

# Kin Hubbard Essays

## TH' COST O' SPARKIN'

By KIN HUBBARD.

"When I look at th' young dudes who are scamperin' around these days wearin' belted near-chinchilly overcoats an' yeller shoes, an' th' bar throated, close-rosted springers with their hair matted o'er their ears, I can't help expressin' th' apprehension I feel for th' comm' generation," said Teel Binkley, as Mr. Ernie 'oon an' Miss Vinette Mopps whisked by th' blacksmith shop an' darted upstairs t' th' tango academy in th' K. of P. hall. Continuin', Mr. Binkley said:

"After a feller gits thro' sparkin' these days he's insolvent. Lots o' good sensible fellers would like t' git married but they don't feel able t' spark. They can't afford t' take th' time an' money. If a feller could git married after a week's sparkin' he might be able t' scrape up enough money t'

albums an' natural complexions, a feller had a chance t' win a heart without th' use o' dancin' pumps, or without neglectin' his business an' denyin' himself many o' th' real necessities o' life. Love makin' wuz almost self-sustantin' in 1880. Girls looked ahead o' their noses, an' th' feller who gave promise o' being able t' support a wife eventually wuz treated like one o' th' boys. Girls didn't make love o'er th' chop suey bowl or in a secluded alcove o' th' stuffy ballroom. An' they didn't expect t' git on th' outside of a few cocktails an' a filet mignon after ever performance o' Th' Two Orphans or East Lynne. Th' parlor or th' narrow livery rig wuz th' clearin' house for affairs o' th' heart.

"What's th' sense o' exhaustin' all th' pleasures o' life durin' th' first few



"Young Dudes Wearin' Near-Chinchilly an' Yeller Shoes, an' th' Bare Throated Close Reefed Springers With Their Hair Matted O'er Their Ears."

stock a flat, that is, by foregoin' a weddin' trip. But th' modern girl seems t' demand a long extravagant courtship before she's willin' t' give in an' drop out o' sight. Then th' young husband finds himself bankrupt with a yeller cane, a plug hat, a suit o' formal clothes an' a doll on his hands. With each spurt o' economy her love grows colder. He gits tired o' lookin' shiny an' her muffs goes out o' date. A separation soon follows—th' wife retreats t' her ole home on Chestnut street an' th' husband joins his regiment on th' rialto.

"Back in th' good ole days o' th' fushia nosegay, ice cream parlors, chinaman drops, spruce gum, autograph

months o' courtship an' finally marryin' t' git rid o' each other? Why not save a few pleasures besides Niagara Falls t' look forward t' after you've satisfied th' installment houses? Marriage at best is quite a comedown fer most any girl, specially if her engagement period wuz one long an' riotous dream. An' when th' tale tellin' furrows o' care an' disappointment begin t' appear in her face, an' she appeals t' a young husband for a new pair o' shoes it hain't goin' t' git him nothin' t' say, 'Wuzn' I allus good t' you in th' old days, Nell?'

"It's fer better t' have loved an' kept still about it than it is t' stall along on nothin'!"

## THE LITTLE TOWN

By KIN HUBBARD.

Stew Nugent is at home t' put his feet under his mother's table. He has been t' th' city fer three years an' says that th' trouble with a little town is that ever-buddy knows ever-buddy else's business. That's th' reason Stew went away three years ago, an' it's one o' th' best things about a little town. You know who your next door neighbor is in a little town, an' you know who lives over th' hardware store. An' you know who's able t' have a tourin' car an' you know who's able t' own one.

In a city where you don't need no other credentials but a good front, an'

memory o' ole scenes an' faces grows greener an' greener as th' years roll by an' many a time their hearts swell with a longin' t' be back.

In th' great city parks th' benches are filled with poor unfortunates from the little towns who have tried hard an' failed. Pride alone keeps 'em from returnin' t' th' ole home town an' they become aimless wanderers on th' face o' th' earth an' are lost an' forgotten in th' mist o' time.

