

TOLSTOY IRKED BY IDLENESS

Letter Written by Russian Philosopher Condemns Life Led by Indolent Men of Means.

The Vossische Zeitung prints the following letter by Tolstoy, written in 1884, with the remark that it has never before been published except in Russian, and that its value lies in the fact that as early as 1884 Tolstoy had about made up his mind to do what he did in 1910—leave home and live the life of a peasant. The letter reads in part:

"I am living in the country, involuntarily according to a new method. I go to bed early, get up early, write very little but work a great deal, either making boots or mowing hay. I see with joy (or possibly it only seems to me like joy) that there is something up in my family. They do not condemn me; as a matter of fact, they seem ashamed of themselves.

"What miserable creatures we are and how we have all gone astray. There are a great many of us here, my own children and the children of Kusminsky, and nobody does a thing but gulp down food. They are all big and strong, yet they do nothing. People in the village are at work. My children eat and make their clothes and their rooms dirty and that is all. Everything is done for them by somebody else, yet they do nothing for anybody. And worst of all, they seem to feel that it is as it should be. But I have had my own part in building up such a system, and I can never forget it. I feel that for them I am a trouble-fete. But it is clear that they are beginning to see that this cannot go on this way forever."

HAD NO CAUSE FOR WORRY

Under the Circumstances Wash White Could Afford to Live Life of Elegant Leisure.

Senator Gronna of Dakota was analyzing a political opponent at a Dakota luncheon.

"The man is bad through and through," he said. "He's actually so bad that he mistakes badness for goodness—is proud of himself, in short.

"By Jove, he makes me think of Uncle Washington White. As Uncle Wash loafed in front of the poolroom one morning the preacher's wife stopped and said:

"Washington, why don't you go to work?"

"Old Wash White, as he puffed serenely on his cornob, answered:

"Bekase Ah got a wife an' children toe suppo't."

"But," the preacher's wife impatiently interrupted, "you can't support them by loafing here in front of this poolroom."

"Excuse me, Miss Fothly," said Wash, with dignity. "Lemme finish mah remark. Wot Ah means toe say is that Ah's got a wife an' chillun toe suppo't me."—Detroit Free Press.

New York Boys' New Game.

The game of marbles no longer holds a throne in boyville. Any New York side street where there's enough room between bluecoats and automobile traffic to play, will show you that a new game has taken its place.

"Sidewalk checkers," the boys call it. The new game really has the elements of both the old marble shooting days and checkers as played on a board. Checker men are used—red, black, blue—the color makes no difference. A ring is drawn with chalk and the object is to flip your checker man with enough force to knock your contenders out of the ring.

"Hully gee!" said a future Ponzi as he gathered up his winnings on Reade street near Broadway, "ain't I got enough lumber here to start me a paper mill!"—New York Sun.

Men Who Repair Skeletons.

There are two kinds of skeleton-menders—the bone surgeon and the skeleton-assembler. Art schools, medical colleges, and students of anatomy require an accurately constructed skeleton to aid in their work.

All the bones must be properly assorted and carefully put together. They are strung on fine wires. The skeleton-assembler must also pick out of the hundreds of odd bones that are sent him the 200 or more bones that belong to the particular individual being reconstructed. It is not an easy task, and the price of skeletons is justified by the amount of work required to construct them.—Popular Science Monthly.

May Use South American Wood.

The Pennsylvania railroad, owing to the unprecedented cost of railroad ties, has decided to investigate the adaptability of the hard woods of Central and South America for this purpose, it is announced. Normally the Pennsylvania system uses from 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 ties annually. The average net cost has risen fully 100 per cent since the beginning of the war. Furthermore, white oak, which the company regards as the most desirable wood for ties, is becoming scarcer. Therefore, the company has inquiries under way to determine the comparative cheapness and durability of southern hard woods for railroad ties.

—When in doubt as to your paper take the "Watchman."

NATIVE TRIBE LITTLE KNOWN

Tehuelches of Patagonia Have Many of the Characteristics of North American Indians.

Many are the strange and interesting native tribes that are found in the Americas. Among the most interesting are the people of the ostrich, who inhabit an almost as yet unknown country, and in language, and character, and race, are altogether distinct from other Indians, says an article on "People of the Ostrich" in Boys' Life. They live in the remote and almost legendary regions of the "land of large-footed men"—a land, that like Chili, Peru, Mexico, and northwest South America, has its story of the existence of a hidden city among the unexplored wilds of their Cordilleras.

The Tehuelches of Patagonia, that vast peninsular end of South America, are scattered across it, from the Straits of Magellan and the Rio Negro—a territory of over 1,000 miles in length and 300 at its narrowest. A brave, active, athletic people, wonderful horsemen, singularly expert with their weapons and implements, who lead a wandering life, and hunt the wild cattle, the guanacos—and ostriches. For Patagonia is a home of that splendid bird, which was there ages before men crossed its path in the faraway wilds of the interior. To the Tehuelches, this fine bird is as important in their existence as the guanaco, for they are a race of hunters, and grow but little food for themselves.

