The Bee's Home Magazine Page

Serious History in Comic Vein

B. Franklin, Forecaster.

"Folks that don't like this weather will have to go back and blame it on Ben Franklin," announced Show-Me Smith, the the eminent left-handed historian. "As near as I can figure it out, he was the first weather forecaster this country ever had and he introduced the weather into polite conversation by inventing the almanac.

"That was his side line. His regular business seems to have been to leave his name for other people to use, and they haven't been shy about using it, either. Every time you see a man with a B. F. hitched onto his name it's a hundred-to-one shot he's one of 'em. Only B. F. I ever lost on was a man named Beelzebub Fudge Jones. That's what he said, anyway.

"Ben started in by eating coffee and sinkers in Philadelphia, which was enough to drive anybody into the weather business.

"Then he discovered his first bunch of weather by going up in an airship and hammering on a cloud with his night key. He got a back fire for his trouble that pretty nearly finished him, but when he came to they gave him the eastern agency for the lightning rod industry, besides making him official forecaster. When he wasn't inventing stoves he was making almanac jokes, and it was hard to tell which was the warmest piece of work. Joe Miller once sued him for infringement of copyright on that one about the hen crossing the road, but Joe lost.

"Ben finally left Philadelphia to go over to Paris and pay an official call on the particular one of the numerous Looey family which happened to be king at that time.

"'Good morning, Ben,' said Looey, 'do you think you are able to conduct speedy negotiations over here?'

"'Well,' said Ben, 'I was considered quite a lightning conductor back home.'

"Thereby establishing his reputation at the French court for repartee.

"'How do you like Paris?' asked the king.

TAPPED A CLOUD WITH A NIGHT KEY.

"'Pretty lively town,' said Ben; 'reminds me of Philadelphia.'

"'They tell me Philadelphia is terribly slow,' sighed the king.

"'Slow!' says Ben, indignant. 'Why, when I left home she was leading the league; we've got the pennant cinched.'

"And the king caved in.

"Ben stayed long enough to see that the palace was fitted out with stoves, lightning rods and weather maps, then started for home.

"'What's your hurry?' said the king.

"'The farmers are getting uneasy and I'll have to get out another almanac,' says Ben.

"'Going to put any new ones in it?' asked the king.

"'It wouldn't be an almanac if I did,' said Ben as he ran for a car.

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London Streets and English Signs

Writing of London in Mount Toni, Gerald Stanley Lee says of the streets of London:

"There is a kind of smack and relish, a realness, almost sometimes a rankness, about the old English names that is very refreshing when one has come from the wave that is passing over us in America of faint, polite-sounding names and decorous nonentities. I am proud to walk down Shoe Lane, Petter Lane, to take a look into Poppin's court or into Stationer's court. I would much rather live on Addle Hill than a street in Massachusetts without a tree in it, called Maple Dell. It means something to me to roll down through Old Change or whirl past Bread street, or Friday street, or Sise Lane. I like to look up and see on the 'bus, Wormwood Scrubbs or Cricklewood. I like the sign, the direct, human, colloquial sign that one sees so often in England, "Wash and Brush up," and the sign I happened on once or twice, "Tuppence for Wash and Brush Up and Looking in the Mirror" (especially looking in the mirror). I like the directness of the sign, "Stick no Bills," instead of "Post no Bills." And why not call an auditorium, as they do at Harrow, the "speech hall"? And is it not pleasant and neighborly along the high road to come on a public house called the Load of Hay Hotel? Why not call refrigerators by a strong, sensible, natural name, like "ice safe"?

WHEN A MAN'S MARRIED

The BEE'S Junior Birthday Book

DAVID P. FARQUHAR, 3206 Maple. June 1, 1911.

