

LAMENTS CHANGE OF TIMES

Old-Time Missouri Editor Tells Good Story of Politics of Some Few Decades Ago.

"Politics ain't what she used to be," complained the old-time Missouri newspaper editor. "Take old 'Hurricane' Watts, for instance. Hurricane was state senator for three terms. He was a hurricane for true, and blew his way straight through to almost any goal he attained. On one occasion he had considerable traveling about over the state to do, so he went to the division superintendent of the railroad that ran through the territory where he wanted to go.

"I want a pass on your road," Hurricane told the superintendent.

"The superintendent looked up at his visitor in astonishment, too taken aback to reply for a moment.

"You want a what?" he asked.

"A pass—a double s' Hurricane exclaimed impatiently. "One that is good on your entire system in this state."

"The superintendent cleared his throat carefully, the while he parried for time.

"Are you an employee of this railroad?"

"Of course I am," Hurricane assured him.

"In what capacity?" the superintendent demanded.

"Capacity!" exclaimed Hurricane. "I am a member of the Missouri general assembly."—Kansas City Star.

WOULD TEACH BOYS TO COOK

English Woman Physician Argues That Such a Proceeding Would Solve Many Problems.

"Should boys be trained in housecraft and cookery?" was the question debated at a meeting of the Women's Freedom League of London. Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser argued that the teaching of housewifery and cooking to men and boys would help to solve many social problems and improve the health of the community, reports the London Daily Telegraph. Housekeeping, she said, was much more arduous work than journalism, public speaking and medical practice and, therefore, men were more fitted for it than women. Men excelled in executive work, and if they could create better music, painting and poetry than women, they could also create better savories and soups.

A. Clephan Palmer said women were becoming more masculine and to hold their own men must become still more masculine. They did not do that by cooking chops or dusting ornaments. Moreover, it was unnecessary, as the modern idea was to be as homeless as possible. Two rooms and a car was the American ideal. He advised men to follow the precedent of King Alfred and let the cakes burn.

World Cities on Same Parallel.

If you had to travel directly east from the city hall a distance of 5,622 miles you would cut right through the southern suburbs of Constantinople.

It is remarkable that so many cities of first importance are situated on the same parallel. That narrow belt, hardly more than 90 miles in breadth, which encircles the globe between 40.20 degrees and 41.50 degrees in north latitude includes Constantinople, Rome, Madrid, New York and Chicago—five cities as important or historical as any other five perhaps in the world.

London is considerably north of New York. It is situated in about 51.45 degrees north latitude, thus being in about the same parallel as Calgary.—New York Sun.

Wild Geese Blocked Railroad.

Wild geese thronging the right of way of the Spokane-Portland railway north of Wallula, Wash., interfered seriously with the operation of trains for about a week. So numerous were the big birds that several times it was necessary to stop trains that the bewildered honkers might not be slaughtered by hundreds. Engineers tried to drive the birds from the tracks by tremendous blasts from the locomotive whistles. When the great flocks took wing to clear the way for the trains the noise of their beating pinions could be heard for a great distance.

Big Saver of Labor.

In potato harvesting, by connecting a loader to the rear of a digger, both being hauled by a tractor, the potatoes can be dug and loaded simultaneously into a horse-drawn wagon moving alongside the combination. One of the two potato elevators of the loader is arranged to dump the potatoes into the wagon. These elevators are constructed with separated steel slats so that any dirt left on the potatoes will fall to the ground. The elevators are driven by a system of sprockets and chains in connection with the wheels of the loader.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Child's Poetic Expression.

Verna is the proud sister of (in her estimation) the most darling baby brother in the world. The other day she went up to him and, throwing her arms around him, remarked: "Oh, you little doll, you're so sweet I can kiss all the soft off of you," referring to his cheeks, which are soft and rosy.—Chicago Tribune.

TOOK ALL SORTS OF CHANCES

Reckless Motorist Furnished Every Kind of Thrill That His Passengers Could Possibly Desire.

The Muscovite who was driving our Benz over a Persian mountain pass had the most original method of descending a mountain side that I have ever seen.

Instead of putting his clutch into second gear, he would shut off his power entirely and then go charging downward at terrific speed, the big car lurching from side to side of the precipice bordered road like a runaway locomotive.

The ordinary curves he took on two wheels, presumably to save rubber, but when we were within a few yards of one of the hairpin turns with which the road abounded, with nothing but emptiness ahead, he would suddenly jam on foot and emergency brakes simultaneously, thus locking his rear wheels and causing the stern of the car to skid around the corner.

And sometimes, at the narrower places, where the outside of the road ended in "a drop into nothing below you as far as a beggar could spit," he would give us an extra thrill by gripping the steering wheel with his knees so that he would have both hands free to light a cigarette.

I do not think that I am a particularly nervous person, but am frank to say that I heaved a sigh of relief when we reached the bottom. There were several moments when I wondered if I was going to see the Statue of Liberty again.—E. Alexander Powell in Harper's Magazine.

Wire Telegraphy for Mines.