PREACHES FROM AN AIRPLANE

Minister With Many Parishes to Cover Puts Modern Mode of Travel to Good Use.

No tolling church bells announce to the little communities scattered through one section of America's great Northwest the periodic Sunday morning arrival of the region's most enterprising itinerant evangelist. Instead, they hear the coughing exhaust of an engine, as his airplane spirals down upon the village. Drawn irresistibly by the novelty of the visit, they flock to the airplane, now at rest in a nearby field or meadow. They find the preacher on his feet in the pilot's cockpit of the plane "Sky Pilot," ready to begin his discourse.

Explanation of this strangest of all the airplane's uses is found in the evangelist's decision, some months ago, that the time and energy required for constant travel among distant parishes was seriously curtailing his effectiveness. He decided to defy all precedent by allying aeronautics and religion. He first subjected himself to a rigorous course of training, and became an accomplished aviator. He then purchased his plane, selecting a three-seater of sporting type. The rear cockpit seats the pilot, and serves as his pulpit when the meetings are held in the open; the forward cockpit accommodating his two assistants, one of them a song leader.—Omaha Bee.

Women Crave Excitement.

The wife of a very wealthy man was arrested with a group of bandits after a pistol battle with the police, in which the woman was shot in the arm. She is a woman who has traveled, is educated and bears every evidence of refinement. The police say that there are many women of this kind who work with thieves unbeknown to their families. The call of adventure is the prime motive. In a raid on an East side wine cellar recently ten men and one woman were taken to headquarters in a patrol. All the men had criminal records. The woman is happily married to all appearances, and is a patron of the opera. She said the men and women in her set were dull and that she liked to get out and mingle with the men who lived by their wits and were not afraid of dangerous paths.—New York Times.

The Chef's Daily Manicure.

One of the daily events in the life of a chef in any of the large New York hotels is his morning manicure. Before he touches food, his hands are carefully washed and his nails are cleaned, cut and polished.

The job is not given to a sweet girl manicurist, but to one of the hotel physicians. He is always on hand during the day; should the chef accidentally cut himself, the doctor will bandage the wound, as he is there for that purpose.

Chefs are precious these days; many of the French ones—unable to get their daily bottles of wine—have gone back to France, where the thought of prohibition can still be treated as a joke, though even in France there are heard ominous rumbles between the jokes passed at our expense.—Popular Science Monthly.

To Jail by Airplane.

Aerial policemen in San Francisco are thus far the first to make use of the airplane to conduct a prisoner to jail, via the automobile patrol.

The sky route offers the most direct passage between two places, and in this instance the prisoner was transferred from the Alexandra county jail across the bay of San Francisco to the locality where an automobile patrol was waiting to continue the journey through the city. Where it is necessary to save time, the airplane can be of service, as in this case.

When the air becomes crowded with machines, the arrest of violators of the air-traffic laws will undoubtedly become common and aerial patrols will no longer excite comment.—Popular Science Monthly.

HARDING USED LOUD SPEAKER

DEVICE INSTALLED WHICH THREW VOICE OVER VAST DISTANCE ON MARCH 4.

HUNDRED THOUSAND HEARD

Tremendous Energy Developed by Hidden Amplifiers and Motors—Telephone Principles Involved.

Washington, D. C.—For the first time in the history of the United States an inaugural address was heard by everyone of the hundreds of thousands of men and women who crowded the broad open space which stretched for fifteen hundred feet in every direction around the inaugural stand in front of the Capitol Building. The reason for this was found in the loud speaking device which was installed for the benefit of the public, and which was the only feature of the entire simple inaugural ceremony outside of the taking of the oath. By means of this device, which is hidden from the eye, the human voice is made to carry half a mile under perfect conditions.

It was a system of motors, generators, wires, transmitters, amplifiers and other electrical machinery designed by the experts of the Bell Telephone System, which contributed the speaker to the inaugural ceremonies for the benefit of the public. It is not a commercial device, it is not patented, nor is it for sale or for rent. To the experts, the system is the exposition of the development of everything scientific in the telephone world, for the principles involved are those of the telephone and the engineers and research men of The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, simply brought into play some of the marvelous discoveries and developments of The Bell laboratories.

All Apparatus Hidden.

Although there were three rooms full of machinery and electrical devices in connection with the loud speaker, none of it was in evidence, and the huge horns through which the speech was heard were camouflaged by being made a part of the roof of the speaker's stand. So far as the speaker himself is concerned he saw nothing of the apparatus except small transmitter boxes which were set somewhere in front and to the sides of his speaking desk, so that his voice was caught in the workings of the loud speaker no matter which way he turned.

When the President-elect spoke, his voice generated energy by means of the transmitters. This energy was transferred by wires to the complex apparatus installed under the Capitol steps. The energy is led into a little glass bulb, which the experts call a "vacuum tube amplifier," the function of which is to receive energy, multiply it and send it on to the other amplifiers until it reaches a stage sufficient to turn it loose in voice form through the hidden horns out to the distant crowds.

