

MUST HAVE SERVICE AT ONCE

Peculiar Fact That Few Men Can Wait With Patience for Telephone Answer.

Why is it that when a man has to wait for "Central" to answer him seconds seem minutes? Many a busy man will wait minutes for anything else and never turn an eyelash.

Why is it? The reason is comparatively obvious to one who analyzes the problem. People are not accustomed to delay at the telephone.

Men are used to waiting for others. Therefore delay in a bank or store causes no wrath. But men—and women, too—are not accustomed to delay in the telephone service.

Safe to Hold Radium.

What is described by its makers as the most ingenious safe ever constructed has just been completed by the Chubb company of London for the British Radium corporation.

It is well known to science that radium emanations will pass through the thickest and hardest steel. For this reason the inner cover of this safe was made of lead three inches thick, inclosed within a burglar-proof steel shell.

This compartment of the safe is designed to hold 100 pounds of radium, valued at \$5,000,000,000. The total weight of the safe is one and a half tons.

Practical.

An English friend, who contends that we Americans have no true sense of historic value or artistic verity, cites the following to prove his point: She was at Holyrood last spring, and the custodian was showing her, together with several American tourists, the old rooms of the famous castle.

One of the Americans, evidently a middle-aged man of business, poked his nose into the room and out again.

"Whose did you say? Darnley's? Dressing-room? Humph! Very poor light for shaving."—Harper's.

Well Shooter Blown to Atoms.

A terrible fate was that of Charles P. Key, an oil well shooter, living in Wellsville, Pa., who was blown to pieces by an explosion of nitro-glycerine. Key was shooting a well about five miles from town.

A short time later a terrific explosion felt for many miles around was heard in the direction of the magazine. Investigation showed a mammoth hole in the ground and nothing but small atoms of the man and horses could be found.

Strange Death.

It would seem that there are still some causes of death which have not as yet come within the scope of the medical man's observation—certainly not of his registration.

"So you think Mr. Meekton is a model husband," said the new member of the society.

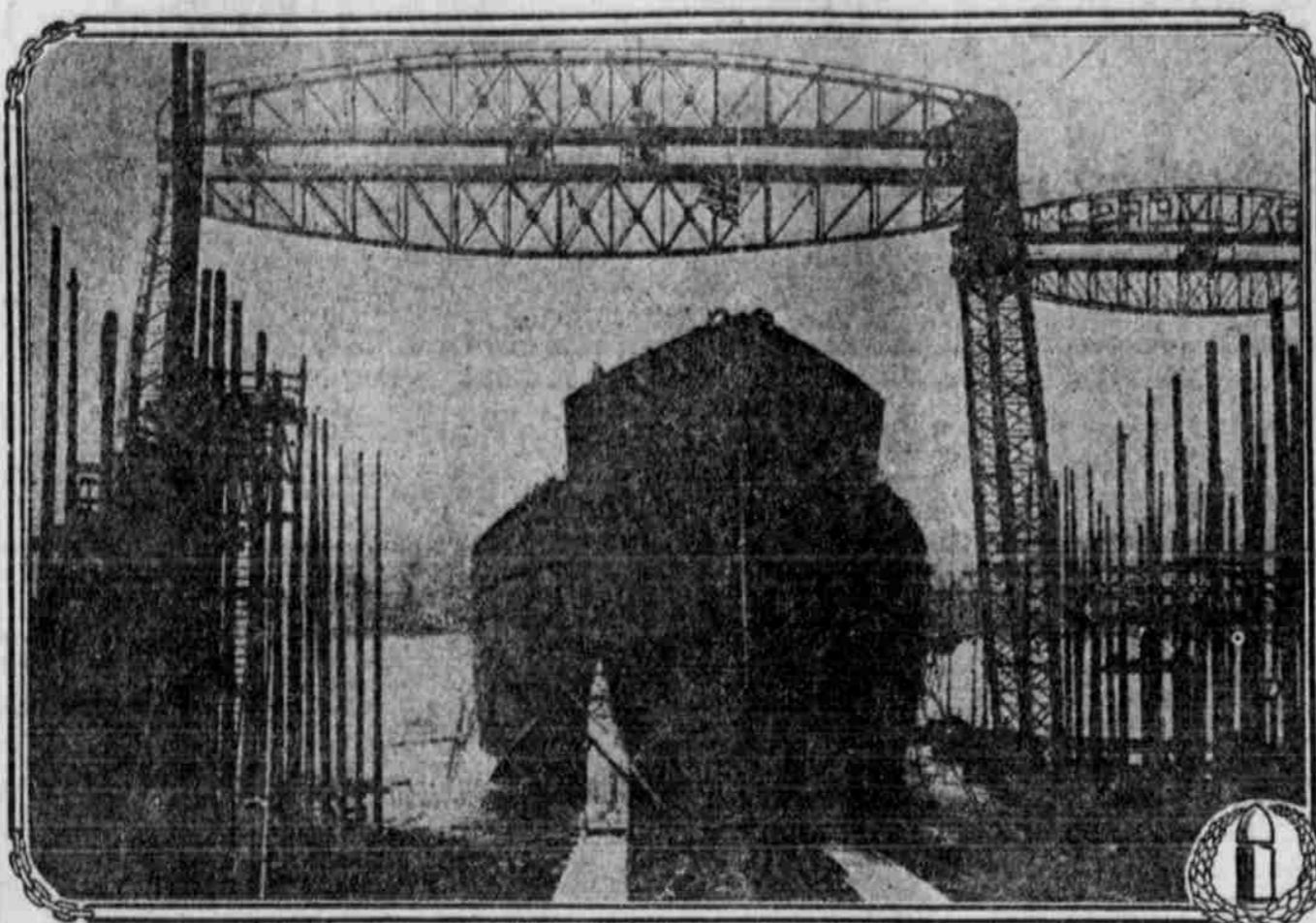
A Model.

