

## DIME NOVELS COMING BACK

In Eighteen Months "Nick Carter" Has Had Sales That Have Been Record Breaking.

Nick Carter has come into his own again. The king of the "paperbacks" has made a record-breaking return to popularity. About eighteen months ago his sales began to mount steadily until the entire supply of Nick Carter books was exhausted, says the Sun.

His return to fame was unexpected. It was not the result of an advertising campaign, for the publishers of the paper-bound books do not advertise. They depend instead for the sale of their books on the lists printed in the back pages of each volume.

And Nick Carter was not the only member of the "paperback" tribe to return. All the old favorites—Laura Jenn Libbey, Bertha M. Clay, Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth and Augusta J. Evans—have "come back" surprisingly.

Five years ago everyone was willing to predict that the movies had killed the production of cheap books. Thrills could be absorbed more quickly from the screen than from the printed page—and the price was the same.

Publishers of the paper books are uncertain whether their old reading public has tired of the motion picture or whether a new class of readers has arisen. Of one thing they are certain, though, the demand for the 10 and 15-cent book has increased fourfold. If it were not for the increased cost of production these publishers would be reaping the harvest of their lives.

Stories of American life—as seen by Bertha M. Clay and other writers of her class—and detective stories are most in demand. Fortune-telling books and letter writers also have a large steady sale. "Dream" books were never so popular as they are today, their publishers say.

## PETE HAD OBEYED ORDERS

Literal-Minded Soldier Came Near Getting His Commanding Officer Into a Bad Mess.

There is a certain young officer who, according to his own story, is thinking his stars that General Pershing had a sense of humor.

"Some of my men were Polish, and better soldiers never lived, but I guess in Poland life has been one long, sad story," said the officer. "Anyway, I never ran across a bunch who took things so literally. One night the Germans sent out a three-inch shell that landed square in the trench. In the morning I told one of my men, Pete, we called him, to take it away.

"Where shall I take it?" he asked. "Oh, anywhere," I answered peevishly, "put it to bed in Pershing's tent."

"A little later a brother officer came along and said: 'The old man wants you, and there's something doing.'

"I couldn't imagine what was up until I stood before the chief. He eyed me sternly and then pointed to his bunk, and would you believe it, there was that blamed shell. Pete sure had obeyed orders. Well, I thought I was in for it, but Pershing suddenly began to smile. He said: 'I just want to caution you not to order Pete to capture Berlin until the rest of us are ready to go with him. He might go and do it, you know.'"—Rehoboth Sunday Herald.

## All That Affected Her.

That the Empress Eugenie is not prone to brood sentimentally over the past is evidenced by an incident that occurred some years ago. She visited Windsor castle, a palace in which in the golden days of the empire she was received as an honored guest. Those who accompanied her on this second visit hovered near her, fearing that she would be overcome with the contrast between the past and the present, especially when she viewed the apartments fitted up for her use and which had not been changed. But it was merely her artistic sense that was offended. The hangings of the huge bed were of imperial purple with the green of Napoleon, and the ex-empress remarked disgustedly, "Toujours ces affreux rideaux!" "Always those frightful curtains."

## No Woman Passenger Pilots.

In England women will not be given permission to serve as pilots on passenger airplanes. An official of the air ministry gave the reason for this decision to a writer on the London Sketch as "physical disability as well as nerves," declaring that women's nerves are much more likely to give way than men's.

"I think there are no women in this country capable of passing the air ministry's test. If one does succeed, however, she will be permitted to fly her own private machine, but whether she will be allowed to take a friend with her is a point that remains to be decided.

"In any case women will be barred as pilots of passenger-carrying machines."

## A Senator's Lunch.

Being addressed by a smirking head waiter as "Senator," means nothing to the gay life of Senator McCumber of North Dakota.

Instead of dining at the senate restaurant, where senatorial dignity and fitting white-apron garbed waiters predominate, when night sessions prevent him from going home, the senator repairs to a nearby cafeteria, collects tray, napkin, knife, fork, spoon and other implements of table warfare, nestles his liver and bacon and other seasonal delicacies on the tray, walks over to a table and lays out his spread.

