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## DANCING IN VIENNA.

The Music Never Stops, and People Waltz All the Time.

When the fasching is in full and orthodox swing in Vienna, balls take place every evening in the dozen or so of big and small halls available for societies and charities. The favorite hall is the Sofensal, which is a swimming bath in summer. For the occasion it is floored with parquet and decked with palms.

There are always two when not three bands, and as soon as one leaves off the other takes up the waltz. If it does not, the public wants to know the reason why and immediately begins to demonstrate with hand and voice.

The chaperons sit around in solemn state, and the men congregate in the middle of the floor, forming what is technically called the herren insel, or men's island. From this position of vantage they swoop down on any partner who weakens for a moment and carry her off. There is no such thing as being engaged for a dance—indeed, there is scarcely such a thing as a dance, the whole evening being one large dance, except for the supper break. At the charity ball or frauenheim, for instance, there will be about 2,000 present, and as the men are in good training none of them is long without a spin.

The crush is tremendous, of course, but the Vienna dancer, male or other, cares little for hard knocks and, being determined to get around the room, manages to do it somehow or other, though to a stranger the task looks impossible.

There is not much ceremony about introductions. Two strange men will come up and with grave politeness introduce each other to a lady whom neither of them knows. The lady may please herself, of course, as to whether she dances with him or not. In any case, the acquaintance begins, and often ends, with a turn. It is not even necessary to be two. One dancer sometimes makes bold to approach, and with a deep bow he says that his name is Norval and that he is a lawyer, or something else, and may he have the honor of a waltz? Since the idea is simply to have a partner and nothing is further from his thoughts than to be unwell, he generally gets his way.

In a ball like this there is little favor, and the prettiest and smartest girls are not much better off than their less attractive sisters. While the dowagers are in splendid robes, the dancing contingent are, as a rule, rather simply dressed and short skirted, or else they have an arrangement whereby they gather up all their drapery in one hand, so that they may succeed in keeping it on their persons. Nevertheless toward the small hours the damage is universal.

The Vienna belle may not go to as many balls, perhaps, as her English sister, but she certainly dances a good many more kilometers in the course of her season. The Vienna balls begin, as a rule, pretty sharply at 9, and, with an hour or so for supper, the waltzing goes on till 3. The most enthusiastic will not go away much before 5, but the officers cannot often stay to the end, and when the lieutenants depart the glory departs with them. Six hours, almost without a

pause, is a very respectable athletic performance, and many of the ladies will nevertheless be seen on the ice the next afternoon still waltzing.—London Graphic.

## Stuttering.

Of the etiology of stuttering we know nothing definite. Direct inheritance is rare, and possibly imitation is the chief factor when father and son are affected. There is usually a well marked neurotic inheritance, others in the family having various forms of nervous complaints. But I have not been able to confirm Charcot's statement that stuttering and ordinary facial paralysis frequently occur in the same family. Sticks, frights and debility after some acute illness are the causes to which the onset is most frequently attributed by parents. Imitation is undoubtedly an occasional cause, children having often been known to start the habit when put in charge of a stuttering nursemaid. A friend of mine who was extremely fond of horses and was hardly to be kept out of the stables acquired a most obstinate stutter from the groom. Adenoid vegetations are often met with and are important as a predisposing cause, since they tend to prevent the proper filling of the chest with air. When present they should be removed as a preliminary measure, although it must not be expected that their removal will lead to a prompt cessation of the stutter.—London Lancet.

## A Common Delusion.

One of the commonest of delusions and one of the fatallest is where a man thinks he's in a hurry.—Puck.

## PERSONAL FAILURE.

People Who Are Always Driving Success Away From Them.

One of the strangest paradoxes in human nature is that men and women struggling, apparently with all their might, to succeed are yet constantly doing things, saying things and thinking things which drive the very success they are after away from them. They are all the time counteracting their efforts by some foolishness or weakness or indiscretion. They are saying things which prejudice people against them and doing things which destroy confidence. Although they apparently try very hard to build a foundation, they are all the time undermining themselves.

