought to be soothing to neurasthenics and comforting to dyspeptics. When the period of convalescence is reached patients are removed to apartments painted green, this color being still and soothing and a tonic as well.

For the rest the only imperative order is sleep. If patients cannot obey and cannot sleep somniferous scents are wafted about the establishment, such as perfumes of cardamom, hellebore and myrrh.

Says Skirt is Sanitary.

Harry Furness, the artist, says that the "ankle skirt," as he calls the harem skirt, is sensible and sanitary, and contrasts it with the germ-gathering dress that women have been wearing for many years. The name of the dress has done much to prejudice women against it, he thinks.

HOME NURSING

By EDITH B. LOWRY
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—A Book for Young Girls."

THE HOME NURSE.

"What is everybody's business is nobody's business." This is especially true in cases of sickness in the homes where the nursing, or care of the patient, devolves upon the members of the family. In such cases, where several try to carry out the physician's orders, it often happens that some orders are neglected, each member of the family believing that these things had been attended to by some other person.

Whenever there is illness in a home and it does not seem advisable, for various reasons, to employ a trained nurse, one person should be selected to take charge of the patient, and this person should receive all orders from the physician and be responsible for their fulfillment.

The chief requirements for one who is to take the part of the nurse in a home are neatness, quietness and an ability to carry out the physician's orders exactly.

In her personal appearance, a nurse must be scrupulously clean and neat. Her hair should be tastefully dressed and free from ornaments. Her hands should be clean and well cared for. A roughened hand is very annoying to the patient. The nails should receive especial attention and should be filed rather short. A nurse should not wear any rings for they are liable to catch on the clothing or the patient's hair and are annoying. The nurse's dress should be of some washable, cotton material, soft enough not to rustle when she walks. White aprons give a neat and tidy appearance. Her shoes should not be too heavy, permitting her to step noiselessly about the room.

During the twenty-four hours some provisions should be made for sufficient sleep and outdoor exercise for the nurse. She needs seven or eight hours' sleep and one or two hours for exercise, besides time in which to dress, attend to her toilet requirements and eat her meals without hurrying. A nurse who does not have sufficient time for sleep and rest becomes not only physically tired, but mentally so exhausted that she is incapable of giving proper care to the patient or of observing symptoms. For the sake of the patient, be sure that the nurse is not overworked. She can be relieved of her duties by some other person. At such times as she is away from her patient, written orders for the substitute should be left and she should make sure that the one left in charge understands the directions.

The nurse always should speak in a low, well-modulated voice that can be understood by the patient without any effort. She should never speak in whispers or a low tone to a third person so the patient can hear the voices but cannot understand what is being said. A sick person is very sensitive

SCIENCE AND INVENTION

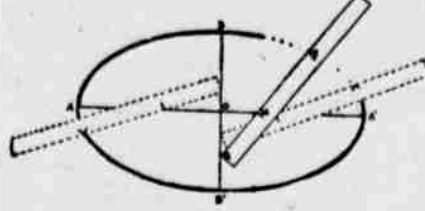
METHOD OF MAKING ELLIPSE

Plan Shown in Illustration Proved to Accord With Correct Mathematical Principles.

In your issues of July 14 and August 25 for the year 1906 two methods are suggested for drawing an ellipse with the aid of a compass. But the compass has never produced a true ellipse, and these results are merely close approximations. Also, in the last-named issue, there is a method for constructing an ellipse by means of a network of tangents. This method also was proved inaccurate by Mr. Warwick Worthington in the number for July 31, 1909, and he in turn offers a solution by a network of tangents which I believe gives a perfect ellipse, although the method is somewhat cumbersome for ordinary use, writes Edward M. Meyer of Washington and Jefferson college, in the Scientific American.

There is, however, a simple way of constructing an ellipse of any desired dimensions solely with the aid of straight-edge and pencil. No originality belongs to my method; but it is readily proved to accord with correct mathematical principles.

On a straight-edge or ruler mark off a distance QP, equal to half the



Method of Constructing Ellipse.

desired major axis; also, from point P, a distance PM, equal to half the desired minor axis.

Referring now to the drawing, we construct perpendiculars AA' and BB', and lay the ruler down so that the points Q and M fall exactly upon these perpendiculars. The point P will then fall somewhere on the curve of the proposed ellipse. By shifting the ruler about, in such a way that Q and M always fall on lines AA' and BB', respectively, the mark on the ruler at P will give the position of any number of points, which afterward may readily be joined by a continuous line.

MUSIC BY COMPRESSED AIR

Auxetophone Invented to Play Violoncello Producing Rich Tone of Greater Volume.

The auxetophone is the thing that plays a violoncello by compressed air. It is the invention of C. A. Parsons of musical instruments whereby the tone of the latter is appreciably increased by means of a current of compressed air.

It is a comb or multiple reed valve of aluminum, which is so hinged that each tooth of the comb can vibrate at a variable distance from a corresponding slot in a little box, to which compressed air is supplied at about five pounds pressure. The farther away the teeth are from the slots the greater the flow of air, and vice versa. The flow of air is controlled by a valve, and when caused to vibrate, the air transmits corresponding sound waves into the trumpet.

When the auxetophone is applied to the cello or any other stringed instrument the valve is connected by a rod of aluminum with the bridge of the instrument. Thus the valve is caused to vibrate in accord with the characteristic tone of the instrument. The sound issuing from the trumpet, though in many respects identical with that of the instrument itself, is at the same time richer in character and greater in volume.

At a recent concert in London one of the program features was a violoncello solo rendered in conjunction with the auxetophone. At the concert the possibilities of the invention were strikingly evidenced. The tone of the instrument was appreciably fuller, richer and stronger. When the auxetophone was attached the harmonies were more clearly defined than is possible without the attachment. The fortissimo passages of the tones had a solid, well rounded ring of great volume. In the pianissimo passages the expression was enhanced by a softness and distinct clearness of tones.

The Size of the Sea.

This term has reference not to the area of the oceans only, but to their total cubic content, which is reckoned at thirty times the cubic content of all the land lying above the sea-level. In other words, if all the land of the globe were scraped off down to the level of the sea and thrown into the ocean, it would fill only one-thirtieth part of the enormous abyss which is occupied by the waters. According to Lyell, the mean height of the land above sea-level is 1,000 feet, whereas the mean depth of the ocean is 12,000 feet. There are mountain peaks which rise as high above sea-level as the depressions of the ocean sink below it, but the average height of the land is slight compared with the average depth of the sea.

Infantile Paralysis.

In an address at the Harvard Medical school on "Infantile Paralysis," Dr. R. W. Lovett said that, while it was not yet certain how the germs of the disease were communicated to healthy children, it was a fact that birds and domestic animals had been found in a large proportion of the families where infantile paralysis had occurred, and there was good reason for believing that such pets in the house were responsible sometimes for the appearance of the disease.

New Automatic Gun.

The inventor of a new pocket automatic gun claims its bullets will penetrate half an inch of steel at 1,000

SCIENTIFIC TRAP FOR FLIES

Device Consists of Cylindrical-Shaped Wire Body Held in Place on Window Glass.

This fly trap is based on the principles that a window, by reason of the light, always attracts insects and that flies and other insects invariably move upward, says the Popular Mechanics. In doing so they are led by the guides until the opening of the trap is reached, and then, as the glass



Appearance of Trap on Window.

forms the inner side of the trap, they continue to crawl upward without being frightened away by a surface they are not accustomed to until the upper, or death chamber, imprisons them.

The trap consists of an ingenious cylindrical shaped wire body, held in place on the glass of a window or door by means of metal and rubber. Its construction and its guides are shown in the drawing, while its appearance on a window or door is shown in the photograph. After the trap has caught the flies it is submerged in boiling water and then emptied. Placed on a window of a business house in Los Angeles, it caught 658 flies in ten hours.

