

EZRA PROVED TRUE PROPHET

His Prediction That Funeral and Marriage Were Before Him Turned Out to Be Exact.

Last week a friend drifted from the Old Home Town, now 20 years back of me, and we had a season of gossip about the old acquaintances which was soul satisfying. Some of the stories were pathetic, some were sordid, some were humorous, but all of them illustrated phases of life in a country town. Perhaps this one about Ezra was the best.

When I left the Old Home Town Ezra was the possessor of a wife whom he had had for 25 years or more, and who was in fairly good condition, although a little deaf, as might well be, for no woman ever talked more fluently or more willingly than did her husband. For some reason she was taken ill and died, and Ezra mourned her for a time, not an exceedingly long time, and then he began to take notice and presently married again.

This wife No. 2 was, of course, a later model, but she, too, fell ill, and the physician advised an operation. Ezra hired an automobile and went with her to the hospital, where the physicians told him that there was little hope that she would recover. He went home sorrowfully, and finally he broke out to the driver in this way: "Good Lord, I've got to go through it all again—bury this wife and then get another one!"

And he was a true prophet for things happened just as he predicted.—Hartford Courant.

ANY FOOL CAN FIND FAULT

Practically Impossible for Any Position, However Good, to Be Absolutely Without Flaw.

There is nothing however good but a person may find some fault in it if he is determined to do so. There is nothing perfect that is of man's making. There is nothing that man originates or performs but what contains more or less of his weakness. Worth, like water, must stay below the level of its source. It is quite natural that a person should dissent. The scientists dispute as much as the theologians. Every time one obtains a new standpoint he changes his opinion. Every time he meets a friend he finds that he differs.

So we must make up our minds to disagree in the right spirit, observes the Ohio State Journal. If we don't do that and our disagreement falls into ill will and anxiety, then we become enemies of the truth and social pests besides. The person we earnestly and candidly disagree with may be right and ourselves wholly wrong. It would make us feel very absurd sometimes in the midst of a violent controversy, to have a sudden light let in on the controversy and show our adversary entirely right. The safest thing, so far as one's conduct toward him is concerned is to remember he may be right and treat him accordingly.

Markings of Horse's Coat.

It is found that there is a very definite connection between the coat color of horses and the frequency with which white markings occur. Thus the latter are by far the most commonly associated with the chestnut color. And not only are they the most prevalent in chestnut horses, but it is also, of course, a well-known fact that the markings are apt to be more extended in nature in the case of this color than in that of any other. Chestnut, therefore, apparently possesses so to speak, a special affinity for these markings. Bay ranks next as regards the degree of frequency with which white markings appear in horses of this color, although it comes a good way behind chestnut in this respect. Then follows brown, while the white marks are met with less frequently among black and roan colored horses.

Why Strike Collapsed.

Two telegraph operators worked in the office of the Milwaukee Free Press. Both were employed by the press association and not by the paper. They came soused one Sunday night, decided to strike, making demands for more pay and shorter hours from the managing editor of the newspaper. They were told to make their petition to their employers. The telegraphers retired for a council of war, put the strike into effect and decided to picket the office. The office had but one entrance, but there must be strategy; so one of the strikers posted himself directly in front of the office and the other around the corner, the two being out of sight of each other. Then each had the same hunch of getting another drink. They left their posts and that was the end of the strike. Other operators were called in and the wires buzzed merrily on.—Pep.

Becomes His Mother's Uncle.

His own mother's uncle, his grandfather's brother and a great-uncle to his half-brother is the peculiar status of five-year-old Irving Tucker, who was adopted by his great-grandmother, Mrs. Johanna Freltag of Mount Vernon. The boy's mother, Mrs. Mabel Hauser, agreed to the legal adoption. He has lived with his adopted mother since the death of his father, more than four years ago.—Brooklyn Eagle.

LET BODIES REST WHERE MEN DIED, PERSHING ADVISES.

It is the belief of General Pershing that the bodies of American soldiers who died over seas should be left interred in foreign soil and that the American government should take immediate steps to improve permanently and beautify American cemeteries in France and England. The views of the General were expressed in a cable message to the War Department made public by Secretary Baker. The message follows:

"Believe it inadvisable to return dead from England before definite decision as to entire question and particularly before final action as to dead interred in France. Have given the entire question of our dead much thought and my opinion is that we should leave our dead near where they fell. Am sure that this course would be fully appreciated by the Allies and that our government will be given every facility in beautifying and caring for the cemeteries already established on the fields won by our heroic dead.

"I believe that could these soldiers speak for themselves they would wish to be left undisturbed in the place where with their comrades, they fought the last fight. Those who rest in England gave their lives in the same cause and their remains present the same salvation as those who lie on the battlefields.

"The graves of our soldiers constitute, if they are allowed to remain, a perpetual reminder to our Allies of the liberty and ideals upon which the greatness of America rests.