## HAPPY NATIVES OF SARAWAK

Under Wise Government, People Live Easy Lives in Their Gloriously Fertile Country.

The tribe of Kayans, inhabiting the head waters of the Baram and Rejang rivers of Sarawak, have lived for unknown generations almost isolated in the interior of the island of Borneo. There are many reasons for believing them to be originally of Caucasian origin. Many of them have very light skin, and they probably reached Borneo by way of the Malay peninsula from lower Burma. Rigid discipline is characteristic of the domestic menage, resulting in good manners and recognition of authority.

For a good many years Sarawak was under the independent government of a white rajah, Sir Charles Brooke, who controlled his mingled subjects with unusual wisdom and sympathy. Among other far-sighted edicts he instituted stringent game laws, so that the island is one of the best protected parts of the world in this respect. Birds, beasts and butterflies are protected, not more than two specimens of any one species being allowed to the collector. In this way the very beautiful and rare trees and insects of the country are being maintained for the enjoyment of future generations.

Another wise move of the rajah was to continue the native costume—what there is of it—in place of introducing the unsuitable, ugly and artificial modern clothing of Europeans. This, as Stevenson points out, has usually exactly the opposite effect from that intended by well-meaning missionaries, and the happy natives of Sarawak are very well off as they are.

## GOOD WORK WITH CAMERA

Explorers in Northwestern Canada Have Photographic Studies of Wilderness Wild Life.

After a three years' hunt with the camera in the almost unknown Laird river district in northwestern Canada, H. A. Stewart and John Sonnicksom have come back to civilization by way of Peace river, Alberta, bringing several thousand photographic studies of the manners and customs of the wild life of those remote woods and streams. The explorers, for they well deserve the name, worked into the wilderness by way of Hudson's Hope and the forks of the Findlay and Parsnip rivers as far as Fort Graham. Their negatives illustrate the habits of the ptarmigan, moose, beaver, Canadian wild geese and other animals and birds that have seldom been observed with anything like thoroughness by means of the camera. The travelers had devices of various sorts whereby their subjects were enticed to spots upon which the hidden lenses were focused; and upon reaching these spots an ambushed camera man "snapped" them by twitching a long cord attached to the lens shutter. A single negative of some specially shy animal was often the only fruit of many hours of patient waiting. Sometimes for days the explorers would watch a single spot through their field glasses awaiting the favorable moment to "shoot." But it was all worth it.

## Gleaning the Stumps.

The rapid decrease in the number of tall stumps which have been so familiar to the traveler through the coast hills of Oregon, is regarded as an indication of their approaching extinction. Hitherto some 20 feet of each stump has been left standing, silent relics of former monarchs of the forest, too thick for most saws to compass and too full of pitch to suit the sawmills. But now the need for timber is greater and men no longer climb high up on to boards thrust into notches in the trunk to suit the saw and the sawmill. They have learned thrift and they cut low down lest good lumber be uselessly wasted. Only as a record of past wastefulness are the tall stumps with their deep notches still visible.

## A Filipino Vassar.

What the occidental ideals of universal opportunities of education are to mean to women of the Orient takes on a large significance with the establishment in the Philippines of a university for girls only. This university is to be part of an educational group called Centro Escolar de Senoritas, where until now the instruction to girls has been only in the primary, secondary and intermediate grades. That this Filipino Vassar will develop traditions characteristic of girls' colleges in the United States cannot be doubted by anyone who has observed how wholeheartedly though shyly, girl students from the Orient have entered into the undergraduate studies, festivities and pastimes at American colleges.

## Coquelin's Memory.

"How many parts do you know well enough to play tonight if need be?" somebody asked Coquelin. He took a sheet of paper and wrote down the names of 53 plays of his repertoire. His friends laughed. "You are boasting surely, mon ami?" said the Visconte de Lovenjoul. "You have every one of these plays in your library," said Coquelin quietly. "Get them all out and put them on the table." The visconte did so. "Now," said Coquelin, "let anybody select a cue from any one of these plays at hazard and give it to me." They tried him with 16 plays out of the 53 and he never missed a single cue or made one mistake.—Fortnightly Review.

