

**BEGGING AS AN INDUSTRY.**

Nothing in the world arouses such sympathy as a small child, obliged to beg by his brutal parents or guardians, especially since it is well known that these unfortunate child victims are stolen, or what is even more horrible—rented! The professional beggar is generally resourceful and astute. He has sufficiently studied the human heart to touch its most sensitive cord. He knows that nothing inspires such compassion as sick and destitute children. When he has none of his own he steals, buys or rents them from others! Then he proceeds to give these children the appearance of those suffering from various diseases and uses the most cruel methods to cripple and maim them, considering this only in the light of a business proposition. With a heart more inhuman than the savage beasts, which do not martyrize the young of their species, the professional beggar tortures his own child or that of others, until he has paralyzed its limbs and maimed it in such a manner that it seems to be suffering from such recognized disease.

Sometimes the sight is destroyed by means of corrosive liquids. Occasionally the methods are less cruel and then the victim is painted to present the appearance of having ulcers, skin diseases and other repugnant maladies. The worst feature of the situation is that the stealing of children to excite public charity is daily increasing. Frequently these child exploiters have been denounced to the authorities, who found it necessary to adopt severe methods against such criminal abuses.

There is a case of a certain beggar who meandered along the thoroughfares of Mexico City carrying a small, frail, sick child in an almost continuous state of coma. The foster father insisted that this condition was the result of hunger. This imposition proved most lucrative for the business manager of this sad drama.

Investigation proved that regular doses of morphine were administered to this baby, with the consequences mentioned above. The children of these professional beggars, trained in the trade of their fathers, follow what they believe to be a legitimate profession, so we have the spectacle of generations perpetuating this social plague, which will continue until the authorities find a way to remedy the evil. The professional beggar is a free and happy-go-lucky member of society. He respects no social edicts and civil laws have no dominion over him.

Gaining his support from public charity, he is not perturbed by meager harvests, inundations or other catastrophes, because, according to his reasoning, if one passerby ignores him the next one will give the alms he seeks. The beggar is a parasite of the worst kind; he prefers to receive cash, for with it he buys what he pleases. But he never wears the old clothes given him, because the rags which incite compassion serve his purpose better.

In regard to the social status of the beggar, rarely is he married, but he generally has one or two women associates and is an advocate of polygamy. Although he is a ready prey to all vices, there is one that dominates him more completely than the rest—that is drunkenness. Certain beggars, who come from a better class and become human driftwood in consequence of their own and others' sins, drink to excess in order to drown memories of the past and obscure the present. Do you wish to see the odious picture of drunken mendicancy? Enter one of the filthy grogshops (called pulquerias and cantinas) located not only on by-roads, but in much frequented thoroughfares—you will find at all times and particularly at night, a reunion of beggars drinking, generally the highly intoxicating pulque with filthy rags, half naked, barefooted, disheveled, who, having lost every vestige of virtue and decency, boast publicly of their degradation.

In the most cynical and indecent manner, with oaths and blasphemous interjections, with gestures wild and obscene, they relate the revolting details of their crimes to eager listeners. Excoriating society, they terminate these effusions by glorifying what they call their saintly and blessed alms, which enable them to indulge in these wild orgies.—Translation from El Universal in National Humane Review.

**To Plant War Memorial Trees on Arbor Days.**

Arbor days this year on April 16 and 23 will have greater significance than ever before. Hundreds of communities throughout Pennsylvania will take advantage of these days set aside by Governor Sproul for the planting of trees as memorials in honor of their sons who served during the world war. Parks, streets, public squares and school grounds will be the scenes of many memorial tree plantings.

"Like all other things of practical use, these trees attain the ideal by functioning perfectly while satisfying every aesthetic demand," says Arthur Wescott Cowell, professor of landscape design at The Pennsylvania State College. "If they fail to attain this feature, they may not become satisfactory war memorials. Choice of variety and location is very important." The greatest satisfaction can be obtained from the following trees, which, standing well apart, will in the future be a credit to any community: American beech, American white elm, white oak, red oak, sugar maple, basswood, tulip tree and magnolia. Avoid "quick growers," such as silver maple, catalpa, poplars, sycamore maple, willows, box elder and alonthus.

**His Negative Merit.**

Heck—Strength of character, pooh! Your wife leads you around by the nose.

Peck—Well, doesn't it take strength of character to stand such treatment without complaining?

**PRAISES WOMEN OF NIPPON**

California Newspaper Speaks in Highest Terms of Those Who Reside in That State.

Japan is a wonderful nation in a very great many ways, it has accomplished marvels, it has leaped forward at almost a single bound into a front place among the world powers, but we are convinced that the greatest thing about Japan is its women.

All women are, of course, charming, but our observation is that the women of Japan are especially and particularly so. We see much of them here in California, and we have an opportunity to judge.

To begin with, the majority of them are very pretty, and all of them have a certain grace that can come only from centuries of gentleness and good breeding. They have soft voices. There is an irresistible appeal in their manners.

It is often commented that the men of Japan have adapted themselves to Western ways with an incredible ease. But they have not equaled their women in the performance of this difficult feat for an Oriental race to adapt itself to Occidental customs and habits.

In many social functions as well as in public, numerous Japanese women have been seen here in California. The grace of their bearing and the charm of their manners have deeply impressed all with whom they have come in contact. Japan is a nation that had no music, yet the most popular singer on the operatic stage today is a Japanese woman. And this is only an instance of their conquests.

