

# Today

16 Marries 50. Not So Bad.  
Wake Up, Henry Ford.  
Driving Motors With Charcoal.  
A Nation Up-to-Date.  
By ARTHUR BRISBANE

A boy of 16 marries a widow lady, 50 years old, who owns a hotel.

The lady puts \$10,000 in trust for the young husband when he reaches 21.

The boy's parents, shocked, would set aside the marriage.

Yet the widow only carried out Plato's idea. He thought middle-aged women should keep very young warriors out of mischief by looking after them. There is no greater parental problem than the management of a boy from 15 to marriage.

In these days, by the way, a woman of 50 is no older than a woman of 35 in the old days. That generous widow should extend that \$10,000 trust to the boy's 40th year. Twenty-one is the worst age for getting \$10,000 in a lump. The average boy at 21 is a baby.

Wake up, Henry Ford, and get to work on cheap, safe flying machines. They are selling them in Germany, all metal, safe, doing 60 miles an hour, less than a gallon of gas for 60 miles—price \$1,190. Farmers, salesmen, buy the machines by thousands.

Ford could sell them for \$500. America needs them, Texas especially. Where is the young Ford to do for America in the air what Ford has done on earth?

Nothing like trouble to make you think. In Berlin, heavy trucks with regular gasoline engines, are run with gas produced from charcoal, and it works better than gasoline.

A small cylinder filled with burning charcoal supplies to the engine gas and power enough to run a heavy omnibus for seven hours.

There is a new use for the farmer's wood. Make it into charcoal, fill up your combustion cylinder, run your tractor all day—no carburetor, no gasoline bill.

You know about 70 per cent of the world's automobiles are in the United States of America. Did you know, also, that New York City uses more telephones than all of Great Britain and Ireland?

This is an up-to-date country—wonderful in mechanical efficiency. But it doesn't do enough thinking apart from material problems.

United States government informs Europe that it doesn't wish to enter any "restricted inquiry" into Germany's ability to pay.

Germany's ability to pay is none of the business of this government. We are interested in the paying ability of nations that borrowed billions from us in war. Apparently they are not much interested in that.

The amount that can be got out of Germany by nations that conquered Germany is not our affair.

It isn't likely that anything serious will be heard from now on about dragging this country into the European mess. The 1924 campaign has begun. Politicians have at least learned that the league of nations issue would be about as valuable to a man running for office as a wreath of poison ivy.

There are nearly \$7,000,000,000 in our savings banks. Deposits have increased more than \$500,000,000 in the last year. That sounds prosperous.

That thoughtful trio of Anglo-Saxon statesmen, Charles Francis Murphy of New York, George Edward Brennan, Chicago, and Thomas Taggart of Indiana, have been secluded at French Lick, deciding on the man to be handed the democratic voters as their candidate for president this year.

But Ford may surprise and grieve them. Could you imagine Ford "listening to reason" about federal jobs?

They may be wrong, or right, but politicians as a rule are convinced that Ford, if nominated by one of the two big parties, would win, beyond all question.

One of the best informed republican senators said to this writer, "If the democrats nominate Ford, millions of republican farmers will vote for him. Nothing could stop them."

A first-class orator might stamper the democrats for Ford, especially as he has so many friends in the south, where the real orators live.

Ford could say, and probably would: "You farmers know what I did to automobile and tractor prices, as a private citizen. Make me president and I'll do the same to fertilizer prices, railroad rates and farm interest rates."

The farmers are about ready for a Moses to lead them, and Moses Ford would have many qualities.

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**New Flood Danger in Italy.**  
Domodossola, Italy, Dec. 5.—A torrent, swelled by the rising of the Osola river, is threatening the safety of the Simplon railway line. Many of the inhabitants have fled from their homes.

The flooding of the Formazza valley by the breaking of a dike on the Toce river has caused damage estimated at several million lire.

**Oklahoma Election Valid.**  
Oklahoma City, Okl., Dec. 5.—The voters of Oklahoma were within their rights when they disregarded former Gov. J. C. Walton's mandate calling off the election and went to the polls on October 2, the state supreme court held when it ruled in effect that the election was legal.

## Coolidge Will Recognize S. D. Endorsement

### Hiram Johnson Defeated in G. O. P. Convention—McAdoo Demo Choice; La Follette, Farmer-Labor.

Washington, Dec. 5.—President Coolidge will acknowledge the action of the South Dakota republican proposal convention in granting him the preference for the presidential primary and will send a communication to republican leaders of that state which may go a long way toward indicating his attitude toward 1924.

The intention of Mr. Coolidge to recognize publicly the South Dakota convention's endorsement was made known today at the White House, where officials made no attempt to disguise their satisfaction in the majority given the president over Hiram Johnson.