A four-flusher jist seems t' be cut out fer th' artificiality o' th' city, an' that's where he ought to live. But if you want t' live a honest, quiet,



"I Wonder What They're Doin' at Home?"

where you've got th' choice o' lots o' groceries, it's different. Some folks flourish in a city that couldn't buy a box o' corn flakes on time in their home town. Some fellers apologize fer livin' in a little town. When you ask 'em where they from they color up an' stammer an' stutter an' say, "I—er—why—I—I'm from Rossville—that is my folks live ther. Well, I've been livin' ther too, but I'm thinkin' o' goin' t' Chicago. Ther's no opportunities in a little town fer a young man." An' when you size him up you can't help picturin' what a flurry he'll cause when he gits ther. O' course lots o' folks that go t' th' city succeed, but they've got th' ole home metal in 'em. But whether they succeed er fail, th'

peaceful life an' enjoy th' love an' confidence o' your friends an' neighbors, ther's no place like th' little town where th' sheep are separated from th' goats, where one-half th' people knows how th' other half lives, where respectability is a real asset, where a K. of P. watch charm won't save you if you can't toe th' mark, an' where you're remembered long after th' hearse gits back t' th' livery stable. (Protected by Adams Newspaper Service.)

## And She Usually Does.

The same girl may appear divine to a young man, bovine to the disinterested observer, and feline to another woman. — Louisville Courier-Journal.

## Riches in Honduras.

Honduras is a rich country and its resources remain in almost a virgin condition. It possesses a climate that varies with its topography, the temperature on the coasts being hot, in the lowlands of the interior it is warm, and in the mountains it is temperate and in some places cold. Its mountains abound in minerals, and its tablelands and valleys are especially adapted for raising cattle and for agriculture.

## Adage Traced to Bible.

"A little bird told me," is an almost universal adage based on the idea that this ubiquitous wanderer from the vantage of the upper air spies out all strange and secret things and tells them to those who can understand. Thus in Ecclesiastes 10:20: "Curse not the king, no; not in any thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber; for the bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter."

## 99 YEARS IN JAIL FINED \$1,000,000

### Creek Indian Woman Has Become a Nuisance, Said Police Judge.

Muskogee, Okla.—Police Judge Ed. I. Williams has assessed upon Mandy Simon, a Creek Indian woman, a fine of \$1,000,000 and sentenced her to 99 years in the city jail. She has been in the police court here virtually every week for several years.

Judge Williams said he set the fine so high and sentenced her to 99 years because he did not want her ever to be at large again. The Judge's actions were recorded in the record books of the police department and he was supported by Chief of Police Joe Depeuw. Said Judge Williams: "Mandy has been a continual pest to the city of Muskogee for years. She was always causing trouble by



"One Million Dollars and Ninety-Nine Years."

getting drunk and dopping up. Counting all the times she has been sentenced in this court, I would estimate that had she served her time she would have served some fifteen years. I will see to it personally that she spends the remainder of her days in the Muskogee jail."

## KNOWS NOTHING OF HIS PAST

### Middle-Aged Tennessee Man Loses All Memory as to His Identity.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—The medical society here is studying the case of a middle-aged, well-dressed man who has suffered a complete lapse of memory. He has been in Chattanooga several days and is registered as "D. G. Harris," but he says he took that name after he discovered himself to have forgotten all facts of his identity.

He says he was on a train between Bluefield, W. Va., and Asheville, N. C., when he realized his mental lapse. Nothing in his clothing or effects gave a clue, except his laundry, which bears the initials J. D. M. He remained in Bristol two or three days and then came to Chattanooga.

He has sufficient money for present needs, but the supply of clothing carried in his grip reveals the fact that he didn't expect to make a long trip. Local doctors promise him a series of memory tests and care will restore him to a normal condition. He is greatly worried for fear his people, whoever they are, will think him dead, as well as because of his fear that he will never recover.

## BRUIN TREADED BY CHILDREN

### Six Tots From a Rural Schoolhouse in California Throw Scare Into Bear.

Redding, Cal.—Six schoolchildren, the oldest of them aged nine, tread a bear at the Oak Run schoolhouse a few days ago.

During the afternoon recess while the tots were at play bruin ambled into the schoolgrounds. The children, barking like dogs, took after the bear, who, taking fright, climbed a tree to get out of danger.

Miss Vivian Brauer called the children into the schoolhouse, locked the door and, womanlike, pulled down the blinds.