"Think the sentiments above outlined are held by many who have given on this subject thought. These sentiments should appeal to the relatives and friends. Recommended that none of our dead be removed from Europe unless their nearest relatives so demand after a full understanding of all the sentimental reasons against such removal, and further recommend that immediate steps be taken for permanently improving and beautifying our cemeteries.

PERSHING.

Old Men Get Employment.

The recent putting into force of the act of Congress prohibiting the employment of boys under 16 years of age in the anthracite breakers, is proving a boon to old men, many of whom had been previously refused employment about the collieries and for whose services the coal corporations are now eager. More than 300 boys in the Shamokin and Mount Carmel district were thrown out of employment early in the month when the law became effective. As a consequence there was a marked shortage of slate pickers, jig operators, chute tenders and oilers. To fill the places made vacant by the boys under the legal age, the companies have found it necessary to take on men well advanced in years and who were discharged from service as miners. The aged men are now able to earn from \$12 to \$16 per week—a scale higher than they received six years ago for mining coal.

Early Winter is Seen by Indian.

Geneva, N. Y.—If the prognostications of Charles Kelly, a half breed Mohawk Indian, who lives here, is right, frosts will come early and a long, cold, little-snow winter will follow. Last fall Kelly made a hit by his prophecy of an open, warm winter and wet spring. He bases his predictions on what he considers nature's unfailing signs, which aborigines observe more closely than their winter brethren.

In his hunting and trapping last fall he paid special attention to the preparations of the muskrat. He noted that these animals were building houses in low ground and building them with thin walls, indicating open winter and not much water in the spring.

Later he noticed that these houses were being pulled down and built on higher ground, indicating that spring would be accompanied by heavy rains and high water would result, which was the case.

This fall Kelly believes there will be early killing frosts and declares it is indicated by the premature ripening of the fruits and vegetables. The winter, he states, would be cold and little snow would fall. This is sure to be the case in a winter following a heavy foliage.

Kelly has since childhood been a close observer of nature and the actions of animals, which are watched closely by Indians in their preparations for the changes in season.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

To Develop Nut Industry.

An appropriation of \$20,000 by the federal government has been made for nut improvement work, especially upon pecans, almonds, Persian walnuts, black walnuts, hickory nuts, etc. The nut industry is relatively new in the United States and probably no tree industry of equal importance presents more difficult problems to the grower. For some years the department has been giving special attention to the relative value and adaptability of different varieties of pecans to the several regions where the industry is being established. Similar types of investigations will be extended to all other classes of nuts grown in commercial orchards in the areas of the United States to which they are adapted. The English walnut and almond present many of the same cultural problems as the pecan and the black walnut. The two latter species, although native, have been under cultivation a comparatively short period of time and are, perhaps, less well understood than the English walnut and the almond. Furthermore, the English walnut and the almond under American conditions present many problems which cannot be solved by the experience of European cultivators of these nuts.

Among the first activities undertaken will be the survey of the territory to which such species as the black walnut, the shagbark, shellbark and pignut hickories, the butternut, hazelnut, filbert are indigenous for the purpose of producing superior varieties for propagation.

Colored People in St. Louis Start a Co-operative Shop.

Subscriptions are being taken among negroes in St. Louis to establish a department store, which is to be operated exclusively by and for members of the race. At a meeting held at the Metropolitan A. M. E. church it was announced that more than \$15,000 had been subscribed.

The movement is partly due to a speech recently made there by Colonel Charles Young, of the United States army, a negro, in which he urged negroes to own and operate their own business institutions of all kinds. Such a plan previously had been discussed among negro leaders in that place, but Colonel Young's speech caused it to bear fruit.

Voluntary segregation has been urged as a solution of the race problem, and persons of both races who have studied the question say it should begin with the establishment of negro commercial enterprises, in order that the race may be self sufficient.

The Rev. B. G. Shaw, pastor of the Metropolitan church, St. Louis, is in charge of the taking of subscriptions. He said that it would not be possible to start the proposed store with less than \$20,000.

It would be operated on the co-operative plan, so that the customers would not only deal with members of their own race, but also would get lower prices. No person will be allowed to hold more than \$100 worth of stock in the concern.

If the store proves a success, the next logical move will be to establish a negro bank, Shaw said. He believes that such a bank, with a capital of at least one quarter million dollars, can be established there.

They say we are free, but everybody knows that the negroes are still slaves, economically," he said. "We have to buy from the white man, borrow from the white man—on his own terms—and, what is more important, we have to depend on him for work. I believe the white people would like to see us learn to depend on ourselves."

The Imperative.

Heck—I understand that your wife is subject to moods.
Peck—Wrong! She has but one and I am subject to that.

