

## A LESSON IN SPANISH

How Tourists In Mexico Wrestle With the Language.

### A QUEER RESTAURANT ORDER.

The Way an American Woman Shocked a Waiter With a Demand For a Dish That the Cook Would Not Prepare.

"It's no wonder that men who go from the States down to Mexico on business do not get along better," said a returned New Yorker. "They don't study Spanish as they should. In the clubs half of the stock stories are about these half educated Americans."

"It was in a restaurant where only Spanish is spoken that a party of American tourists assembled. There were a woman and her two daughters and, of course, the attendant and patient papa with the wad."

"Let me order," said the mater. "I want to use my Spanish." And she proceeded to pull out a handy book of conversation. "Let me see," scanning the menu; "we want oysters, I'm sure. A small fry for each would be just the thing."

"Running her fingers through the leaves, she found that 'chiquita' means 'small' and 'frita' means 'fry.' Perfectly simple. 'Chiquita fritas' would mean 'small fries.' She held up her fingers to indicate four and said complacently to the expectant and polite waiter:

"Chiquitas fritas."

"The waiter's eyes bulged out, and his Latin politeness got a shock. 'Oh, no, señora,' he cried as he backed away; 'no chiquitas fritas!'

"Why not?" returned the patron. "Don't you have 'em? for in her surprise she had fallen back on her vernacular. Then she remembered her role and consulted her book.

"Nothing doing. No end of gesticulations on the part of the waiter."

"Nice country where one can't get fried oysters," piped the woman, and she added, "I wonder why?"

"You can get 'em, ma'am," said a man's rancorous voice at an adjoining table. He continued: "You ordered fried babies, and they don't serve 'em in this part of the republic. The word 'chiquitas' means babies, a term of endearment, but you're all O.K. as to the fritas. If you had asked for 'ostrich fritas' the order would have gone through all right."

"And she offered 'em, though she looked daggers at the stranger, who was a New Yorker and had lived in Mexico for twenty years.

"It was the same sort of woman," continued the traveler, "who tried to air her Spanish by asking the amount of her bill after she had taken her dinner in a restaurant in the City of Mexico. With a bland smile she addressed the head waiter with 'Como mucho?' intending to ask how much.

"Now, the word 'como' not only means 'how,' but also 'eat,' so that the woman had remarked to the waiter, 'I eat a good deal.' This was as much as to say that the dinner was so good that she had eaten all or more than she ought. In fact, it was a compliment and such a compliment as is highly appreciated in any Latin country.

"With a deep bow the servitor expressed his delight that his humble viands should have found approbation in the sight of the most excellent señora. It was expressed in the choice phrases that so readily lend themselves on such occasions through the Castilian tongue.

"But my lady didn't understand a word of the lingo. She meant business, and she repeated in a louder tone: 'Como mucho? Como mucho?' She was sure of her correct Spanish, but somehow she couldn't get the waiter to do anything but bow and scrape and smile.

"The puzzle was solved when the proprietor, hearing the excited voices, entered and learned that the lady merely wanted to pay her bill. Had she known that not 'Como mucho?' but 'Quis es en cuenta?' ('What is the account?') is the correct expression she would have been saved trouble and mortification.

"Time and again United States consuls have set forth in federal publications the advantages of a real knowledge of Spanish to the business man. The need is growing more emphatic with every day, as our relations in trade are growing with Mexico daily. But I guess that federal publications don't hit the people at large as a general rule.

"One of the easiest ways to learn a foreign language is to read good novels in that tongue. You get so interested in the story that you just have to go on to the end to learn whether the hero and heroine come out all right.

"Students of Spanish don't adopt that method in New York, I guess, for you can't find any Spanish novels on the secondhand bookstore tables up or down or across the city. The only specimens I have found have been Spanish novels translated from the French novels. It is strange, too, for there are many excellent novels nowadays by Spanish writers.