A few minutes later the bear climbed down the tree and ran into Amos Welch's field, 50 yards further up the creek. Welch shot and killed it. There was a barbecue at the Oak Run schoolhouse the following day.

## KILLS HORSES TO SAVE HOME

### Wife Tells Why She Poisoned Husband's Racers on Which He Spent Fortune.

Lorain, O.—Mrs. Margaret Clark, sixty years old, told Judge Thompson in common pleas court that she poisoned her husband's two race horses at the Elyria fairgrounds because she desired to save the rest of her property.

"My husband has spent a fortune in the racing game," said Mrs. Clark, "and I gave the two horses, which were as much mine as his, poison, in order to save the remainder of our possessions."

## SWAMP-ROOT STOPS SERIOUS BACKACHE

When your back aches, and your bladder and kidneys seem to be disordered, remember it is needless to suffer—go to your nearest drug store and get a bottle of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root. It is a physician's prescription for diseases of the kidneys and bladder.

It has stood the test of years and has a reputation for quickly and effectively giving results in thousands of cases.

This prescription was used by Dr. Kilmer in his private practice and was so very effective that it has been placed on sale everywhere. Get a bottle, 50c and \$1.00, at your nearest druggist.

However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Adv.

But a man never goes around looking for trouble in the guise of a creditor.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are the original little liver pills put up 40 years ago. They regulate liver and bowels.—Adv.

**A Difference.**  
"I heard that your son had become an actor."  
"Glad to hear it. All I know about it is that he went on the stage."

**Important to Mothers**  
Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher*. In Use For Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

**Some Car.**  
"That's a pretty speedy car of yours, isn't it?"  
"You bet your life it is! I've only had that car six months and I've paid out more money in fines than the car cost me originally."

**Not Needed.**  
"I hear you're getting up a bazaar for the benefit of the unemployed. I shall be glad to give my time to help make it a success."  
"Thank you ever so much, but the people whom we are trying to help have more time than they know what to do with."

**Professional Pride.**  
"You'll either have to buy a new car," said the chauffeur, "or raise my salary five dollars a week."  
"I don't quite get you," answered his employer. "Is it any harder work to drive this car than it would be to drive a new one?"  
"No, but it's very humiliating to me to be seen driving a last year's model, and you'll have to pay me for the injury to my feelings."

**Special Delivery.**  
Young James had been outdoors playing all the afternoon.  
"What have you been playing all the afternoon, James?" asked James' mother.  
"Postman," said James enthusiastically. "It was great, too."  
"How do you play postman?" asked his mother dutifully.  
"Oh, I took all those piles of old letters you had done up with blue ribbons in your lowest bureau drawer and gave 'em out to people all down the street. They thought it was great, too."

**Anticipating.**  
"Have you heard that Biglow's daughter is going to marry a millionaire?"  
"Yes. Heard it yesterday. Biglow tried to borrow ten dollars from me on the strength of it."  
**Shades of Sherman.**  
"They say disease in the British trenches is terrible!"  
"Nothing but tommyrot, old fellow."  
—Williams Purple Cow.

**Foresight is including the alimony when counting the cost of getting married.**  
Even a dignified man is apt to unbend when he is broke.

## SUPPER THE PRINCIPAL MEAL

In Former Times Noonday "Dinner" Was Only Luncheon, According to English Ideas.

The change in mealtimes is evidenced by the old rhyme:

To rise at five and dine at nine,  
To sup at five and bed at nine,  
Will make a man live to ninety-nine.

But one suspected that the change is in the names of the meals rather than in the hours. Our ancestors would have termed our luncheon dinner, and our dinner supper. It is a curious fact that in some of the Oxford colleges, where the founders made allowances for the meals of the students, a much larger sum is allotted for supper than for dinner, implying that the former was the more substantial meal. Taken at five or six o'clock, it was really "early dinner."

Some particulars of the mealtimes of our ancestors may be found in William Harrison's "Description of England," published 1587.

"With us the nobility, gentry and students do ordinarily go to dinner at eleven before noon, and to supper at five or between five and six at afternoon. The merchants dine and sup seldom before twelve at noon, and six at night, especially in London. The husbandmen dine also at high noon, as they call it, and sup at seven or eight, but put of the term in our universities the scholars dine at ten. As for the poorest sort they generally dine and sup when they may, so that to talk of their order of repast it were but a needless matter." — London Chronicle.

