

CHAPTER XIII. Mr. Catbird's Trick.

made his home. He was an odd felin the farmhouse, except the cat, wife, whom he dearly loved to tease. So when the Bobolinks were away from home on a short trip Mr. Cat-bird flew to their end of the meadow on her way to the meadow to hant and hid in a bush not far from the for mice, Mr. Cathird was quite spot where they had built their nest



From his hiding place Mr. Cathird watched closely.

made Miss Kitty furious to be surprise Mr. Catbird and teach him queer call? I never heard anything a lesson. But she never caught him. like it in all my days!"

Now, the cat was not the only one whose calls Mr. Catbird imitated. .l-though he liked almost all his bird neighbors and was especially kind where he was, they kept quite still. and helpful when they were in hidden as they were by the tall trouble, nothing please! him more grasses. than to sing their songs. Knowing Mr. Catbird had heard what they as they did that he was always ready to feed any nestlings that were left to fend for themselves, and that he was quick to help any of the small in the meadow. feathered folk to fight an enemy, his "I'll have to try again," he said to neighbors did not care how much himself. "Next time I'll do better." Mr. Cathird mocked them. It was (Copyright by Grossett & Dunlap.)

Romance in Origin Of Superstitions

By H. L. KING. Up and Down.

To insure a child being bright and rising in the world a baby should be carried up stairs before it is taken down stairs. This is universal in the United States. Some nurses take a baby up a short step ladder before carrying it down stairs for the first time. This superstition is purely one of an association of ideas in a measure the same as the idea that the right hand is "right" and the left hand, consequently, wrong—one for an expert in your line, but if you give good luck and the other for bad. good, conscientious work your Primitive man conceived his prin- chances are fairly good with your cipal gods as inhabiting high places. firm. The look upward for good spirits and Copyright, 1921. International Feature owwward for the powers of upiter and his court dwelt on high Olympus and the sun and moon in the heavens were Osiris and Isis to the Egyptians. Pluto dwelt in the under world—his shadowy realm was "down." The idea is ingrained in the human mind. We look "up" to superior and "down" upon an inferior. Children were, from time immemorial, looked upon as peculiarly susceptable to spiritual influences; to magic of all kinds. It is important, therefore, that the baby should start right in life; should receive the prop er impetus. It follows then that he should be carried "up" before he is carried "down." The magic of association applied to movement. Copyright, 1921, by The McClure News-

WHY

Is Today Called Memorial Day? In an address made in the Metro politan Opera house on May 30 1879, Chauncey M. Depew gave the following description of the origin of this day, now celebrated in the majority of the states of the union When the war was over in the south, where, under warmer skies and with more poetic temperaments. symbols and emblems are better understood than in the practical north. the widows, mothers and children of the confederate dead went out and strewed their graves with flowers. At many places the women scattered them impartially also over the unknown and unmarked resting places of the union soldiers. As the news of this touching tribute flashed over the north, it roused, as nothing else could have done, national amity and love, and allayed sectional animosity and passion. Thus, out of sorrows coming alike to north and south, came this beautiful custom."

But the growth of the observance of May 30 as "Decoration" or "Memorial Day" was a gradual one. In 1868, General John A. Logan, com-mander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued an order that on May 30 of that year every post should take part in fitting ceremonies in memory of their dead, and that flowers should be scattered over the resting places of their comrades. Gradually the state legislatures began to take up the idea and made "Memorial Day" a legal holiday, so that at the present time, it is observed throughout the entire United States, with the exception of a few southern states, where, on account should take part in fitting ceremonsouthern states, where, on account of the fact that flowers bloom earlier than in the north, April 26, May or the second Friday in May are celebrated in the same manner (Copyright, 1921, Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.)

Common Sense

By J. J. MUNDY.

Time to Work Hard. Employes, if ever there was a time for you to exert yourselves to keep your job, that time is now! In nearly every establishment employers or their representatives are taking inventory of their employes in every department and weighing their value in relation to whom they shall

retain, for some must go. As an employe you are going along with easy confidence, but are you

only his way of having fun; so they

Mr. Catbird was always prankish In a clump of lilac bushes near and full of spirits. And feeling all Farmer Green's garden Mr. Cathird ready for a lark one morning and not knowing what else to do, he de-cided to visit the meadow and play low, very friendly toward everybody a trick on Bobby Bobolink and his

on the ground

From his hiding place Mr. Cathird watched closely. And soon he saw Mrs. Bobolink, followed shortly by her husband, come skimming across the meadow and settle down in the

Well, Mr. Cathird was so delighted with the trick he was about to play on them that first he spread his feathers, and then he tucked them close about his slim body, while he bobbed about on the branch where he sat, giving his tail a flirt now and then as if he were so amused that he simply couldn't keep still.

After spending some minutes in that fashion Mr. Cathird peeped out of his bush again and began what he expected would be a perfect imitation of one of Bobby Bobolink's songs. But somehow there seemed to be something wrong. They were likely to begin mewing. It always very strange notes that he uttered. And the moment she heard them And sometimes she crept Mrs. Bobolink said aloud to her husinto the bushes herself, hoping to band, "What in the world is that

Bobby Bobolink couldn't tell her.

giving the best there is in you to

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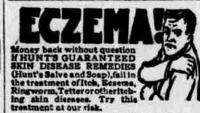
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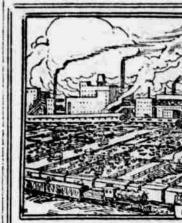
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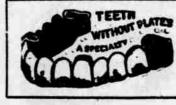
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BETTER TO LIVE NOW

By JACK LEE

"The good old days," thus sang the poets of old and even today there are men who sit down and sigh for the good old days that were. Somehow, in looking backward, there is a tendency to clothe the past in a golden halo. But, like oil and water, past and present never get very clubby.

Hercules cleansed the Augean stables, after untold effort, straightway became a hero and a bane to beginning Latin students. Alexander cut the Gordian knot with one slash of his sword and since that time has been the example for those who hate detail and go to the bottom of things at once. Hannibal marched an army across the Alps and the deed put his name ahead of all mountain climbers for centuries after.

Cato hurled bitter, scathing invectives at Philip with such caustic precision that at last the Roman senate paid heed and gave ear to the great orator's warnings. While Rome burned Nero played a fiddle. The Spanish Armada gave England one of the worst fights she ever experienced and she was only saved by an opportune burst of temper on the part of the English channel and the nerve of a doughty sea captain.

In the good old days learning was only for the chosen few. Great kings and heroes were woefully illiterate and couldn't write or read as well as a very small schoolboy of modern days.

The results of the genius of Di Vinci, Michael Angelo or Rubens hung for years in galleries which were available only to those who could make the journey to see them. Now the reproductions of all the masters of art, literature and music are in every home that wants them, at a small price.

How the world has progressed since the "good old days!" The world is changed and its people are different and growing more so each year.

A modern engineer confronted with the task of cleansing such a mess as the Augean stables would burn them, haul away the debris, cover the unsightly spot and forthwith select a new site and build stables in which filth could not accumulate.

Alexander would have to make more than one slash with his sword to cut a Gordian knot tied of modern cable. Flying over and tunnelling the Alps long ago eclipsed anything Hannibal did. Cato could have saved his throat and put a crimp in Philip in no time had he owned a modern newspaper and commanded a corps of trained writers. He could have told the Roman senate to keep on orating and could have put the Indian sign on Philip alone.

Nero's playing a fiddle while Rome burned showed a woeful lack of imagination and now seems almost puny. A modern Nero could watch Rome burning to the accompaniment of a symphony orchestra or "jazz" band, then get out an extra giving all the "horrible details," with himself played up on the front page leading

The mosquito fleet which patrolled the eastern coast during the war, with its light armament, could have routed the Spanish Armada of wooden ships in short time.

A half dozen modern machine guns in the hands of his enemies would have made a tramp out of Napoleon. Charges such as were made at Gettysburg were an every day occurrence during the late war, and the Light Brigade wouldn't have got started. Ask any Yank who was there.

In the "good old days" when mother was a girl she sat alone in her parlor, primly dressed in her starchiest best, and waited for the man of her heart to come for her. Like a modest violet she waited to be carried away. It wasn't nice in those days to evince a preference for any of the young men and often she waited so long and was so prim about it she had to take what was

In these days if daughter likes a man she lets him know it. She waits in the parlor about once and if her man doesn't show up she goes out after him and usually brings him to bay. Daughter has more of a field to select from. She goes out oftener than mother did and she knows all the eligibles in her set. And, in spite of all the divorce scares and alleged unhappy marriages,

daughter is just as happily married as mother was. The same is true of business. In the old days business men thought it brash to advertise more than a line or two at a time. They thought it uncouth to say too much about their business. They cast anxious eyes atsure pay customers, but didn't make any overt attempts to get his business for fear they might be thought forward. The present day business man wants to attract at-

tention. There's nothing he hates worse than to be called old-fashioned. His ads are anything but modest, often they are violent works of art in color and adjectives, but they bring about results. From the modest violet to the sunflower is a far cry, but the sunflower gets higher in the world and can't be overlooked. Practically everything that counted in the past has

been improved upon by the genius, pep, brain and even "jazz" of the moderns. Banking has been improved upon and instead of conditions of '93 or '07, which wrecked many Omahans, financial panics are impossible. The Federal Reserve bank is the answer.

Comparing the things that used to be and the things that are is, after all, a futile pastime. The past is placed at a disadvantage.

One cannot live in the present and dwell mentally in the past. A modern business man lives and thinks in the present, more often in the future, and while his competitor thinks back on that golden past the live man of today gets his business.

The olden days remind one of a peaceful summer afternoon, with everything serene. Contentment is on every hand and there is no hustle or bustle, just floating along with the tide. The present times are like a blustery March day when one has to fight or be blown away. There is no floating with the breeze on a March day if one is going any place. One must go in spite of the wind. The business man or concern who isn't afraid to breast the gale, take a few severe knocks and tumbles. yet keeps alive to what is going on in the world and takes advantage of the new methods that time brings, never dreams of those "good old days."



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