"Of course an instructor is needed to obtain the correct pronunciation, but on visiting Mexico with a good, ready knowledge of the language you can soon acquire the needed pronunciation. In fact, you have to do it in order to get along."—New York Sun.

"Any coward can fight a battle when he's sure of winning, but give me the man who has pluck to fight when he's sure of losing."—George Eliot.

### HIS MISTAKE.

It Was Costly, but Cured Him of an Irritating Habit.

Bunsen was always a great kidder. He isn't any more.

Bunsen is a lawyer, although, of course, he is known by a different name. Don't ever get the idea, though, that this didn't really happen just because Bunsen's real nomination isn't mentioned.

As we were saying, Bunsen used to be pretty much of a kidder. He would even kid his own patient little wife. Those who care to read on down a little farther will learn why he ceased to be a kidder.

One evening last week when Bunsen got home his wife had a new hat to show him. It was some hat. Anybody could have seen that it was the final phase in female headgear.

But Bunsen started in to make fun of it. He said it looked as if it had been trimmed by a cross eyed milliner on an empty stomach. And he made a lot of other disparaging remarks that were extremely harassing to poor Mrs. Bunsen.

"D'je buy it sight unseen?" he inquired. "Say, how much do they pay the girl that sold you that? She ought to have a raise. Any girl who could put that one over a customer must be something of a smooth saleslady, I'm here to remark."

Mrs. Bunsen was almost in tears. Bunsen had to go into the other room to have a quiet laugh at her expense. Oh, he was the great kidder, all right.

The next day, though, he had forgotten all about the hat.

The day after that he was reminded of his little jokefest. Mrs. Bunsen handed him a slip of paper when he came home to get his victims that evening. It was a bill for retrimming that hat; \$18.84 it came to.

Bunsen paid it without a murmur and said the revised edition of the hat was just exactly right. He isn't making fun of hats any more.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### NOTED ANAGRAMS.

Ingenious Transmutation of Names of Well Known Persons.

Anagrams that transmute the names of well known men and women are often startlingly appropriate. What could be better in this way than these announcements, evolved from two great statesmen's names when the reins of power changed hands: Gladstone, "G leads not!" Disraeli, "I lead, sir!" Quite as happy is the comment on the devoted nursing of Florence Nightingale, whose name yields "Flit on, cheering angel!" Among those that are most often quoted we may mention Horatio Nelson, "Honor est a Nil;" Charles James Stuart, "Claims Arthur's seat;" Pilate's question, "Quid est veritas?" ("What is truth?"), answered by "Est vir qui adest!" ("It is the man here present!"); Swedish nightingale, "Sing high, sweet Linda;" David Livingstone, "D. V., go and visit Nlie;" the Marquess of Ripon (who resigned the grand mastership of Freemasons when he became a Romanist), "R. I. P., quoth Freemasons;" Charles, prince of Wales, "All France calls, Oh, help!" Sir Roger Charles Doughty Tichborne, baronet, "Yon horrid butcher Orton, biggest rascal here," and many shorter specimens, such as telegraph, "great help;" astronomers, "no more stars" and "moon starers;" one hug, "enough;" editors, "so tired;" tournament, "to run at men;" penitentiary, "nay, I repeat;" old England, "golden land;" revolution, "to love ruin;" fashionable, "one-half bias;" lawyers, "sly ware;" midshipman, "mind his map;" poorhouse, "Oh, sour hope;" Presbyterian, "best in prayer;" sweetheart, "there we sat;" matrimony, "into my arm."—Chambers' Journal.

### Air and Water "Cures."

It is a remarkable fact, that, as with various natural so called "mineral waters" so with various "airs" which people find beneficial, no one has yet clearly and decisively shown, in the first place, whether they exert any chemical effect of a special kind on the people who seem to benefit by drinking the one or breathing the other. Still less has any one shown what is the particular chemical ingredient of the air or of the water of any given resort which exerts the beneficial effect attributed to that air or that water.—Sir E. Ray Lankester in London Telegraph.