"I do," answered Mrs. Votchy Gumm. "He is studying stenography so as to help his wife with her suffrage speeches."

A Change.

"Papa, does a hyphen change the meaning of anything?" "Yes, with a hyphen you can change a fine-tooth comb into a fine tooth-comb."

KING GEORGE'S FIRST BATTLESHIP



LAUNCHING OF H.M.S. HERCULES

Jarrow, England.—H. M. S. Hercules, the first of King George's battleships, was successfully launched recently at the shipyards here.

FOWL BROTH SACRED

Doctor From China Tells How Natives Revere Chicken Soup.

Used by Chinese as Panacea for All Human Ills and Symbol of Strength and Medium to Good Health.

Chicago.—How chicken soup is used by the Chinese as a panacea for all human ills, and how he himself by means of a joking statement increased the faith which the Chinese place in the chicken as a symbol of strength and a medium to good health was told in Chicago the other day by Dr. W. H. Park, who for 28 years has been at the head of Soochow hospital in Soochow, China.

"The chicken, according to the Chinese, is the bird of strength," explained Doctor Park, "and the faith which those people place in it is wonderful. When a child is afflicted with measles, with a fever or with the dreaded smallpox, its mother immediately brews a strong concoction of chicken broth. This she literally pumps into the youngster in the belief that the strength thus taken from the chicken will aid the child in the fight against the disease and prevent its recurrence.

"Unconsciously I myself added to the conviction that the chicken was the sure cure for anything in the line of ailments to which the Chinese is heir. I had just vaccinated a child for his mother, and knowing that the belief in chicken soup was so strong I jokingly remarked to the woman that after four days she feed the child a cup of broth. I said after four days because I knew that in that time

the vaccination would have taken and I wanted to see if the woman would attribute it to the soup.

"She most certainly did, and after her baby's arm had healed she spread the news that I was the greatest soup doctor in the land. Her friends came to me and then they told their friends, so that almost before I knew it I could not vaccinate a child without including in my prescription of treatment a stipulated day on which chicken soup should be administered. Then in some way it became a general custom for the rich as well as the poor to bring their children to me on their 'lucky days' designated in the Chinese almanac for vaccination and soup prescription.

"But to change the subject," continued the physician, "China is years and years behind in the medical profession. The country is full of superstition, and those doctors who do practice there are content to rely simply upon the old books which have been left by their ancestors.

Sure Sign of Sea Disaster

When Fish Get Premonition of Death They Wash Their Faces and Cling Close Together.

New York.—A report received by wireless of miles of dead fish near the Diamond shoals, which was sent in by Captain Johnson of the steamship Morro Castle, is causing much comment among mariners. The slaughter of fish was generally attributed to an earthquake. Later advices stated that some of the fish appeared to have been broken in half by the force of the quake. The story caused South street to gossip and the headquarters of the marine reporters at the Battery was visited by many in search of information.

Captain Acheson, formerly of the good ship Lexicographer, which was lost in a West Indian hurricane some years ago, was among the callers. "Dead fish at sea, as a rule, mean a hurricane or an earthquake," said the former skipper. "This Captain Johnson seems to have mistaken a

school of dead ones for a reef a mile or so long, over which the waves were breaking. Now there is a reason for that. When fish get a premonition of death they cling closely together. I've seen a whole mile of them in death, so that they appear to have grabbed one another in a death struggle.