State Fire Day Proclamation. Section 6850 of the Revised Statutes for the State of Nebraska reads as follows:

"For the purpose of creating a public sentiment and in order that the people of this State shall have called to their attention the great damage caused both life and property by fire, there is set apart and established the first Friday in November, which shall be observed by the public, private and parochial schools of the State with exercises appropriate to the subject of that day."

Every well regulated city has a department that is constantly on guard and ready to answer any and all calls to extinguish fires. Every town should have some organization, at least, that could be assembled in a short time for the same purpose, but what is still better than these is care and caution on the part of all the people to PREVENT fire. It is much easier to prevent than to extinguish, for a spark may instantly be fanned to a flame that will consume a whole section of a city or wipe out hundreds of square miles of forest. All such might have been avoided by care in handling a match, cigar or cigarette and keeping the premises free from grease and trash or other substance calculated to produce spontaneous combustion. We are approaching that season of the year when, in this latitude, people will begin starting their stoves and furnaces. During the summer stove pipes and smoke conductors become damp and rusted, and while they may look quite well and secure from the outside, yet oftentimes they are as thin as paper. All such should be examined and replaced when found defective. It is desirable that State Fire Day be observed in keeping with its true intent, and therefore I repeat that public and private schools take up the subject of how to prevent fires and how to behave in case fire breaks out in school houses or other public places. The mayors of cities can do a good service by stirring up the minds of the people and calling attention to these matters.

The State Fire Marshal has prepared and will send to every Marshal of cities and to the town clerk of each village, a statement giving suggestions as to the manner of conducting public meetings on State Fire Day, and indicating subjects to be discussed, so as to thoroughly impress the minds of the people with the necessity of proper care in the matter of handling fire and in looking after every place about the premises, where fire is most likely to occur. Let every man, woman and child be on guard in order to prevent destructive fires.

Hoping for the best possible results, I Samuel R. McKelvie, Governor of Nebraska, hereby wish to emphasize the necessity of carrying out the meaning and intent of the day, and in keeping with the act of the Legislature, I hereby proclaim Friday, November 7, 1919, STATE FIRE DAY.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska, this, the thirteenth day of October, 1919.

SAMUEL R. MCKELVIE,  
Governor.

(Seal)  
By the Governor  
DARIUS M. AMSBERRY,  
Secretary of State.

## In Quest of Flu Germ.

Washington, Oct. 15.—In order that there may not be a recurrence of such another influenza epidemic as caused 550,000 deaths in the United States last year, Senator France, of Maryland, chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Health and National Quarantine, has reported a joint resolution providing for a thorough investigation of this and allied diseases.

Hence one million dollars is to be made available for research work on the part of all universities and colleges of medicine and otherwise in order that the dread germ which caused all the trouble may be found. In addition all of the agencies of the Public Health Service and the medical departments of the army and navy are to lend their assistance in the quest. It is felt by the Republican leaders of the Senate that if the panacea for tuberculosis be found, that for the "flu" may be also.

## Hadn't Seemed to Work.

An oldish man in rusty-brown clothes and with a rusty-brown beard met up with a pin. It was shining sharply bright on a flagging, and he stopped to pick it up.

He had stiff joints and his fingers were in that state informally known as bungly. So he had trouble picking up the pin.

A young man paused to offer his services, but the old one refused. He just grunted and grumbled until at last victory came his way. Then he straightened up his rickety joints and put a hand on his back.

"I'm not as young as I used to be," he admitted, as genially as his joints would allow. "But you know the old saying:

"See a pin and let it lay, you'll have bad luck all the day. See a pin and pick it up and you are sure to have good luck."

"So I never pass one by." And yet he didn't look as lucky as a man ought to be who had made a life habit of picking up pins.—Washington Star.

## Jones Calls No. 648 Instead of His Wife

Bill Jones is a traveling man.

He telephones his home almost every day when he is on the road.

In placing his call, he says, "I want to talk to Number 648 at Brownsville."

He uses this method instead of saying, "I want to talk Mrs. Bill Jones at Brownsville," because it is cheaper and just as satisfactory.

Jones uses what we call "station-to-station" service, which means he will talk to any one at the telephone called.

"Station-to-station" service is furnished at a lower rate than "person-to-person" service because it costs less to provide it than when a particular person must be summoned to the telephone.



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