Name and Address.	School.	Year.
Vivian Alexander, 3406 Charles St.	Franklin	1902
Madge Andrews, 912 South Thirty-seventh St.	Columbian	1898
Perry P. Atkinson, 3017 Meredith Ave.	Monmouth Park	1899
Raymond Blake, 1417 Emmet St.	Lothrop	1903
Louis J. Berg, 4644 Lafayette Ave.	Walnut Hill	1899
Fannie Bob, 2115 Burt St.	Cass	1905
Agnes Christensen, 3011 Franklin St.	Franklin	1901
Sebastiana Distefano, 413 North Twelfth St.	Cass	1895
Dorothy Dahlman, 2901 Hickory St.	Park	1898
Gladys Desterhouse, 2799 South Ninth St.	Bancroft	1900
Willie Esters, 2918 Grant St.	Howard Kennedy	1902
David Farquhar, 3206 Maple St.	Howard Kennedy	1897
Harry Ferer, 934 North Twenty-third St.	Kellom	1895
James F. Griffith, 2417 Cass St.	Central	1899
Paul Greenhagen, 2943 Martha St.	Dupont	1895
Walter Gaunon, 548 South Twenty-fourth Ave.	Mason	1905
Herbert Goldborough, 1543½ North Sixteenth St.	Cass	1902
Clifford Hatfield, 1516 North Sixteenth St.	Kellom	1897
Haxel Heaston, 509 South Thirty-third St.	Farnam	1898
Gilbert P. Hansen, 2864 Corby St.	Howard Kennedy	1900
Thelma Hanks, 1914 California St.	Central	1900
Elmer P. Helsing, 807 North Forty-third St.	Saunders	1897
Elsa Haarmann, 1324 South Thirty-fifth Ave.	High	1892
Robert Keyt, 1809 Chicago St.	Central	1903
Martha B. Kjellidin, 3709 South Thirteenth St.	Edw. Rosewater	1900
Grace B. Lawson, 3106 Dewey Ave.	Long	1896
Colinetta E. Lear, 4724 North Twenty-eighth St.	Saratoga	1901
Ethel B. Morris, 1502 South Twenty-second St.	High	1896
Frances McCoy, 524 South Twenty-seventh St.	Farnam	1898
Vera B. Myers, 2015 Ohio St.	Lake	1897
Russell Moraine, 2118 Chicago St.	Central	1903
Matilda Miller, 2322 Paul St.	Kellom	1904
Harry Melvin, 4609 North Twentieth St.	Saratoga	1904
Flora Marsh, 4157 Davenport St.	Saunders	1903
Willie Nemerek, 1257 South Fifteenth St.	Comenius	1903
Albert Neuman, 2220 North Twenty-seventh St.	Long	1895
Harold W. Petersen, 2413 South Forty-first St.	Beals	1902
Arthur Petersen, 2406 North Thirtieth St.	Howard Kennedy	1902
Paul Quealey, 2927 Davenport St.	Dupont	1901
Allen H. Quail, 4952 North Thirty-fifth St.	Monmouth Park	1904
Lew Reynolds, 2219 Maple St.	Lothrop	1898
Margery Swett, Madison Hotel	High	1895
Maggie Sutej, Fourth and Spring Sts.	Bancroft	1905
Timothy Swan, 2004 North Twenty-second St.	Lake	1897
Benjamin Selders, 2201 Seward St.	Kellom	1897
Jessie Scheaffer, 3419 Sahler Ave.	Monmouth Park	1902
Philip Singer, 1018 Pacific St.	Pacific	1896
William Singer, 1018 Pacific St.	Pacific	1902
Dorothy M. Sherman, 132 North Twenty-eighth Ave.	Saunders	1905
Elmer Sewall, 2624 Hamilton St.	Long	1897
Verna Sage, 2517½ South Thirty-third St.	Windsor	1896
David Thomas, Thirty-fifth and Pinkney St.	Clifton Hill	1895
Ben Tatel, 622 South Nineteenth St.	High	1896
Virginia Taggart, Hotel Loyal	Central	1903
Edna Verlautz, 5720 North Twenty-fourth St.	High	1895
Daisie A. Wyer, 531 South Twenty-second St.	Central	1898
Dorothy L. Weller, 1906 Binney St.	Lothrop	1904
Wade Williams, 1325 South Twenty-fifth St.	Mason	1904
Ralph Wagner, 1501 Ames Ave.	Saratoga	1901
Everett Whitehill, 2101 North Fourteenth St.	Lake	1901

Loretta's Looking Glass—White Woman and Scarlet Woman

The Scarlet woman was the new girl in the kitchen. The White woman was the mistress of the house, and of the love of her husband and one son.

Of course, the White woman did not know of the stain on the other. But night after night she heard the most heart-broken sobs, smothered by distance and an effort to quiet them.

At last she concluded that under her clean, happy honorable roof tree there was someone miserable. It was hardly believable.

She watched her maid, and red eyes and trembling hands told the truth that the mourning one was actually washing her dishes three times a day. She questioned her.

The Scarlet woman lied. They all do. They know they have to protect themselves from the righteous rage of the women they have not harmed. She said she was homesick.

The sweet White woman was touched. She was tender. She was reassuring. Time would make her feel more contented, she told the girl. And she rhapsodized to her husband and son about the sweet nature and fine heart of a girl who could be so torn with anguish at separation from home.

The Scarlet woman worked, so faithfully. She had been through hell—a doubly dark and painful one because so lonely. This was her chance. She would repair, she would rebuild, she would live again in self-respect and self-support. She would keep her baby in the home till she had saved enough money to have it with her.

The philanthropy of the place where her poor child had seen the light had brought new light into the girl's soul. She was ready to take advantage of every opportunity to be good.

Then, the White woman went to the meeting of a hospital board. And the directress of the institution uttered the loving words which well like water from the spring of a love-filled heart. She blessed the White woman for her goodness to the Scarlet woman.

As if the gentle praise had been a hideous curse, the heart of the White woman shriveled. She rushed home. Her priceless treasure, her boy, was running the lawn-mower, and the Scarlet woman, standing in the back porch, was absently watching him.

Maddened by mother fear, all the narrow cruelty that has made woman abuse her sister always rising to her lips, she reproached and banished the Scarlet woman. The idea that she protected the home possessed her till it blinded her to reason. She was removing temptation from her boy, from her husband, perhaps.