A Habit He Won't Contract.

A man who signs himself "A Son of Rest" sends us the following:

"Several people have asked me why I never work. I take this means of replying to all.

"The habit of working is like a habit of taking dope. If a man is a dope fiend and stops it he dies. Now, if a man gets the habit of working and then stops it he starves to death. Same thing. I shall never contract such a habit."—Cleveland Leader.

### Moral of the Garden.

Nothing teaches patience like a garden. You may go round and watch the opening bud from day to day, but it takes its own time, and you cannot urge it on faster than it will. If forced it is only torn to pieces. All the best results of a garden, like those of life, are slowly but regularly progressive.—Exchange.

### Experience.

"Experience would be a wonderful asset but for one thing."

"What's that?"

"You never can sell it for what it cost you."—Cleveland Leader.

One day is worth two tomorrow. Have you something to do tomorrow? Do it today.—B. Franklin.

### RURAL WRITINGS

Items from the country are solicited for this department. Mail or send them in as early in the week as possible; items received later than Wednesday can not be used at all and it is preferred that they be in more later than the week before. Please give your name with items, that we may know whence they are from. Name of sender not for publication. See that your writing is legible, especially names and places, leaving plenty of space between the lines for correction. Be careful that what you tell about actually occurred.

Edith Syrie and daughter Lena Damero spent a few days with their mother in Atkinson last week.

Otto Damero and wife came out from town Saturday to visit relatives here.

Isabel McKathnie returned home last week from a stay of several weeks with her mother in town.

Mr. Parshall, accompanied by Miss Gatewood, went to Butte Saturday morning and came home in the snow-form that afternoon.

Hugh O'Neill, wife and children of Ancar, Bert Anderson, Mrs. F. Colburn and Ralph and Friend Keeler and wife spent a pleasant day at Bay Colburn's a week ago Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Stockwell of Butte are visiting their daughter, Mrs. Bay Colburn and family at present.

Laura Stein of Meek, began a term of school in Dist. 40 last Tuesday.

Sam Anderson and Leonora Parshall spent Sunday at Ben McKathnie's.

Mrs Flora Coburn stayed with her daughter Jessie Thursday night.

Bert Anderson returned to his home in North Dakota last week after spending the summer here.

Mr. and Mrs. Wearne were at Butte Saturday.

Henry Bartels returned from a two week's stay in Boyd county and is working at the Kirkland ranch.

### Kola Items.

Mr. John Kennedy, of Kola, and Miss Anna Duffin, of Carson, were married at Burwell last week. A few days after the young couple came home the neighbors and friends gathered at the home of the groom, where they were made welcome and had a good time until the wee small hours in the morning, when everyone voted Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy royal entertainers. We all went home wishing this worthy couple a long life and happiness.

Jacob Pfund, Jr. came home Tuesday from O'Neill where he has been husking corn for Mr. Doyle and Mr. Calkins for a month and a half. Miss Louise came with him to go on her homestead.

Kola school district No. 245 began school last Monday with George Holcomb teacher.

Master Roy McPharlin, who has been out here taking care of his father's homestead, etc. for O'Neill last Wednesday.

Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. P. J. Kennedy were visiting in Amelia last Saturday.

Mrs. Crabb, Mrs. Howarth and babies passed through Kola last Tuesday.

### MINOR MENTION

Wanted—Girl for general housework. Good wages. Enquire of Mrs. Arthur Ryan.

25-2

The W. C. T. U. will meet at the home of Mrs. W. E. McRobert, Dec. 16 at 7:30 p. m.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Thomas went to Omaha Tuesday to spend a week visiting friends and attend the great Corn Show.

All members of O'Neill lodge No. 153, A. O. U. W. are requested to meet at the hall next Tuesday evening, December 15. Important business to transact.—L. G. Gillespie, Recorder.