Men work like Trojans to get a coveted position and then, by getting puffed up with conceit or by some foolish or weak act, knock the scaffolding, which they have been years in building, out from under them, and down they go. Their lives are a series of successive climbs and tumbles, so that they never get anywhere, never accomplish anything worth while. Always tripping themselves up, neutralizing their work—this is their greatest stumbling block.

I know a powerful editorial writer who wields a strong, vigorous pen, but who at sixty years of age is just where he was at twenty. He has had scores of good positions, but he could not keep them because of his indiscretions, because of a hot temper and a sensitive nature which was always being wounded by trifles. There is no harder worker than he is. Every time he gets knocked down he begins at the bottom and starts planning and re-climbing, only to fall back again like the fabled frog trying to get out of the well.

Now, if this man had taken an inventory of himself in his youth and strengthened two or three little weak points, he would have been a giant in the field of letters.

There are thousands of men who are working as clerks or in very ordinary salaried positions who might have been employers or proprietors themselves but for some unfortunate weakness, some little deficiency in their natures or some peculiarity—something which might have been remedied by a little discipline and self study in youth. It is not an unusual thing to see a man in some subordinate situation who but for one of these little lacks would have been a bolder man than his employer. And so he has to submit to the humiliation of plodding through life in a mediocre position when he feels conscious that he has superior ability to those who are over him.

It is tragic to see thousands of people constantly pushing away from themselves through life the very success they are trying to achieve, pushing it away because they do not control a hot temper, because of some little indiscretion or other weakness or lack in their nature.

Others are always driving success away from them by their doubts, their fears, their lack of courage, their lack of confidence; driving it away by thought habits which repel success conditions. They never make themselves magnets to attract success, but keep so many enemies of achievement in their mind that there is no home for harmony there, no place for a strong purpose. They hold the failure thought, the doubt thought, the poverty thought, instead of clinging to the success thought, the thought of abundance, until they attract achievement and plenty.—Success Magazine.

## Forestry Work.

The young fellow who is "looking for a soft snap" need not apply, for the work of a student assistant is by no means easy. Nor will the government afford a pleasant vacation in the open air for young men in broken health. It is not a picnic in the cool woods that the student assistant will have. He will be in the cool woods in summer and the cold woods in winter. He will live in a tent, keep lumbermen's hours, as the somewhat discouraging official bulletin, entitled "Suggestions to Prospective Forest Students," reads. He will work with a "gang," get up at break of day, tramp the forest, swing an ax, measure with callipers, count "rings" on stumps and set down figures in a book when his fingers may be so cold that the figures he makes look like chicken tracks. He will do this day in and day out. At night, perhaps too far away to return to his tent, he will build a fire, eat bacon and hard tack, wrap himself in the blanket which he has carried all day and dream of the folks at home. It is likely that he will do this the next day and perhaps several other days. So there is good reason for the none too encouraging words of the bulletin, "Bodily soundness and endurance are absolutely essential for those who take up the work of a forest student."—Reader.

## Force of Habit.

An honest hog buyer started up in business and guaranteed the farmers a fair deal. He always weighed the porkers twice to guard against mistakes. Once in weighing a bunch of pigs the second time he found their weight had increased to the amount of 200 pounds. He was at a loss to account for the condition until an employee confessed that at the time of the first weighing he had inserted the toe of his boot under the scales and pried it up, thus cheating the farmer out of one hog. The buyer was indignant.

"What did you do a trick like that for?" he asked. "You couldn't have profited by it anyhow."

"I know it, John," said the guilty man, "but I just couldn't help it." It had always been the custom to cheat the farmer and the man couldn't bear to see the old customs passing away.

## HIVE IN AN AQUARIUM.

Good Way of Seeing How the Little Busy Bee Works.

Everybody is curious to see bees actually at work. Take a rectangular glass aquarium and place it on a window sill, elevated slightly at the side nearest the window, so that when the latter is raised an inch the bees may pass in and out. If desired, the bees may be kept for some time in confinement by raising the aquarium an inch on blocks and using a strip of wire screen cloth to prevent the bees from escaping.