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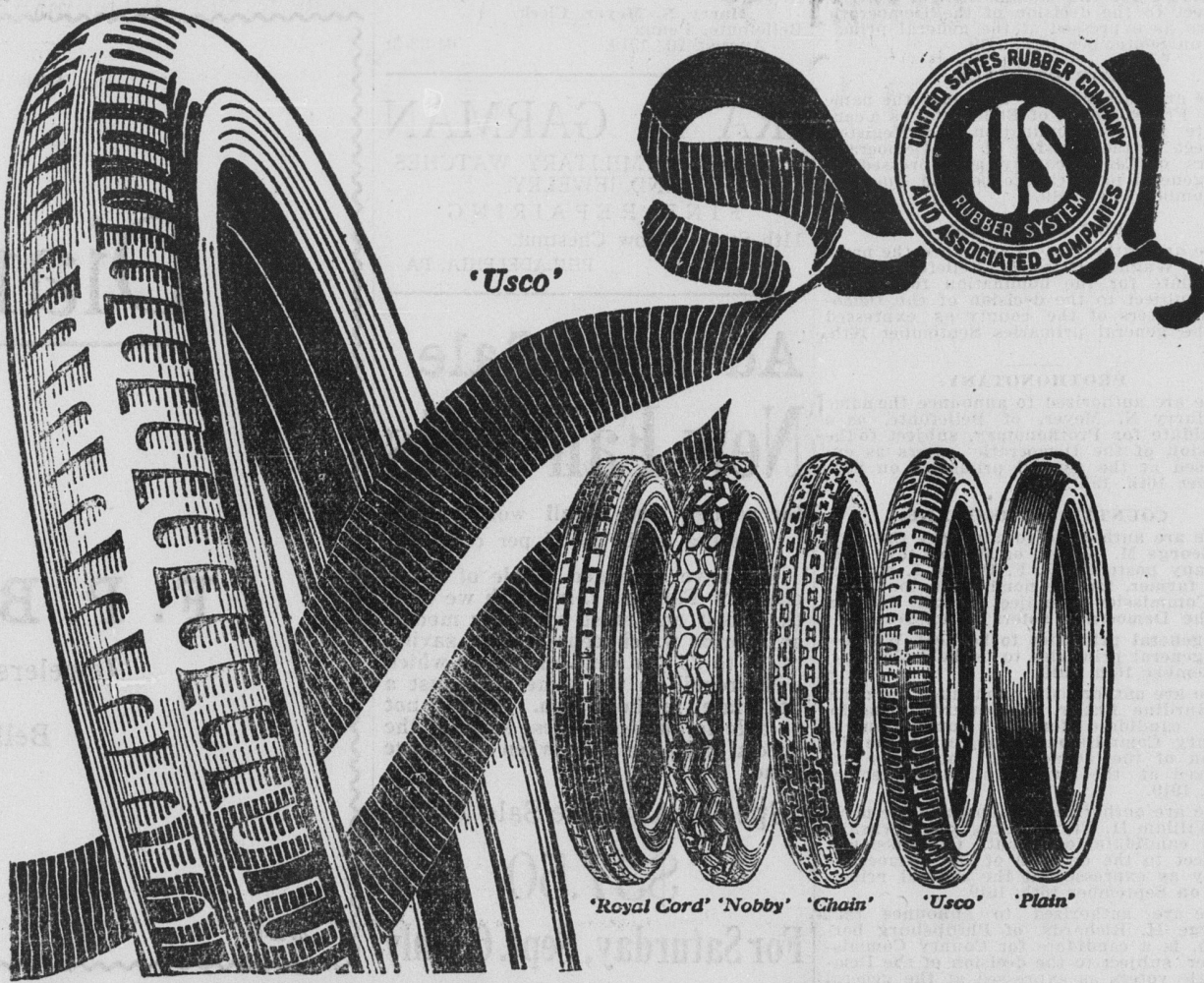
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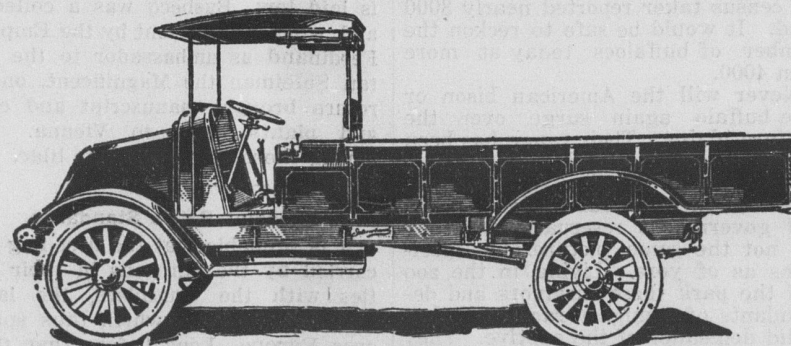
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