While the speaking was in progress, a dozen experts were watching each bit of apparatus. There were men at certain points on the capitol plaza connected with the machinery rooms by telephone, to report to the men at the amplifiers. The working loud speaker requires a crew as large as a small vessel.

Amplifies Millions of Times.

The voice, when it emerges from the horns, is almost an exact duplication of the original, but greatly increased in power. It is possible for the loud speaking system to obtain an amplification of several millions of times without great distortion of the original wave form.

The mouths of the hidden horns are depressed just enough so that the audience near at hand within range of the speaker's voice direct, hear very little from the horn, those further away hear both the speaker and the loud speaking system, those furthest away hearing the horn only.

It might seem that this additional source of sound, might create a double effect or an unnatural effect, but it does not. The sound from the horn is exactly in phase with the speech, and almost exactly the same quality. At any point where the sound from the horns is heard, it is practically impossible to tell that one is not listening to the speaker himself.

—The "Watchman" gives all the news all the time.

FLORIDA RABBIT A FIGHTER

Victor in Remarkable Combat With Dog, as Reported by "Honest and Upright Person."

Russell Thompson of Sarasota, a noted angler and dealer in fishing tackle, consequently a very honest and upright person, has submitted the following, with affidavit attached to the Florida Fisherman.

"Last Sunday morning I happened to be standing looking out the window. All at once Dr. Jack Halton's bird and hound dog came down the alley with his back feet over his neck (in the act of running) and Mayor Edwards' rabbit in the lead. The rabbit is a very large specimen of the rodent family and well able to care for himself, as well as the dog who happens to be a combination bird, rabbit, coon and anything else that happens to be in sight. Well, it was not long before the same pair came back, but the rabbit was not in the lead. Rube, the dog, and the rabbit played for about twenty minutes up and down the alley, in the back yards, and seemed to be having a wonderful time, when all of a sudden the rabbit, tiring of such amusement (please believe me), jumped and bit Dr. Jack Halton's dog under the neck, then, to do the job up right, kicked poor Major several times, thus ending the morning's exercise."

ONE HIGH SCHOOL A DAY

For Twenty-Eight Years That Has Been the Record This Country Has Made.

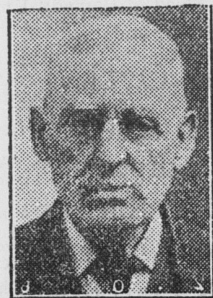
In a pamphlet on high schools in this country, issued by the federal bureau of education, it is stated that the total number of these schools in 1917-18 was 13,951. The mailing list of the bureau includes the names of 13,300 high schools. The number of these schools has increased over 452 per cent since 1890. This means that one high school has been established in this country each day in each calendar year since 1890—a high school a day for 28 years.

In 1890 60.8 per cent of the high schools were under public control, but in 1918 the public-controlled high schools were 87 per cent of the whole. The average size of a city high school is 653 students and of a rural school 59 students.

In 1890 only 312 persons in each 1,000 population were enrolled in public high schools. In 1918 the corresponding number was 15.6, or almost five times as great a proportion. California leads in high-school education, with 27 persons out of each 1,000 in the population. Kansas is a close second, with South Carolina at the bottom of the list, with 5.3 persons.

SEVEN YEARS OF CATARRH RELIEVED IN SEVEN DAYS

Mr. Alward Allen, of 667 Second Avenue, North Troy, N. Y., went after a bottle of Goldine No. 2 on January 14. Seven days



Alward Allen

later he returned to the store and said: "I suffered with catarrh for seven years and had given up hope of ever getting rid of it, for nothing helped me. A week ago I got a bottle of Goldine No. 2. The first three days I took Goldine I felt worse, but I knew that the medicine was working. Then the mucus began to leave my head in great chunks and since then I have felt fine. I sleep, eat and feel better than I have in months and I am more free from catarrh than I have been in years."

(Signed) Alward Allen.

Do you suffer with catarrh? Why not follow Mr. Allen's example and get a bottle of Goldine No. 2? Don't put it off. Just think, a few weeks from today you will probably be rid of the disease.

For sale by all druggists or send 10c for liberal sample. Goldine Mfg. Co., Dept. 8, Albany, N. Y. Sold at M. B. Runkle's Drug Store.

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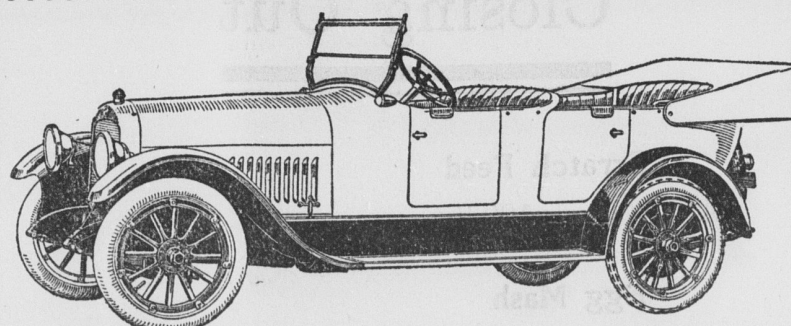
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