When confined the bees should be fed a sirup of equal parts of sugar and water. A frame or two of bees may be purchased for a trifling sum.

Put within this glass aquarium some rustic supports to represent projecting, undecayed portions of the inside of the hollow trunk. Keep all covered by an opaque cloth when not observing what is going on within this glass bee home.

Then the bees will be free to work and to adapt themselves to the environment. They can suit their own fancy about attaching combs to the sticks; they may build diagonally or in any other form that they may prefer, and they may attach the comb to sides or ends just when and where they think it is necessary.

In the artificial hives the combs are attached only at the edges, but in natural conditions within the bee tree or in its counterpart, as represented by the old fashioned box hive with opaque sides and in our transparent inverted aquarium, the bees can build combs and attach them in any way that they see fit.

One of the most interesting objects for study is to note when the bees think it necessary to put out a side support from a long comb. They seem to believe that they are really within a hollow tree and that it is likely to be swayed by the gales. Of course when so swayed long combs laden with honey or with young bees would be too much for the unyielding rigidity of the upper part of the combs. These, if they have no side stays, would bend, crack and be crashed against each other.

The bees have learned this and give the combs a fine support whenever it is necessary. They do this, it is true to a certain extent, in the regular eight or ten frame hive, but not with the naturalness with which they do it in a large, unobstructed space.

Not long ago a veteran beekeeper took a colony of bees from an attic, where they had been for many years. "Well," said he, "you should have seen the funny forms of those combs—most interesting thing I ever saw. There was one pillar almost round—a solid center right and several feet long—and these combs around that; the most fantastic shape you ever saw."—Suburban Life.

## Extending Charity.

A philanthropist said of a banker: "Brown is a mean man. Once I made him shell out, though. Listen. 'Two ladies, representatives of a children's fresh air fund—a noble charity—called on Brown and asked him to contribute. He gave a dollar. With all his millions, he gave \$1 exactly.

"It's all I can afford," he whined. "My office is in the same building as Brown's bank, and a few minutes later the two ladies came to me. When I saw Brown's name down for only a dollar I was mad.

"He says it's all he can afford, eh?" I began. "Well, ladies, just wait here a minute."

"And I called my head clerk, ascertained my balance in Brown's bank, and wrote a check then and there in the clerk's name for \$273,640—the entire amount.

"Draw this at once," I said. "The clerk departed, and a minute or two later Brown himself rushed in breathlessly, the check in his hand.

"Harry," he said, "what is the meaning of this?"

"I pointed to the ladies' subscription list.

"I have just learned," I said, "that you could only afford to give a dollar to the children's fresh air fund. This made me think that things were looking pretty fishy at the bank. I decided I had better draw out."

"Brown had to add two ciphers to his subscription before I would consent to tear up the check."

## Disraeli's Keen Business Instinct.

When the Hon. Mr. Ward wrote his novel "Tremaine," he was fearful of acknowledging himself the author, until its fate should have been ascertained. He accordingly, the better to preserve his incognito, sent the manuscript copy by the wife of his attorney to Mr. Colburn. The work, although accepted, was not considered likely to pay extremely well, and consequently a trifling sum was given for it. Contrary, however, to Mr. Colburn's expectations, it ran to three editions.

The ingenious author of "Vivian Grey," then twenty-two years old, having heard of the circumstances, determined to use it to advantage, and accordingly having arranged his work for publication, he proceeded to find out the honorable gentleman's fair messenger. This he quickly effected, and upon a promise of giving her £20 induced her to be the bearer of his novel to the same publisher.

The woman was instantly recognized by Mr. Colburn as the same person who brought him "Tremaine;" and recollecting the great sale of that novel, he leaped at the manuscript presented to him with the utmost eagerness. It was quickly read, and a handsome sum given for the copyright. A short time, however, enabled Mr. Colburn to find out his error, but too late to remedy himself. The work was not successful, and a considerable sum was lost by its publication.

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