Friends of the president recognize that the endorsement given at Pierre yesterday does not make certain that South Dakota's 12 votes in the republican national convention will go to Mr. Coolidge. The South Dakota law, as understood here, provides that the name of the candidate receiving the convention endorsement shall go on the ballot at the presidential preference primary to be held March 25, as the majority candidate. Inasmuch as the endorsement of Mr. Coolidge was made unanimously, however, friends of the president do not believe a minority candidate could make much headway in the primary.

Pierre, S. D., Dec. 5.—Presidential standard bearers and candidates for state offices were endorsed by republicans, democrats and farmer-laborites of South Dakota at their respective state proposal conventions, which adjourned finally early today.

An 11th-hour effort by a group of farmer-laborites to effect a fusion with the democrats after the former had bolted its regular convention came to naught along toward dawn, and all parties completed selection of separate slates.

Calvin Coolidge was the presidential choice of the republicans, William G. McAdoo was given the democratic endorsement, while Senator Robert La Follette was the choice of the farmer-laborites.

Leaders in the boiling farmer-labor group included Warren L. Beck, president of the State Federation of Labor; State Senator William Bartling, J. W. Batcher, president of the Farmers Union of South Dakota, and Mark Bates, farmer-labor candidate for governor in 1922.

According to word from the meeting chamber, efforts were being made to build a ticket which would equally divide the important state positions between the two parties.

President Coolidge was given the majority nomination for president by the republican proposal men over Senator Hiram Johnson of California by a vote of 50,379 to 27,340, and later the endorsement was made unanimous by a rising vote.

Mr. McAdoo, former secretary of the treasury received the democratic endorsement over Henry Ford by a vote of 39,018 to 5,072.

The farmer-labor convention endorsed Senator La Follette by a vote of 31,099 against 7,240 for Henry Ford.

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 5.—Unanimous endorsement of President Coolidge as the most desirable and available candidate for the republican nomination next year was given by the republican state committee at a meeting here yesterday.

**Two Men Fined.**  
H. Davidson and Si Davidson were fined \$10 each in Council Bluffs police court yesterday on a charge of drunkenness.

## Wasn't Afraid of Wild Animals, But Feared Spiders



Fine specimen of African tiger bagged by Robert Bruge and wife (above).

## School Children in Need of Shoes

### The Omaha Bee Free Shoe Fund Needs Your Help.

How quickly the cold creeps through the holes of dilapidated shoes and how quickly does the child wearing them shiver the bad effects!

There is sure to be snow in the near future to add to the discomforts of the scores of kiddies whose shoes are worn out and whose parents are unable to buy them new ones. It means that they must either stay home from school or take the risks of serious colds or pneumonia.

We can't afford to have these kiddies ravished by the hardships of winter, nor can we afford to have them missing school.

The true Christmas spirit is reflected by the giver who sends a contribution to The Omaha Bee's Free Shoe fund, an institution which has been carrying on this work for many, many winters.

Contributions previously acknowledged:

M. Liberman, Friend, Neb., \$100.00  
Total \$154.00

Inadvertently, the name Mrs. Harry L. Keen appeared yesterday in the list of contributors as Mrs. Harry Logan.

## Nebraska Jewelers Declare War on New Marriage License Law

The business of selling wedding rings in Nebraska is rapidly going flat. The sale of these rings for the holy bonds of matrimony has decreased to less than one-half since the new marriage law of the state went into effect on August 3, jewelers say.

Jewelers of Omaha have sent a petition to the Chamber of Commerce asking that something be done as soon as possible to repeal the marriage law. This law provides that applicants for a marriage license must be made 10 days before issuance of the license.

Since the passage of this bill hundreds of young couples of Nebraska have gone to Iowa, South Dakota and Kansas to evade this law and to be married immediately. They are reticent about telling the public that they are to be married in 10 days.

"Why, our sale of wedding rings has decreased more than half," said C. B. Brown, jeweler. "Before that new marriage law was passed young couples stood before the wedding ring counter all through the day. There were at least 10 to 15 wedding rings sold a day. Now sometimes one a day is not sold. Many couples from neighboring towns in Nebraska, used to come to Omaha to be married. That business is all gone, too."

A jewelry salesman who was in the store the other day told that he sold more wedding rings in Iowa this trip than he had ever sold in the history of his business.

A. F. Smith of the A. F. Smith Wholesale Jewelry company, 426 City National Bank building, says all jewelers are anxious for a repeal of this law. Within one year it will take away \$1,000,000 worth of trade from the state.

The law affects all trades. When young couples go to Iowa to be married they not only buy the wedding ring, but pay the minister, perhaps buy furniture and personal gifts. The records show that there were 640 marriages in Council Bluffs in the last 10 weeks. That means a loss of thousands of dollars to Omaha jewelers.

The jewelers say the new marriage law is not having the desired effect. Secret marriages are as prevalent as ever, they say.

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JEWELER  
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## Burgess Bedtime Stories

By THORNTON W. BURGESS.