"There is a sure sign of a coming quake at sea. It's when you see a fish washing his face. A fish washes his face in sunshine. He comes up with his face all full of water and turns it up and keeps it up till it dries. Now, why does he wash it dry, when he goes right down into the water again and gets it wet? Ain't it the same with a man? He washes his face by wetting it, and then dries it off again.

"I'll bet that if Captain Johnson had got out and inspected them fish he would have seen that inside of a few hours every one of them had been washing his face."

San Bernardino, Cal.—A pack mule in from the desert after a five months' prospecting expedition developed a limp. Examination of the mule's hoof revealed a gold nugget estimated to be worth \$50. The mule is the property of Clyde Durham and James Desmond, prospectors, but they have no idea in what part of the desert the gold was picked up.

The Way It Works. "What is love?" she asked. "Love," he answered, "is a brand of insanity that makes a man call a 300-pound woman his little tootsy wootsy."

Mule Limps; \$50 in His Hoof.

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New Cigar Record.

Chicago.—Walter W. Seorge has broken the long distance cigar smoking record, held by William Mackenzie of Washington, D. C.

Seorge, a telegraph operator, smoked a cigar of ordinary length 115 1/2 minutes without relighting. The previous record was 84 1/2 minutes.

Balalaika Craze in London

New Russian Musical Instrument Reaches English Metropolis—Effects Novel and Beautiful.

London.—This city is threatened with a "balalaika" craze. This strange Russian instrument, resembling a three-cornered banjo, took the town by storm some time ago when a Russian balalaika orchestra performed here. The novel and beautiful effects produced made the balalaika instantly popular. Now a band of English musicians has been trained to play the balalaika by Prince Tschagadorff, who was the soloist with the original Russian orchestra. The instrument is extremely easy to play, so that only a few weeks sufficed for the English players—mostly members of the fa-

mous Coldstream Guard band—to become proficient under the prince's tuition. They gave a concert at the Queen's hall the other day, playing pieces of Mendelssohn, Grieg and other classical composers, and scoring a great success. Now numerous amateurs are acquiring balalaikas and forming bands of their own.

Japs Supersede British.

Seattle.—The superseding of British officers by Japanese on the trans-Pacific liners, the officers being removed one by one, generally at the end of the run, is said to be due to the pressure exerted by Japanese public opinion, which demands the manning of Japanese vessels entirely by Japanese.

TALES OF GOTHAM AND OTHER CITIES

Ideal Man as Barnard Girls See Him



NEW YORK.—"Wanted, a man: brown eyes, hair and necktie. Last-mentioned article may also be lavender or turquoise-blue. A six-footer. May smoke, may not smoke, may smoke only a pipe. Sense of humor imperative. Income of \$2,000 a year and prospects. A perfect gentleman and the owner of an auto. No dentists, professors or undertakers need apply."

"I guess girls are just girls, whether they go to college or not," sniffed the maiden aunt from the country, when she heard this paragon of masculinity solemnly proclaimed by Miss Grace Reeder as the 1910 common ideal for a soul-mate. It was at the class-day exercises of the "coeds" in the Columbia gymnasium. But others sighed. "Those Barnard girls have spent

four years studying ethics and psychology and logarithms and social reform," moaned a spectacled professor. "Now, will you tell me how the harmony between a man's eyes and tie affects his understanding of the harmony between Epicurus and Walter Pater?" The professor's eyes, by the way, were small and pale blue, and his tie was black with white spots.

"And what has his devotion to nicotine to do with his devotion to Kant's 'A Critique of Pure Reason'?" And wherein does his possession of a motor car imply his possession of the complete works of John Ruskin? And then the supremely silly insistence on the fact that he shall not be a high priest in the Temple of Knowledge—indignation choked him there.

"And just to think," came acidly from a severe lady who wore a "votes for women" button, "there isn't a thing in that description about the man's being a suffragist! And no girl ought to marry any man until he promises he'll work for the cause."

Notwithstanding their adverse criticism the young women in cap and gown clapped vociferously at the public announcement of the chosen charms of their hero, as previously obtained by statistical count. And two-thirds of them want him, by the way. They say they "find in marriage their highest vocation."

