

Veteran Waiter Finds Modern Appetite Weak

An American, visiting Manchester, England, not long ago, was brought in contact with a waiter who has served at every oyster feast there since 1902 and who complained of the degeneracy of the contemporary appetite.

"The capacity of the guests is not what it used to be," said this waiter. "I have often served fourteen dozen oysters to one man, and many guests would eat five or six dozen at the feast. Today few persons eat more than two and a half dozen."

Now this disconsolate waiter might brighten up if he had the opportunity of serving a customer like the man whom Brillat-Savarin celebrates in his "Physiologie du Gout." It is therein stated that when Brillat-Savarin lived at Versailles he frequently met a M. Laperte, who was very fond of oysters, but who complained that he could never get his fill of them. The famous gastronomist determined to satisfy this man once for all and invited him to dinner. He kept pace with Laperte up to the third dozen and then allowed him to proceed alone. He swallowed oysters steadily for more than an hour, and Brillat-Savarin had to stop him after the thirty-second dozen, just as he had remarked that he was beginning to enjoy his treat. The two men then dined and Laperte acquitted himself with the vigor and appetite of a man who had been long-fasting.

Sweden's Ingenious Way of Saving Electricity

Sweden is one of the most prolific users of electricity. Her streams and waterfalls have been so successfully harnessed that electric power is cheap. The average housekeeper probably uses a greater variety of electric stoves, heaters and labor-saving devices than her sister in America. Even the farmers use electric power to an extent unknown in other countries.

There are said to be more electric bulbs used per capita in Sweden than in other countries, not excepting America, but certainly far less current is used. Economy practiced in lighting flats and apartments in Swedish cities is a surprise to the American traveler. At an early hour in the evening the halls and staircases are dark, except when the lights are turned on automatically from the front door. The scheme is highly ingenious. When a tenant reaches home and turns his key in the front door, the halls are instantly aglare with light. These continue to burn, however, only long enough to enable the tenant to reach the top floor, when they are automatically shut off. The length of time they burn has been carefully calculated to allow the tenant to reach the top floor and no more. If he lingers on the way he must grope his way in the dark.

Early English Journalism

J. G. Muddiman has written the life of his ancestor, Henry Muddiman, who founded the London Gazette in 1665 under the title "The King's Journalist," 1659-1689. The book throws fascinating sidelights upon a period of English history which has never yet been fully explored, and upon the real beginnings of English journalism. Muddiman's "News Letters," from 1687 to 1689, the manuscripts of which have been at Longleat, Wiltshire, since 1704, have been carefully examined. Mr. Muddiman compares the life of a journalist of those far-off days with that of the present. "A remarkable contrast," he writes, "to a modern editor journeying to his daily work by the underground railway was presented by the bewigged Seventeenth century news writer, mounted on horseback and traveling to Whitehall or the 'Seven Stars' in the Strand, armed with a sword and a brace of pistols in his holster, 'because of the foot pads of Knightsbridge.'"

Radio Lullabies

The pleasure of being sung to sleep is no longer a monopoly of the baby. The whole household can now retire and fall asleep to music by radio. Circuits running from a central receiving set in the living room run to loudspeakers or headsets in every room in a New York editor's house. By means of a clock switch, the whole system can be left running for any predetermined time.

Stringless Bean Deviser

Few know that the man who took the sting out of string beans was Calvin N. Keeney of Le Roy, N. Y. Mr. Keeney went through the bean patch and picked out the beans that were minus the strings. Whenever he found one he would save the beans and re-peated this year after year, and eventually secured a supply of genuine stringless beans.

Mixed Pleasures

"How did you enjoy the week-end festivities?" "Splendidly. We danced all night. When we went home in the morning we had a radio service from the church (with bell-ringing), and breakfast in bed!"—Stockholm Sondag Nisse.

How Difficult

"Do you know what that girl at the sweetmeat counter weighs?" "No." "Why, sweetmeats, of course."—Kasper, Stockholm.

HOW

TO TEST HOLLOW TILES WITH HYDRAULIC DEVICE.