In a mine disaster it frequently happens that the same agency that causes the disaster puts the telephone system out of order. That is why mining engineers are experimenting with the wireless system. In recent tests near Pittsburgh a receiving station 50 feet underground got short-wave signals from outside distinctly, but the audibility fell off rapidly as the distance underground was increased. In experiments in England a three-tube set placed at a 2,000-foot level communicated easily with the pit mouth, and better results were obtained at great depths than at points comparatively near the surface.—Youth's Companion.

Human Brain During Sleep.

Most authorities appear to be agreed that during sleep there is a lessened amount of blood in the brain. This is why excitement prevents sleep, or hard thinking, for then there is a greater flow of blood to the brain. This was proved in an interesting manner by Mosso, who balanced a man on a scale and showed that the head end would become depressed when the man was made to think or was subjected to excitement. This knowledge helps in the treatment of insomnia.

"Deadheads."

Deadhead is the literal translation of the Latin phrase, caput mortuum, which was much used by the old chemists to denote the residuum of chemicals when all their volatile matters had escaped; hence the word is figuratively used of anything from which all that rendered it valuable has been taken away. Spectators or passengers who do not pay are not valuable, from a revenue standpoint.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

Auto License Tag Colors Next Year Reverse of Those Issued This Year.

State Highway Commissioner Paul D. Wright has decided the color arrangement for automobile license tags for 1924 will be the reverse of 1923. The base of the 1923 tags is blue and the numerals are gold. The base of the 1924 tags will be gold and the numerals will be blue. There is a likelihood these two colors will be used on Pennsylvania tags henceforth, alternating the base color each year. In the opinion of Commissioner Wright gold and blue, the colors of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, may well be adopted as permanent colors for automobile license plates.

The 1924 combination of the gold background and blue numerals is the first in the history of automobile registration in Pennsylvania.

It is not unlikely in 1924 the number of passenger vehicle tags required to meet the Pennsylvania demand will pass the one million mark. It is estimated 860,000 such plates will be required for 1923.

A Misunderstood Phrase.

"I don't care a dam" is a phrase that was recently the cause of a Member being called to order in the House. Even in these days of the wild men from the North, it certainly strikes the ear as somewhat unparliamentary. But Colonel J. H. Rivett-Carnac comes to the rescue of a much-maligned expression with a letter to the Times. He explains that "dam" is an old Indian name for a coin current in the

eighteenth century and worth twopence. There is a passage in "Wellington's Dispatches" which quotes a letter written by Colonel Wellesley (as he then was), who describes a certain officer's opinion as "not worth a two-penny dam." Colonel Rivett-Carnac finishes his letter with a sly dig at the objection to the word "dam" as instanced in the story of the old lady of the manor, who declined to sign a document relating to the construction of a dam to a stream on her estate until the offending word was deleted and "weir" substituted.—London Times Weekly.

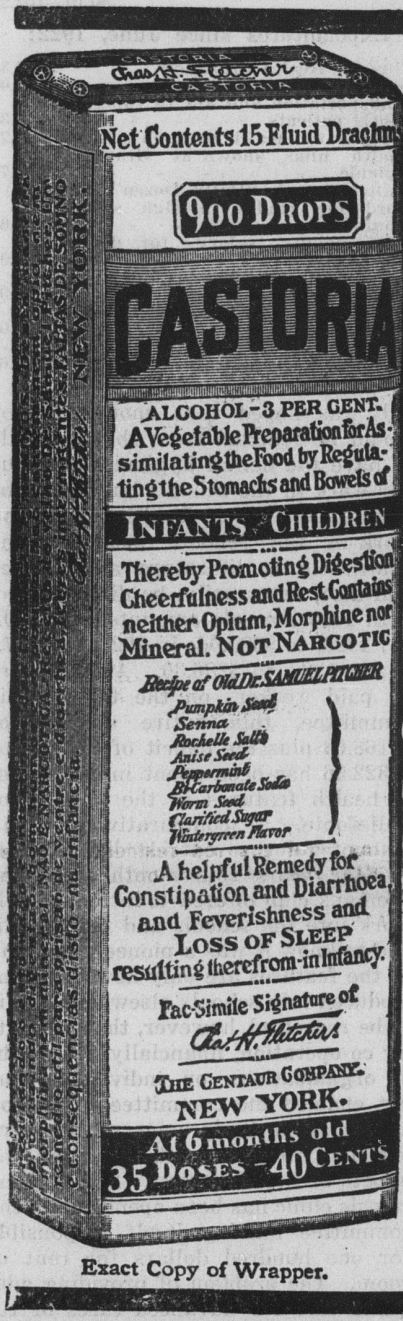
—The "Watchman" gives all the news while it is news.

Guineas Destroy Boll Weevils.

The common guinea fowl, seen in the barnyard, or observed about farm homes, is now reported to be even more useful than formerly. It is said that the guinea is especially effective in ridding a cotton field of boll weevils. Several of these fowls will eat an amazing number of these weevils in the course of a day reports one who recently made an investigation. It is to be hoped that guineas will solve the boll weevil problem.

Rule for National Conduct.

The propitious smiles of heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which heaven itself has ordained.—George Washington.



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