KEEPING SHOESTRINGS TIED

Pair of Little Metal Catches on Sides of Shoes Hold Laces Securely in Place.

A New York man has contrived a pair of little metal catches that can be sewed fast to the shoe, near the top, or can be clipped on to the end of the laces, though this use is more unsightly. These catches have loops



Keeps the Shoe Laces Tied.

at the bottom to receive the bow of the laces and the tops are bent into spring clasps which have a free end under which the metal-capped ends of the laces can be slipped and held in place. In addition to eliminating the annoyance of having to stop and tie the laces time and again, these little catches give a trimmer appearance to the top of the shoe by holding the laces neatly instead of allowing them to flop around.

NOTES OF SCIENCE AND INVENTION

France has thirty-five aviation schools.

Seven-eighths of the beef consumed in Great Britain is home produced. Of forty-three aeroplanes exhibited in Paris but thirteen were biplanes. Forty-three per cent of the families of Vienna live in a single room each. On an average a man's hair turns gray five years earlier than a woman's.

Five patents upon safety razors have been granted to English women in the last year. Cement made of blast-furnace slag chemically treated is a new English invention.

There were 35,807 patents issued by the patent office at Washington last year and 22,768 expired. Automatic machines have been invented which will thoroughly clean 3,600 fish an hour.

The eggs of wild birds are smaller than those of the same species of birds when domesticated. Vaccine virus is rendered absolutely pure by radium emanations, according to an Italian scientist. A new foot-warmer for motorists utilizes the heat of both the exhaust gases and the circulation water.

More than 1,000,000 acres of land have been reclaimed from the sea by Holland since the sixteenth century. Italy every year uses 1,800 tons of orange blossoms and 1,000 tons of roses in the manufacture of perfume.

About 25,000 worth of gold is recovered from the soot in the chimneys of the United States mines every few years. All Rotterdam street cars carry first aid packages for relief in case of accident to crew, passengers or pedestrians.

Experiments with thousands of subjects have shown that the average man attains his maximum strength in his 31st year. A sum of \$1,250,000 left by Henry Barnato is to be used for building and endowing an institution for cancer sufferers in London. By the explosion of a gunpowder made of cordite and carbon an English scientist has succeeded in producing minute diamonds.

Pretty Nightdresses



FANCIES OF FASHION

Sometimes the brims are different in color from the square crowns.

The stage toe, in a modified form, is to be seen on the finer grade of slippers.

Touques of brocade, with puffed crowns of plain satin, are good for the early spring days. They are trimmed with small aigrettes at one side.

Peanut straw is a name given to a new coarse mesh straw which has the effect of woven grass. There are all sorts of smart little hats in it.

Dresden gold and silver ribbon edged with a narrow line of plain colored satin make a most attractive trimming for the frock velveteen with chiffon.

Many blouses are showing designs in beads or in a beaded effect, secured by French knots. These latest are very new and are worked in silk or heavy cotton and in contrasting colors.

Rosie Jack Tar hats are already in the shops for boys, intended probably for the little tourists going south.

The New Parasols.

A noticeable feature in some of the new parasols is the fancy form in which the ferrule end of the stick is cut. This end is somewhat prolonged and is shaped like an elongated bulb at the base. It tapers away for about two inches and ends with a tiny ball at the tip.

Materials for Spring.

Serges and cashmeres in plain colors, fancy mixtures, checks, stripes and plaids, also worsteds, are now being featured for spring wear. These are shown made up in tailor effects, Peter Thomsons, Russian, brettele and jumper styles for young girls.

New Flowers.

One of the prettiest of artificial flowers which the summer styles have produced is the big clematis. This is shaped true to nature and comes in all colors, although the natural purple and white are perhaps the prettiest.