Why School Girls Laughed at the "Cop"



BUFFALO, N. Y.—Policeman Edward O'Grady of the third precinct delights in reading the papers. When interested in an article his entire attention is absorbed. He illustrated the idea by a story he told to Policeman Richard Tobin.

"I was coming down in a Niagara street car and was reading how Gotch threw Zbyzsko. A woman with a big hat came into the car and I moved next to the window to make room. She sat down on the seat beside me. There were some snips of girls in the seats across the aisle and back of me. They were on their way to school," said O'Grady.

"I felt a tickling on my ear. But, being interested as a man is when he's reading, I just reached up my hand and gave the ear a gentle brush.

"After a little I felt the tickling again, but being interested in the paper, I just gave another little brush with my hand.

"My ear was tickled again, but being still interested, I just put up my hand again and not thinking of much gave the ear another brush.

"Well, again I was tickled and again gave a brush, as a man will. As my hand went up the last time, I see that the snips of girls about me is giggling.

"I looks back and see that the two lassies behind me are holding their books in their hands and am pretty well satisfied that they were not rubbing my ear with a straw. When my ear is tickled again, I brush back with my hand again. The girls giggled louder.

"Says I to myself, 'they're laughing because I nearly struck the face of the woman beside me.' So I excused myself to her and explained that my mind was so taken up with the paper that I forgot she was there. 'That's nothing,' she says, 'read your paper and don't mind me.'

"My mind was made up this time. I was bound to catch it. I only pretended to read. My ear was tickled. Like a shot back goes the hand. The woman's hat swings round and nearly saws the eye out of my head.

"It was a long feather, running round the hat and dangling out behind, that had been rubbing my ear. I had grabbed the feather. I thought the snips of schoolgirls would break their sides. The woman was good natured, when she found the hat wasn't broke. I got off the car at Jersey street and waited for the next car down town."

Magicians Have Fun at Annual Dinner



NEW YORK.—A hatless youngster about sixteen years old approached the clerk of the Hotel Marlborough a few nights ago and asked the clerk to give him a one-dollar bill for a silver dollar. The clerk handed over the bill, but before the youthful person had relieved himself of the silver dollar in exchange he tore the bill in half.

The clerk stared. Then the youth folded the halves of the torn bill together and ripped them some more. Finally only tiny pieces of bill were in his fingers, all rolled up into a very small wad. As the clerk was about to get his breath the youngster unwound the wad of green and showed the admiring onlookers that the bill was quite as untorn and as wholly sound as it had ever been.

The boy handed his cards around then and they told in pink ink that he is "Max Heir, Magician. Merry Mo-

ments of Modern Magic, Mirth and Mystery."

"Oh," said the clerk, who had been thinking a second before about telephoning to the psychopathic ward at Bellevue for an ambulance, "you're one of the crowd having dinner here tonight."

There were about 150 men and women magicians just off the lobby, and they were celebrating the sixth annual banquet of the American Society of Magicians. The masters of black magic who dine together once a year number a few professional performers but by far the greater part of the membership is made up of amateurs. And it seemed that about half of these dilettantes have the degree of M. D.

The magicians put pink handkerchiefs into bottles of water after their dinner and then fired revolvers at the bottles, whereupon both handkerchiefs and water suddenly disappeared leaving an empty bottle on the table. And they did many other wondrous things that appealed to the audience of experts and which caused many dark skinned waiters who were supposed to be at work in the adjoining dining room to linger wide-eyed at the doorways watching the marvels.

Eats \$5 Bill He Changed for Friend



ST. LOUIS.—Somewhere in the anatomy of John Henry of Upper Alton there is a five-dollar bill that he chewed up and swallowed while eating a cheese sandwich. While munching placidly on the sandwich W. W. Lowe asked Mr. Henry to change five dollars.

Holding the bill between his teeth, Henry began to "frisk" himself with one hand for the change while with the other he continued to carry the slowly disappearing sandwich to his mouth. By the time the change had been counted out and laid on the

counter the last of the sandwich had been eaten and Henry asked where the bill was.

"Last I saw of it," said Mr. Lowe "you were holding it in your teeth." "That's so," said Henry. "I did stick the corner of that bill in my mouth to hold it and clean forgot it. I remember now that the sandwich tasted kind of peculiar and I thought you had put a leaf of lettuce into it like they do in those club sandwiches they serve in the city for two bits."

Meanwhile the five dollars in change had been given Lowe, and when Henry began to figure out where he came in on the transaction the best he got was an assurance from a present that he undoubtedly had the money and that there was no chance of his spending it.

Henry has been trying to figure how he can "money in" and "money out" at the same time.