With hot heart burning with the indignity, the Scarlet woman went. All the good growth of her repentance died in the heat of the White woman's cruelty. The baby she had cried for, the work she had tried to do well, the hope she had had of a future serene with right ambitions, became insignificant.

The White woman had turned loose the Scarlet one to prey upon her at every chance. She had made an enemy of her sex. She had filled a heart with the kind of bitterness which finds no satisfaction except in revenge. She had exposed her son and husband to the temptation she had driven from her home. She had put her purpose into malevolence. She had forgot that men have only to look to see temptation. She had neglected to keep in mind that the inspiration of a Scarlet woman to live right is a weapon of self-defense to the White woman who gives it. She had thrown her own heart in the street for the ruthless and revengeful feet of the Scarlet woman to trample.

Genesis of Playhouse

Thespis in 536 B. C., acted his plays in a wagon. In 499 B. C., during the time of Aeschylus, creator of the drama, the performances took place upon temporary wooden scaffolds, one of which, having collapsed during a representation, the Athenians were induce to build the great theater of Dionysius, calling it the Lenaion, which was the first permanent stone structure of its kind. It required 150 years to erect it.

There was no scenery, but the scena was decorated so as to represent the locality in which the action was going on.

Roofless was this structure, but around the building were porticos, to which the people retreated during rain storms. Sometimes awnings were used to ward off the sun's heat.

Invariably the actors were males, who wore masks with mouthpieces, answering the purpose of speaking trumpets. Owing to the vastness of the theater metal vases were placed under the seats to serve as reflectors of sound.

Performances began in the morning and usually lasted for twelve hours.

PUDGE PERKINS' PETS

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Tabloid History of the Presidents

Grover Cleveland, who served two terms as a democratic president, with a republican administration intervening, was born at Caldwell, N. J., on March 18, 1837, and died at Princeton, in the same state, on June 24, 1908.

On the paternal side he was of English extraction, while his heritage from his mother was Irish. Grover Clevelanid's father, who was a Presbyterian minister, accepted a call to Fayetteville, near Syracuse, N. Y., where the boy acquired an academic training. He became a clerk in a lawyer's office in Buffalo, read Blackstone and in 1859 was admitted to the bar. Simplicity, directness and power marked his rise in this profession.

In 1881 he became mayor of Buffalo elected by the largest majority ever attained by a candidate. In 1882, on the third ballot, he was nominated for governor of the state and was elected by a large plurality. In 1884 he was unanimously nominated for president and after an exciting campaign, which was notorious for its personalities, he was elected. His first inauguration took place March 4, 1885.

He was a candidate for re-election in 1888, but was defeated, and retired into private life for four years. On March 4, 1893, he was inaugurated for the second time. Upon the conclusion of his second term President Cleveland retired into private life.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

He was distinguished for forcible speech and action and his addresses reveal great clarity of thought and powerful directness of expression. He appealed to the best sentiment of the people.

In June, 1886, President Cleveland married, in the White House, Frances Folsom, the daughter of his early partner and old friend, Oscar Folsom of Buffalo. She is a woman of marked ability and charm, and her influence in Grover Cleveland's life was a noble one.

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ONE THING NEEDFUL.

The ostrich is a fearless bird
When danger's near at hand
That is, of course, provided
He has a heap of sand

Famous Blind People

Henry, the minstrel, of Scotland, who was born blind, in 1361, was celebrated for his poetical works. He wrote the "Life of Wallace."

Miss Fanny Crosby, the blind author of so many beautiful and widely known hymns, was a resident of New York City a few years ago.

Rev. W. H. Milburn, born in 1822, and who lived in New York City? had his sight almost destroyed in early childhood. He was a powerful preacher and lecturer.

Herman Torrentius, a Swiss, born in 1460 and died in 1520, although deprived of his vison, was a distinguished literatus and wrote the "Historical and Poetical Dictionary."

Editorial Hazing.

"I hear you actually encourage your boy to send poetry to the magazines. Do you want your son to become a poet?"

"No; I merely want him to get the conceit knocked out of him."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Long-Lived Persons

Announcement was made on July 11, 1796, of the death of Charles Roberts, a Virginian, who was 116 years old.

Charles McFindley, who was a captain under Cromwell, had arrived at the age of 143 years when he died in England in 1773.

According to a New York newspaper of March 24, 1774, Antoine Corms was 116 years old at death. The same paper on the eleventh of the succeeding August, recorded the decease of John Tice, who was 135 years old.

Latest vital statistics published by the government cover the period from 1900 to 1906. In that time thirty-one persons in the United States died at ages exceeding 110 years. One of these was 131, one 128, one 125 and three 119, while four were 111, ten 112, three 113, four 114, three 115 and one 116.

At the Fall of Troy.

The last Greek had just shinned down the off hind leg of the Trojan horse.

"Ah me!" sighed King Prim, as he saw what was going on. "If I'd only had the sense to tell those bussos bearing gifts that I wouldn't take anything from them short of an automobile, I should not now be so terribly nagged by the enemy."—Harper's.

THROWING SOME LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT.