

THE EARLY OWL.

An owl once lived in a hollow tree, And he was as wise as a crow could be.

He knew the tree from branch to root, And an owl like that can afford to boot.

And he hooted—until, alas! one day He chanced to hear, in a casual way,

An insignificant little bird Make use of a term he had never heard.

He was flying to bed in the dawning light When he heard her singing with all her might.

"Hurray! hurray for the early worm!" "Dear me!" said the Owl, "what a singular term!"

I would look it up if it weren't so late; I must rise at dusk to investigate.

Early to bed and early to rise Makes an Owl healthy and stealthy and wise!

So he slept like an honest owl all day, And rose in the early twilight gray.

And went to work in the dusky light, To look for the early worm all night.

He searched the country for miles around, But the early worm was not to be found.

So he went to bed in the dawning light, And looked for the "worm" again next night.

And again and again, and again and again, He sought and he sought, but all in vain.

Till he must have looked for a year and a day For the early worm in the twilight gray.

At last in despair he gave up the search, And was heard to remark, as he sat on his perch

By the side of his nest in the hollow tree, "The thing is as plain as night to me—

Nothing can shake my convictions firm, There's no such thing as the early worm."

Oliver Herford, in St. Nicholas.

MADER'S MISCONNECTIONS.

"Hello, Mader! Looking for a place to pawn those tools under your arm?" Mader, trying up the pike at the end of a Friday's work, turned at the voice of an old schoolmate, whose whirring automobile slowed up to take him aboard.

Parker's pleasantry averted pawning the tools had come near to hitting the nail squarely. At present Mader was the only helper in a small country carpenter shop. Now his employer's father-in-law was coming to live in the town; and Mader was to resign in favor of the old but still efficient relative of Mr. Bender.

Parker listened sympathetically as he speeded along the highway. Then he grew thoughtful. During the past year he had moved twenty miles down the railroad, where his father had bought a considerable estate.

"Listen to my musical voice a moment," he instructed turning down into the village. Then he went on to say that his father was about to overhaul a workman's cottage for some new hired help. "Come down tomorrow and get that job," he suggested. "Give us a special chance to go fishing together again."

Mader smiled at the thought of trying successfully to combine business and vacation sports; but the hint was a welcome one. The prospect of idleness had worried him, with a mother to think of.

"Risk" was an accurate word where there was any taking of chances with Mr. Grayson. It would be just like the broker, when he reached home and discovered that he could not get his new car into the old shed, to call up the next nearest builder and have him work overtime until the job was done.

And thereafter that job would get all the Grayson patronage. "Oh, hang the merits of the thing," Mader suddenly blurted out, snapping his watch open and shut without looking at the time. "I'm not going to see the boss lose a good customer."

Assembling needful tools he promised himself that he would try for the Parker job first thing Monday morning. That chance might be slim, because Mr. Parker had been overheard to say that he must get a man at the work this week without fail. Parker junior, to be sure, might have helped out with a good word in favor of his former schoolmate; but he wouldn't be back from his motor trip until the day was over.

Mader was young; and the thought of caring independently for the repairs of the Parker cottage had tickled his vanity. In imagination he had already done such a quick and thoroughly good job that Mr. Parker could hardly believe his eyes.

"Shame he should lose such a fine piece of work as I laid out," Mader whimsically told himself. At the Grayson house young Joe Grayson was able to tell Mader just what his father wanted. It was a simple enough matter of trimming out a foot or two of headroom and a shifting of the beam at the top of the door way. Young Joe advised him that a half-way decent patch atop of the doors would do for the time being.

"Father's going to build a modern garage in place of the shed, shortly," the lad explained; "and make some other alterations and improvements."

"What did I tell you?" Mader queried of a three by four hemlock piece, leaning it up against the shed in a listening attitude; "the boss would have lost all that work if he had failed Mr. Grayson."

The hemlock studding made no denial. Mader reflected with satisfaction that there was going to be employment here for somebody, sometime. It could hardly profit him, however. Joe had said that it would be a couple of months yet before the extensive plans of the house enlargement were ready; and Mader knew that he must locate himself elsewhere long before that.

Toward the middle of the afternoon Mr. Grayson returned from the city. He came out to view the young carpenter's labors. Swinging one of the repaired doors shut to observe the fit he expressed a casual curiosity that the mechanic should be working on Saturday afternoon.

Mader looked at him with an expression that said, "You're a nice man to order a job done in a hurry and then find fault." But aloud he observed simply, "I expected that new car of yours to bump into me any minute."

When he mentioned Mr. Bender's absence and his own immediate compliance with the postcard order, Mr. Grayson turned with a quizzical air and quietly intimated that the car would not be on hand for another week, owing to some delay on the part of the manufacturer.

It appeared that he had received a telegram to that effect the day before, a few minutes after mailing the postcard. But the more interesting thing was that, with the open telegram in his hand, he had met Mr. Bender and excused him from paying any special hurried attention to the card when his side; and his eyes widened while he listened. Then he collapsed and weakly seating himself, began to laugh. By nature polite, he succeeded in restraining his amusement long enough to tell Mr. Grayson of the predicament into which the card had put him. Then Mr. Grayson laughed with him—or at him.

The few licks necessary to finish the shed door were soon administered. Mader packed up and wended his way home. He and his mother were due to join Mr. and Mrs. Bender in a festive evening to honor the arrival of Mrs. Bender's father.

"They'll laugh at me, too, when they hear about it," Mader ruefully decided, after recounting to his mother the adventures of the day. "I don't care," his mother loyally insisted, "you did just right; and if they make fun of you I think they are mean."

On the way through the village Mader stopped in the drug store. He expected that Parker would be at home by this time, and he wanted to learn to explain the seeming indifference of his failure to come down. "Oh, that's all right," Parker's voice assured him, with a sort of over-heartheartness. "Say—there was a little pause—I guess that I took a little too much for granted about that work of father's. Mother told me that he gave the contract for it yesterday. I'm mighty sorry, you know; but I'm glad you didn't waste money coming down on a wild goose chase."

Mader dryly agreed and hung up. "After all," he murmured to himself as he rejoined his mother, "it is not entirely a joke on me. I'm in my rare and a day's work besides."

erable work shortly and there is more in view elsewhere if I can only finance it properly.

Mader nodded. It was encouraging to hear prospects, of course; but he needed to find some that were very imminent. "And Mr. Grayson appreciates your loyalty as much as I do," Mr. Bender added joyfully. "What he really came over here for this afternoon was to say that if it would keep you in the shop he would gladly lend me the money I want."—The American Boy.

The Training of Airmen.

Almost every one has seen an aeroplane flight, but with the present-day layman, the interest is centered more on the man than on the machine with which he does his flying. Naturally, the first question is, "How did he learn to fly?"

Of necessity, the pioneers of aviation taught themselves the then difficult and dangerous art, and all the airmen in the world today owe their flying ability to the Wrights, Bleriot, and others of the men who went before. There are flying today a number of airmen who entered the game in the early stages, and who, by luck and perseverance, mastered the art with very little outside assistance.

These men were without more than a rudimentary idea of the very principles of flight, and later realized the dangers they had undergone; they knew that the average person could scarcely survive a self-administered course in airmanship. Aviation had come to stay, and a number of firms started regular schools in which the knowledge of the earlier experimenters could be disseminated among the ever-growing numbers of enthusiasts.

There are three basic methods of teaching flying—the so-called French system, the dual-control system, and a combination of the two largely used today for training war pilots. The dual-control system was the first in general use, and consisted in teaching one pilot to fly by the constant criticism, advice, and demonstration of a competent pilot instructor. The pupil was given a heavy, low-powered, and worn-out machine incapable of flying—usually called a "taxi"—and was given practice in running the machine on the ground. In this way he accustomed himself to the speed of an aeroplane, the incessant roar of the motor, and the use of the controls. When the pupil could run down the field in a perfectly straight line and do it consistently he was given "hops."

"Hops" were made on a machine but slightly better than the taxi, and consisted in making short jumps across the field at a height of four or five feet. This was the most trying part of the entire course, as at this point smashes were most likely to happen. If the pupil misjudged his height from the ground, or in his enthusiasm tried to stretch his hop into a sustained flight, the ending was usually disastrous. But if he went about matters sensibly, he would soon be promoted to "straights," or flights in a straight line, about half a mile long. The usual height in this work was 25 or 30 feet from the ground.

The dual-control system teaches wholly by demonstration and practice in actual air work. A high-powered machine fitted with duplicate controls is used, and the pupil starts by riding with the instructor and watching him work. By simply resting his hands and feet on the controls, the novice can feel the amount of motion necessary to handle the machine. Gradually the machine is given over to the pupil—the pilot being ever on the alert to correct his mistakes and to demonstrate new points. As the pupil becomes more and more skillful, the pilot requires harder evolutions.

The writer believes in actually demonstrating every condition that may be met. Then the pupil is allowed to fly alone, and the remedies to employ should such conditions arise. When this work is done at a sufficient height from the ground, so that there is always room to regain control of the machine, it may be done with perfect safety.—Popular Mechanics.

Ban Married Women as School Teachers.

Pittsburgh—Married women no longer will be employed as teachers in the Pittsburgh public schools, their death-knell as instructors having been sounded by the instruction committee of the Board of Education, which has adopted a resolution barring them from all appointments and reappointments. This resolution with its affirmative recommendation goes before the board as a whole, which undoubtedly will put it into effect.

The only question to the new rule will be those married women teachers who were in the system as regular teachers before the present Board of Education came into existence, six years ago. Of these there are between fifteen and twenty.

The immediate effect of the new rule will be to bar the reappointment of Mrs. Chauncey Lobinger, principal of the Liberty Public School, and other prominent teachers who have made rapid strides in their chosen profession and who have been kept in their positions during the agitation against married women teachers by the demand of taxpayers in the wards where they are stationed.

A large number of efficient instructors are affected by the new ruling. Mrs. Wilson Active in Red Cross Work.

Mrs. Woodrow Wilson has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the women's volunteer aid committee of the District of Columbia Red Cross, and has enrolled for active service. This committee, with others, is occupying the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth, the first private house in Washington to be given over to war work. The definite object of the volunteer aid committee, of which Miss Mabel Boardman is the active head, is to furnish complete equipment for a base hospital for the navy of 250 beds and for the army of 500 beds.

CONGRESS VOTES WAR 373 TO 50.

Deliberations Continue Seventeen Hours. President and Vice President Sign Resolution on Friday. President Issues War Proclamation. Bryan Offers Services. Interesting Statistics.

War between the United States and Germany became an actuality on Friday immediately upon President Wilson's approval of the war resolution adopted by a vote of 373 to 50 by the House a few minutes after 3 o'clock that morning.

This action will set in motion the government's newly planned machinery for mustering military, naval and economic forces into an aggressive war against Germany.

The resolution passed the House in the same form as adopted by the Senate Wednesday night. It declares that a state of war exists and directs the President to employ all the naval and military forces of the United States and resources of the government to carry on war to a successful conclusion.

Final action on the resolution came after 17 hours of continuous debate, and a few minutes afterwards, Speaker Clark affixed his signature. Among the fifty who voted against were thirty-two Republicans, sixteen Democrats, one Socialist and one Prohibitionist. Voting affirmatively were 193 Democrats, 177 Republicans, two Progressives and one Independent.

Democratic Leader Kitchin and Miss Jeanette Rankin, the new woman member from Montana, were two of those who voted negatively. After failing to answer to the calling of her name twice on the first roll call, Miss Rankin rose on the second roll call, trembling, obviously badly frightened, and with a sob in her voice declared: "I want to stand by my country, but I cannot vote for war."

THE RESOLUTION SIGNED. The resolution was signed by Vice President Marshall at 12:14 o'clock Friday afternoon. There was no special ceremony connected with the signing thereof. The House secretary carried the resolution to the Senate chamber and on being officially announced presented the resolution which was immediately signed by the Vice President. The pen he used will be preserved.

President Wilson signed the resolution at the White House at 1:11 Friday afternoon. The pen he used was handed him by Mrs. Wilson. At 3:12 o'clock the same afternoon he issued the official proclamation of war and immediately every department of the government got busy.

ORDERS ARREST OF GERMAN PLOTS. Orders were issued soon afterward for the arrest of 60 ringleaders in German plots and intrigues. Complete mobilization of the navy, calling all reserves and militia to the colors, was ordered by Secretary Daniels as soon as the war resolution was signed. The war department, already having taken virtually every step contemplated before the raising of a regular war army is authorized, waited on Congress. Secretary Baker conferred with Chairman Dent of the house military committee, and arranged to appear before the committee soon to discuss the general staff army plans and consider the war budget of more than three billions.

THE PRESIDENT. The President's preparatory messages with the cabinet, discussing what has been accomplished and dwelling, it is understood, upon arrangements for co-operation with the entente allies against the common enemy. Plans for co-operation are said to have taken very definite shape, thought there will be no announcement on the subject for the present.

INTERNED SHIPS SEIZED. Almost one hundred German ships interned in United States ports were taken over by the government on Friday. The vessels, laid up in American harbors for safety at the outbreak of the war in Europe, were seized early Friday immediately after the House's passage of the war resolution. Their crews will be removed to immigration detention stations, there to be treated as aliens admissible to the country if able to pass the ordinary immigration tests. The fact that many are naval reservists will not serve to bar them.

The total tonnage of the vessels seized amounts to 629,000 tons gross. That tonnage could not be built in American yards in less than a year and some of the larger ships, notably the Vaderland, could not be produced in the United States in several years. All of the ships will have to be dry-docked before they can be made seaworthy. The great Vaderland, with a tonnage of 54,000, is too large to enter any of the American dry docks and will have to be towed to Balboa to be docked. The earliest time estimated to put any of the vessels into service is three months.

A brief statement issued by the treasury department Friday said the ships were being taken in charge for the purpose of protecting them and other property. Officials said an "intelligent use" would be made of the vessels, and that they either could be used as naval auxiliaries or as merchant ships.

GERMAN RAIDERS MAY BE NEAR. Coincident with the declaration of war was a rumor that two German raiders had been seen off the American coast and that submarines were in hiding in the Gulf of Mexico, but at this writing neither of the rumors have been verified. The navy, however, has been put in shape to look out for just such emergencies.

Bryan Offers Services. Former Secretary Bryan Friday sent this message to President Wilson: "Believing it to be the duty of each citizen to bear his part of the burden of war and his share of its perils, I hereby tender my services to the government. Please enroll me as a private

whenever I am needed. Assign me to any work that I can do until called to the colors. I shall, through the Red Cross, contribute to the comfort of soldiers in the hospital, and through the Young Men's Christian association, aid in guarding the morals of the men in camp."

Mr. Bryan, with the rank of colonel, commanded a regiment of Nebraska volunteers during the Spanish-American war.

Wars of the United States. War between the United States and Germany... 1775-1783. Northwestern Indian Wars... 1790-1795. War with France... 1798-1800. War with Tripoli... 1801-1805. Creek Indian War... 1813-1814. War of 1812... 1812-1815. Seminole Indian War... 1817-1818. Black Hawk Indian War... 1831-1832. Cherokee Disturbance... 1836-1837. Greek Indian War... 1836-1837. Florida Indian War... 1835-1843. Arrostook Disturbance... 1836-1839. War with Mexico... 1846-1848. Apache, Navajo and Utah Indian War... 1849-1855. Seminole Indian War... 1856-1858. War between the States... 1861-1865. War with Spain... Apr.-Dec. 1898. Philippine Insurrection... 1899-1900. War with Germany... 1917.

April an Eventful Month in History. April 19, 1775—Battle of Lexington, the first contest of the Revolution. April 11, 1783—Congress proclaimed an end of the war with Great Britain. April 30, 1789—Washington became the first President of the new Republic. April 30, 1803—Treaty with France for the purchase of Louisiana territory. April 12, 1812—Declaration of war with England. April 14, 1818—Act of Congress establishing the Stars and Stripes as the flag of the United States. April 21, 1836—Battle of San Jacinto, ending the Mexican attempt to reconquer Texas. April 14, 1846—Beginning of the war between the United States and Mexico. April 12, 1861—Civil War began with the firing on Fort Sumpter. April 9, 1865—Civil War ended with the surrender of General Lee. April 14, 1865—President Lincoln shot by J. Wilkes Booth. April 22, 1898—United States proclaimed war with Spain. April 6, 1917—President signs proclamation declaring state of war with Germany.

Other war news on page 5. Rapid Transit in Mid-Air. That aerial rapid transit connecting the roofs of the skyscrapers in cities like Chicago and New York will be the next transportation problem to demand solution was freely predicted at a recent convention of owners and managers representing the bulk of the big building interests of the United States. Congestion on the streets and on the elevated and surface lines, while important in itself, is not the only consideration leading to this conclusion. Time and convenience are the essential things. What is needed is a system of transportation that will make it unnecessary for a business man to take an elevator to an upper floor of a skyscraper, descend to ground level, and, after encountering the crowds on the streets, take an elevator in another skyscraper to reach perhaps the same level that he started from.

While it is impossible to say in advance of actual design just what the form of the aerial will be, there is at least one construction that meets all these requirements. This is a simplified suspension-bridge span. With this type of construction all the members of the span will be in tension and the span need have only a fraction of the weight that is necessary when compression members are used. A 21 inch cable made of the best steel, for example, will resist a pull of more than hundred tons, but the same cable placed under compression will buckle with the application of a few hundred pounds. The spans for each track might be made either single or double, as either construction would furnish satisfactory support.

Steel towers springing from the roofs of the buildings would furnish support for the aerial spans. These towers might be rectangular in section to a point well above the running rails, and above this level would probably taper practically to a point. The cars would pass through openings in the towers.

In New York there are a number of buildings, such as the Singer building with its 41 stories, and the Woolworth building with its 55 stories, that it would be practically impossible to reach the top with an aerial line. In such cases the line could be run through the building at the twentieth or thirtieth floor level. In Chicago the situation is more favorable, there being surprising regularity in the sky lines of the principal streets of the loop district.—Popular Mechanics.

The Blood is the Life. The blood is the life because it is the nutritive fluid. If the blood becomes very impure, the bones, the muscles and other parts of the body are impaired and finally become diseased. Slighter variations in the quality of the blood, such as are often brought about by breathing the bad air of unventilated rooms, have equally sure though less plain ill effects on the nervous system.

Persons that have any reason to believe that their blood is not pure should begin to take Hood's Sarsaparilla at once. This medicine has done more than any other in cleansing, and giving strength and tone to all the organs and functions.

If you want to be entirely satisfied, insist on having Hood's. Accept no substitute.

duly promulgated by the President. and pursuant to the authority vested in me, I hereby declare and establish the following regulations, which shall be in force in the premises and for the public safety:

(1) An alien enemy shall not have in his possession at any time or place any fire-arms, weapons or implements of war, or component parts thereof, ammunition, Maxim or other silencer, arms or explosives or material used in the manufacture of explosives.

(2) An alien enemy shall not have in his possession at any time or place or use or operate any aerial apparatus, aerial, or any form of signalling device or any form of cipher code or any paper, document or book, written or printed in cipher or in which there may be invisible writing.

(3) All property found in the possession of an alien enemy in violation of the foregoing regulations shall be subject to seizure by the United States.

(4) An alien enemy shall not approach or be found within one-half of a mile of the manufacture of munitions of war or of aircraft station, government or naval vessel, navy yard, factory or workshop for the manufacture of munitions of war or of any products for the use of the army or navy.

(5) An alien enemy shall not write, print or publish any attack or threat against the government or Congress of the United States or either branch thereof, or against the measures or policy of the United States or against the persons or property of any person in the military, naval or civil service of the United States or of the States or Territories or of the District of Columbia or of the municipal governments thereof.

(6) An alien enemy shall not commit or abet any espionage or the disclosure of State or give information, aid or comfort to its enemies.

(7) No alien enemy shall not reside in or continue to reside in, or remain in or enter any locality which the President may from time to time designate by executive order as a prohibitive area in which residence by an alien enemy shall be forbidden him to constitute a danger to the public peace and safety of the United States except by permit from the President, and except under such limitations and restrictions as the President may prescribe.

(8) An alien enemy whom the President shall have cause to believe to be aiding or about to aid the enemy or to be at large to the danger of the public peace or safety of the United States or to be violated or to be about to violate any of these regulations, the President may, by executive order and shall not remove therefrom without permit of the President, the United States if so required by the President.

(9) No alien enemy shall depart from the United States until he shall have received such permit as the President shall prescribe or except under such limitations and restrictions as the President may prescribe.

(10) An alien enemy whom there may be any reasonable cause to believe to be aiding or about to aid the enemy or to be at large to the danger of the public peace or safety of the United States or to be violated or to be about to violate any of these regulations, the President may, by executive order and shall not remove therefrom without permit of the President, the United States if so required by the President.

This proclamation and the regulations herein contained shall extend and apply to all land and water contiguous to the United States, in any way within the jurisdiction of the United States.

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