Supervisors C. D. Keyes, J. A. Goilden and J. L. Roll, as a committee selected by the Holt county board of supervisors, left Monday morning for Hastings, Nebr., to attend a meeting of the State Supervisors' association. Before their return they will visit Lincoln to procure prices on oak bridge timber, and also to ascertain upon what terms this lumber is sold to counties by lumber dealers.

The Hon. Arthur Francis Mullen has finally succeeded in landing a piece of pie, in the shape of the appointment as chief oil inspector which pays the impecunious salary of \$2,000 per annum. During the twelve years that have elapsed since Arthur has attained his majority he has held public office ten of them and has kind of got into the office-holding habit. The salary of the new office is about twice that he has received heretofore as a public official, but how any lawyer, who has any kind of a practice can afford to cast it aside for a paltry \$2,000 job, outside his profession, is beyond our ken. But he has agreed to accept the place, probably for the authority connected therewith.

Experience would be a wonderful asset but for one thing."

"What's that?"

"You never can sell it for what it cost you."—Cleveland Leader.

One day is worth two tomorrow. Have you something to do tomorrow? Do it today.—B. Franklin.

Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Never fails. Buy it now. It may save life.

# Christmas Hints

When buying gifts for your friends why not buy something useful to them? If the recipient is to be a lady what would be more appropriate than one of the following articles

### A NICE RUG FOR THE FLOOR

### A... PAIR of PORTIERS AN UP-TO-DATE CLOAK, FUR SET

### SCARF, GLOVES COMB SET, BACK COMB, HANDBAG HANDKERCHIEF PAIR OF SHOES or DRESS PATTERN

If the recipient be a man, get--

### A FINE SUIT of CLOTHES OVERCOAT, FUR CAP, MITTENS DRESS GLOVES

### NECKTIE MUFFLER, SILK HANDKERCHIEF SUSPENDERS, or A NICE SUIT CASE

We have just received a special line of the above named articles and invite you in to look them over. We do not raise prices at Christmas time.

We are closing out our stock of Men's Suits at Manufacturer's Cost.

## THE CASH STORE F. G. CLIFT

Word was received in O'Neill yesterday that Will Adams, for many years a resident of this city, died in southern Texas on December 3, and was buried at Pecos, Texas, on December 5. Mr. Adams was about 40 years of age and had many friends in O'Neill who will regret to hear of his untimely death.

W. L. Shoemaker and Miss Marie Anna Yantz were united in marriage at 7:30 last evening at the Presbyterian parsonage, by Rev. Hullhorst. The groom is one of O'Neill's youngest business men who has made many friends during his residence in this city. The bride is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. U. Yantz, pioneer residents of this county, and is a young lady who possesses many charming traits of character and numbers her friends by the score. The Frontier joins the young couple's many friends in wishing them happiness and prosperity.

County Attorney E. H. Whelan and wife returned Tuesday evening after a ten days' visit with relatives and friends in Omaha. Mr. Whelan was an interesting spectator at the trial of the Omaha banker, Davis, who is charged with having murdered Dr. Rustin of Omaha last September. Ed says he was not present from idle curiosity, but from a desire to listen to the able arguments and cross questioning of the learned counsel on both sides. The case has attracted more attention than any criminal case tried in Douglas county for years, the court room being packed to its capacity each session.

Last week while in the city of Omaha we were introduced to one of Nebraska's most prominent democrats by a democratic editor living in the eastern part of the state. After sizing us up the aforesaid p. d. says: "Well Cronin, what job do you want?" We assured the gentleman that we were not after any political position. "What," he astonishedly exclaimed, "you are not hunting for a piece of the pie, well, you are the first democrat that I have met the past month from O'Neill who was not looking for office; let's take something," and a smile of relief or joy o'er spread his classic features. After having ignited a perfecto and the p. d. doing likewise we assured him that we were not a member of the democratic party and therefore possibly his joy was unfounded. "Ah," he sadly remarked, "I might have known there was some impediment for in that beautiful city all are statesmen and patriots willing to serve their country."

## WINCHESTER

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