We do not think there is any reason to worry about what Japan will or will not do in the world. Any nation that can produce such women as that nation produces will not only succeed, but will endure.—Los Angeles Times.

**SHOULD END ALL ARGUMENT**

Ohio Newspaper Produces Proof That General Sherman in Speech Declared War Was "Hell."

In answer to inquiries as to where Gen. William T. Sherman made his famous speech in which he defined war, and to refute intimations that he never said it at all, the Columbus (O.) Dispatch asserts that General Sherman said it in Columbus on August 12, 1880, and in support of the assertion produces from its files the copy of a short address he made there at that time, in which the now famous expression defining war was made.

The occasion was a reunion of the Civil war soldiers of Ohio. President Hayes was a guest of honor and most of the living generals of the Civil war were present. The addresses were made in the open at Franklin park. It was raining hard when General Sherman's turn came to speak, but he stood out uncovered and delivered his short speech. As published, it contained just 308 words. Alluding to the fact that old soldiers did not mind the rain, he continued:

"You all know that this is not soldiering. There is many a boy here today who thinks war is all glory, but, boys, it is all hell. You can hear that warning to generations yet to come. I look upon it with horror, but, if it has to come, I am here."

This last clause brought great applause and when it subsided the general proceeded on another line of thought.

**A Call for Heroes.**

Man's opportunity for the display of personal heroism has apparently not ceased at the signing of the armistice, for a call has just been issued in a London daily newspaper for "Volunteers . . . 1,000 sportsmen of good social position, to wear upon a given day new fashions, to bring back color and line into masculine attire."

The black rock coat with its ruffles, the pink breeches, the silk stockings, and the powdered wig of colonial days are conservative as compared with some of the styles to obtain as fruition of this idea; at least this is the opinion of its proponent, who sets as his definite purpose the abolishment of the "dark, unsymmetrical" garments of today and the adoption of clothes more in keeping with the new age of romantic chivalry. As a parting word, he reminds that courage—even to a degree equal to that manifested by women in the upkeep of fashions—is essential to masculine success.

**Another Use for Airplanes.**

Men interested in aviation have advanced the theory that photographic maps of cities made from views taken from an airplane, would be of value as a part of the records of the fire departments. They would be as valuable to the fire chief as similar maps of the battlefields of France proved to the commanders of armies. Such a map, for instance, would enable the chief to know at a glance the best means of getting at a big fire, the surrounding roofs and so forth. By use of the map the dangerous areas and zones could be plotted in the same manner as in wartime.

**Anxious.**

A city school principal was rushing along the street the other day when a youngster about eight years old stopped her. "Are you the principal at Blank building?" he asked. The principal nodded her head. "Why? Do you go there?" she asked in turn. "No," he returned. "I go to another building. But I just wanted to know if the licken had begun at your building yet?"

**SUICIDES GAIN SINCE CLOSE OF THE WAR.**

Statistics compiled by the Save-a-Life League show that since the end of the war deaths from suicide have increased not only in this country but in all parts of the world.

In 1919 this country suffered 5,121 deaths by suicide, of which 3,212 were cases of men and 1,909 of women.

More than 100 returned soldiers ended their lives. One curious fact is that suicide pacts between soldiers and their sweethearts have been very common.

Self-destruction is increasing among women due, it is assumed, to the increased part women are playing in the hard and fast life of the world—in business and politics. Some years ago the ratio was one woman in four suicides. Last year's figures showed that the ratio had gone up to one woman in three suicides.

A pitiful situation was revealed when it is noted that 417 children took their own lives—225 boys and 192 girls. The youngest boy was four and the youngest girl thirteen years old. Almost a third of the number shot themselves, though there were many cases of poisoning. The facts seem to show that in many instances children killed themselves because they were neglected or even mistreated in their own homes, and in some cases because they were not sympathetically handled in schools.

Of the more than 5,000 cases of suicides reported to the league from all parts of the United States one profession seems to be almost immune, the newspaper profession. But lawyers heading the list, show 43 cases, including 12 judges. Thirty-six physicians got so tired of living that they decided to die. Twenty-eight teachers felt similarly. Life was too much for twenty-eight presidents of business concerns, more than 50 clubmen and society women and 28 merchants. Unhappy marriage relations caused 350 cases in which husbands killed their wives before killing themselves or wives killed their husbands before destroying themselves. The oldest suicide in the country was one hundred years of age, the youngest four.

The statement of psychiatrists that suicide is more frequent in pleasant than in gloomy weather, much commoner in summer than in winter, is fully borne out by facts and figures. It is observed that in time of peace and prosperity suicide is commoner than during a national calamity. Since the armistice was signed the number was doubled in Vienna.

Turning on the gas was the favorite method, and jumping from buildings and in front of trains was the method second on the list.

**Those Girls.**

Agnes—But how in the world did you get him to propose?  
Madge—Oh, easily enough, I told him that you were crazy about him and reminded him that it was leap year.

**Remedy in Her Hands.**

He—I know I'm poor.  
The Heiress—Well, you can't help that.  
He—No, but you can.

**Would Report Later.**

"Who was that man I saw giving you a cigar; friend of yours?"  
"I don't know; I haven't smoked it yet."

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