How little there is in a name. When several folk possess the same. —Danny Meadow Mouse.

Danny Meadow Mouse Puzzles Over a Name.

"Ah hope yo' alls will be right neighborly," said Gopher the Tortoise, and disappeared down the long hallway of his home.

Danny Meadow Mouse watched him until he was out of sight. Then he sat up and began to scratch his nose. Danny Meadow Mouse knew that Danny was trying to remember something. "What is it, Danny?" she asked.

"That fellow said his name is Gopher," replied Danny. "It seems to me I heard that name before, but I can't remember where."

Nanny thought for a few moments. "I know!" she suddenly exclaimed. "You've heard Old Man Coyote tell about Grubby the Gopher, whom he Mocker the Mockingbird first looked interested and then puzzled.

"That's it!" exclaimed Danny. "I knew I'd heard that name before." Then he once more began to scratch his nose, and looked more puzzled than ever. "The Gopher he told about," said Danny at last. "Wasn't this fellow at all. The Gopher he told about has a fur coat, and great pockets in his cheeks, and digs tunnels like Miner the Mole. If this cousin of Spotty the Turtle whom we have just met is a Gopher how can that fellow Old Man Coyote tell about a Gopher, too? They can't both be Gophers. No, sir, they can't both be Gophers."

Mocker the Mockingbird had been listening with interest. Now he spoke. "I guess that Gopher is just a name that has been given this old friend of mine whom you have just met," said he. "I've never heard him called anything but Gopher, and I've known him all my life. But he told you himself that Tortoise is his family name. He is Gopher the Tortoise. Perhaps the family name of the fellow Old Man Coyote told you really is Gopher. I wish I knew more about him. I would like to see him."

"So would I," replied Danny. "All I know about him is what Old Man Coyote said. He called him Grubby the Gopher, and said he spends most

of his time digging tunnels, and seldom comes out where he can be seen. He said that he has great pockets in his cheeks, and those pockets are on



"What is he called?" asked Danny the outside and not on the inside like the pockets of Striped Chipmunk. He digs and digs and digs, and pushes the sand out of the tunnels to make little heaps all about."

Mocker the Mockingbird first looked interested and then puzzled.

"There's a fellow down here just like that," said he. "Yes, sir, there's a fellow down here just like that. But I've never heard him called a Gopher. No, sir, I've never heard him called a Gopher."

"What is he called?" asked Danny. "Salamander," replied Mocker. "I've never heard him called anything else."

Danny looked more puzzled than ever. "That's queer," said he. "What is queer?" demanded Mocker.

"Just this," exclaimed Danny. "Up home near the Laughing Brook is a little fellow called Salamander, but he looks like a member of the Lizard family. He lives on land and in water, too. My, but names are the most mixing things! I wish I could see this Salamander you know."

(Copyright, 1923.)  
The next story: "Mr. Mocker Leads the way."

**Then and Now.**  
Waukegan, Ill., Dec. 5.—A letter bearing 60,000,000,000 German marks was received yesterday by Mrs. A. John, rs. Before the war these represented \$15,000,000,000 but now they are worth only 1.2 cents.

Decidedly New---This  
**Afternoon Pump**  
of Patent or Ooze  
Black, African Brown, Log Cabin  
Clever designing to flatter; "Sorois" workmanship to insure lasting smartness; combination last to provide the comfort of a perfect-fitting heel. At \$13  
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**REDUCTIONS**  
Women's and Misses' Apparel  
Women's Silk Overblouses, 20 Per Cent Discount—Lovely creations of chenille embroidered chiffon, and more tailored models of crepes, every silk overblouse in stock.  
Daytime Gowns, \$49.50 to \$79.50—Gracious frocks in which one finds individuality of style. Particularly serviceable for general wear are the tailored black satins with their collars of white.  
Woolen Frocks, \$25.00 to \$79.50—Smart for business and for utility wear are the tailored twills and charmeens. At \$42.50 is a model composed almost entirely of cluster tucks.  
Hudson Seal Coats, \$250 and \$325—Regulation models of fine quality skins in 42-inch length at \$250; wrap around models colored with skunk or natural squirrel, 48-inch length at \$325.  
Every Wool Sweater, 20 Per Cent Discount—This item will prove an opportunity to Christmas gift shoppers. There are knitted models, and the soft, woolly brushed one in the newest styles and in the best colors.  
Caracul Jaquettes, \$125—Exceedingly smart is she who wears one of these snug little coats of either beige or platinum shade. Either of the self fur or with fox and viatka squirrel.  
Fur Trimmed Coats, \$89.50 to \$149.50—Fashionable models in which the deep rich pile fabrics are furred. Sizes 16 to 46.  
Misses' Sports Coats, \$25 to \$69.50—Correct for sports and every out-of-door occasion are these coats of plain and striped fabric. The more expensive models boast fur collars.

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