**Should Have Been Enough.**  
Mrs. Morgan had a colored maid named Sarah. One Sunday afternoon the mistress saw Sarah's lover leaving the house clad in a suit of white flannel. A little later, when the maid appeared, Mrs. Morgan said:  
"Sarah, that beau of yours should never wear white. He is so very black that white clothes make him appear all the blacker. Why don't you give him a hint?"  
"Why, Mis' Morgan," said Sarah, with animation, "I done give him er lot ob hints, but he jes' natterly ain't got no sense an' didn't take 'em."  
"Probably you didn't make the hints strong enough," said the mistress.  
"Well, no'am, dat's jes' what I think myself," agreed Sarah, reflectively; "I don't believe I did. I jest look at him right hard an' I says, 'Isham, yo' sho' do look like a black snake crawlin' out ob cream, you do!' That's jes' all I says to him, Mis' Morgan." — Everybody's Magazine.

**Disqualified.**  
"If you will split some kindling wood for the kitchen fire," said the lady of the house, "I'll be glad to give you something to eat."  
"Sorry, lady," replied the wayfarer, "but I ain't been able to keep up me dues in the Kindling Splitters' union, and I'm afraid the walking delegate would get after me if I done any of that kind of work."

**A pessimist likes a thing he can't enjoy, and an optimist enjoys a thing he can't like.**  
A henpecked husband reminds us of a has-been rooster.

# Your Health Account

Don't allow it to be "overdrawn" as a result of  
**LOSS OF APPETITE  
POOR DIGESTION  
INACTIVE LIVER  
CONSTIPATED BOWELS**

**HOSTETTER'S Stomach Bitters** may help correct such conditions and improve your general health.

**BLACK LEG**  
LOSSES SURELY PREVENTED by Cutler's Blacking Pills. Laxative, fresh, reliable, preferred by doctors, fresh, reliable, preferred by doctors, fresh, reliable, preferred by doctors. Write for booklet and testimonials. 10-dose glass, Blacking Pills \$1.00. 50-dose glass, Blacking Pills 4.00. For any further, but Cutler's Book. The superiority of Cutler's products is due to over 10 years of specializing in vaccines and serums only. Test on Cutler's. If unsatisfactory, order direct. The Cutter Laboratory, Berkeley, Cal., or Chicago, Ill.

**PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM**  
A toilet preparation of merit. Helps to eradicate dandruff. For Restoring Color and Beauty to Gray or Faded Hair. Sold in all drug stores.

## COW'S MOO KILLS CHILD

### Baby Frightened Into Convulsions When Wandering Bovine Puts Head in Window.

Investigation by Dr. H. Albert McMurray, coroner of Westmoreland county, into the death of James Henry Pershing, three-year-old son of Lawrence Pershing of Grapoville revealed that the child was literally frightened to death.

Several days ago the boy was playing when a cow at pasture in a lot adjoining the house looked in at an open window of the room where the child was. As the little one glanced toward the window the cow mooed loudly.

With a scream the child collapsed and went into convulsions. A physician was unable to give the boy any relief, and death ensued twelve hours later. — Greensburg (Pa.) Dispatch Philadelphia Record.

# Experts Who Know—

The leading Hotel Stewards and Chefs of the World use and recommend

# Grape-Nuts

FOOD

This product contains the finest ingredients known to the art of Culinary Science, and we recommend it to the public with our guarantee over the seal of our association.

The International Mutual Cooks and Pastry Cooks Association.

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This splendid food is made of wheat and barley and contains the entire nutriment of these grains, including the priceless mineral elements so necessary for building and maintaining vigor of body and mind, but which are so often lacking in the usual dietary.

**A Suggestion**—In stuffing your chicken, turkey, duck or goose for the Christmas dinner, try using one quarter Grape-Nuts and three quarters bread crumbs, instead of all bread crumbs. You will be delighted with the crisp, nutty flavour imparted by this wholesome ingredient.

Grape-Nuts food comes ready to eat direct from the package, and is nourishing, easily digestible, economical, delicious.

# "There's a Reason"

Sold by Grocers everywhere.