In a series of tests made by the bureau of standards in a 10,000,000-pound hydraulic testing machine, and described in Technological Paper No. 238 of that bureau, walls made of common fireclay tiles 12 inches long, 12 inches wide and either 6, 8 or 12 inches thick were tested to the point of failure. These tiles were first tested individually and their strength was found to be much greater than that of those usually used in building construction. Their design was such that all the net area was in bearing when carefully set on end in the wall. Owing to the fact that the walls were very carefully set by an experienced mason they are considered to have been stronger than those usually used in buildings.

Of the 32 walls which were tested about half were built with the cells of the tile vertical and the other half with them horizontal. A few walls of each construction were tested under an eccentric load 2 inches off center.

It was found that considerable differences in the strength of the tile did not have an appreciable effect on the strength of the walls. No relation was found between the ultimate strength and the load at first crack. Walls having the cells of the tile vertical had, on the average, more than twice the strength of those having the cells horizontal. Walls loaded with an eccentricity of 2 inches had about one-half the strength of similar walls axially loaded. Apparently this ratio is independent of the thickness of the wall.—Scientific American.

How to Photograph Clouds With Camera

A few weeks ago the French meteorological office invited photographers to submit photographs of the sky taken in varying circumstances, with a view to making use of the pictures in the study of weather conditions.

Clouds are said to be difficult to photograph, but this is only the case where one wishes to photograph a landscape at the same time. When the object is to make negatives of clouds only a quick exposure with any ordinary camera will do the work.

Amateurs with cheap cameras which have only one snapshot speed can get over the difficulty by stopping down the lens to less than half its usual opening. Then they must be careful to develop the film or plate until the image of the clouds is just beginning to show on the back, when it will be time to put the film in the fixing bath.

Those with better-class cameras may use self-screen plates, stopping down to F16 and making an exposure of one-fifth part of a second.

Even better work may be done by using orthochromatic plates and a color screen on the front of the lens. When using a three-times screen the lens may be stopped down to F11 and an exposure of one-tenth second, or, if weather is bright, one-twenty-fifth second may be given. The rule for development mentioned above applies in all cases.—London Tit-Bits.

How Sea Nettles Sting

The sting is caused by the discharge of minute cells known as nematocyst. Each nematocyst, or stinging capsule, consists of a tough ovoid capsule filled with fluid, and invaginated at one end in the form of a hollow process which is continued into a long, coiled, hollow thread. At one point of its outer surface there is developed a delicate trigger hair known as the onidocil. When the onidocil is touched the surrounding tissues suddenly contract, thus causing the coiled thread to be discharged. The end of the thread is provided with minute barbs. These threads are poisonous, and are the immediate cause of the sting. It is not thought that these animals purposely bring themselves into contact with persons when in the water. What happens is that they are simply brought in by the tide, and are so numerous at times that it is impossible to avoid contact with them.

How U. S. Got Hot Springs

Hot Springs, Ark., is widely noted for the hot waters that flow from 72 springs, included in a space of ten acres on the west side of Hot Springs mountain. The waters of these springs range in temperature from 76 degrees Fahrenheit to 157 degrees Fahrenheit and are especially beneficial in the treatment of chronic diseases. In 1833 four sections of land were set off by congress as a government reservation. Since then the government has established on the mountain the army and navy general hospital.

How Expression Originated

Judge Haliburton, author of "San Sleek," popularized the interesting fact that Job's turkey had but one feather in his tail, and had to lean against the fence to gobble. Obviously, the reference is to the deplorable indigence to which Job was reduced when delivered over to Satan. The fact that Job couldn't have a turkey (for the bird is a native of America) was probably present in the mind of the originator of the expression.

DEATH TOLL IN SOFT COAL MINES.

Bituminous coal mining in Pennsylvania cost 405 lives last year compared with 424 in 1922, despite an increased production in 1923.

This is disclosed in a study of preliminary figures of the 1923 report of Joseph J. Walsh, State secretary of mines. None of the fatalities were caused by gas or dust explosions, a record unequalled in the past quarter of the century, the secretary asserted. During the year the State's approximately 2,500 bituminous mines produced slightly in excess of 135,000,000 tons of coal, compared with 108,310,000 tons in 1922. The production averaged 342,000 tons per fatality reported. Fayette county led in production with Westmoreland county second, Washington county third, and Cambria fourth, Mr. Walsh said, pointing out that the complete tonnage for these counties has not been compiled.

Of the fatalities occurring last year, 368 were classed as "inside" and 37 as "outside." The majority of fatal accidents inside the mines were due to falling rock, Mr. Walsh said, declaring that "while the 1923 record was not the best in the department's history it was far ahead of the large number of years."

The report showed the days the mines worked ranged from 115 to 275, while the days worked in approximately one-half the mines were below 180. Over-production in the entire bituminous field, including all the soft-coal producing States, was assigned as the reason for the few number of days worked.

Serious.

"Your wife is looking well!" "Yes. Just fancy. When I took her to the sanatorium she was so bad that I wouldn't risk buying a return ticket."—Sondags Nisse, Stockholm.

Advertisement for Nature's Remedy for Liver Ills. Includes text: 'Better Than Pills for Liver Ills. You can't feel so good but what NR will make you feel better.' and an image of the product box.

Advertisement for Chichester's Pills. Includes text: 'CHICHESTER'S PILLS THE DIAMOND BRAND. Ladies! Ask your Druggist for Chichester's Diamond Brand Pills in Red and Gold metallic boxes, sealed with Glass. Take no other. Buy of your Druggist. DIAMOND BRAND PILLS, for 25 years known as Best Sold. Always Reliable. SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.'

Prominent Speakers of Penn State Chapel.

Every effort to secure the best possible speakers for the Sunday chapel services is put forth by president John M. Thomas and Chaplain Fraser Metzger at The Pennsylvania State College. The students always have opportunity to listen to the views of

a widely different group as shown in the following list of some of the Sunday speakers listed for the balance of the present college year: The Right Rev. Dr. John C. Ward, of Erie; the Rev. C. Waldo Cherry, Harrisburg; Dr. Alexander MacCool, Philadelphia; Dr. W. Warren Giles, East Orange, N. J.; Dr. Edwin Hoyle Delk, Philadelphia; Bishop Ethelbert

Talbot, Bethlehem, and Dr. Charles Foster Kent, Yale University. Others who have addressed recent chapel services at State College are Dr. Henry H. Tweedy, Yale Divinity school; Dr. Sherwood Eddy, New York; Bishop F. J. McConnell, Pittsburgh; Col. John T. Axton, chief of Chaplains, U. S. Army; Dr. William L. Sawtelle, of Scranton.

Large advertisement for The Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania. Title: 'Rates and Returns'. Text: 'The millions of dollars' worth of telephone property in Pennsylvania represent investment savings of the people of Pennsylvania. A hundred and twenty-five thousand such investors live in this State. In putting their money into the telephone business they had faith that the people of Pennsylvania would pay reasonable rates for good telephone service. As the telephone business expands it is necessary to go to this same public and ask them to invest additional funds. We can secure that money only so long as rates for telephone service are such as to allow an adequate return on the money invested. The present rates do not so allow. That's why we are asking the very same public at this time for a moderate increase. In other words, we are asking "of the public, for the public." THE BELL TELEPHONE CO. OF PENNSYLVANIA L. H. KINNARD, President. Includes an illustration of a family at a table.

Advertisement for The First National Bank, State College, Pa. Title: 'Adaptability'. Text: 'A distinctive mark of the First National Bank is its ready adaptability to the needs of its customers. We have every facility to meet your requirements promptly and efficiently. Your Checking Account is Invited. THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK STATE COLLEGE, PA. MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.'

Advertisement for The First National Bank, Bellefonte, Pa. Title: 'A Little Group of Senators'. Text: 'A Little Group of Senators, representing in large measure the forces of disorder, are dominating the United States Senate. They are bent on changing the structure of our government and our economic system. We have followed with more or less care the investigation in progress. We think it is largely "bunk." It has produced some evidence of wrong-doing. A general feeling of distrust. A great mass of unconfirmed gossip. But how few hard, cold, facts! We do not believe that there is widespread dishonesty among our public officials. But are not Both the Great Political Parties Lacking in Courage? THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK Bellefonte, Pa.'

Advertisement for A. Fauble. Title: 'These New Suits and Topcoats Have the Desirable Stylish Cut'. Includes an illustration of a man in a suit. Text: 'Any man who has formed the habit of wearing what's right knows the value of it. These Spring Suits and Topcoats, cut and tailored to please the most discriminating, will place your appearance on a high level. It's mighty satisfying—just knowing your Clothes are correct and in good taste. From \$25.00 to \$40.00 A. FAUBLE'