

THE GAME OF CARDS.

By Levi A. Miller.

"According to Hoyle" is a phrase common among card players, many of whom are laboring under the impression that Mr. Hoyle was a reformed gambler, who had turned his attention to book-making as a means of keeping himself out of the poor-house.

Edmund Hoyle was born over two hundred years ago, and lived to the advanced age of ninety-seven, dying in Cavendish Square, London, in 1769. He was among the first who took special interest in whist, and after it became a craze among the gentry he devoted several years of his life to teaching the game at a guinea a lesson.

Some suppose that he invented the game, but the proof is very strong that it was well known before he was born. However, he did much to perfect it. He was paid \$5,000 for a treatise on whist, which was published in 1743. At that time he was attached to a government office in Ireland. Toward the close of his life he revised his treatise, and included backgammon, and other popular games of the day.

Cards are of eastern origin, but how far they date back is not known. The Chinese file a claim for their invention, during the reign of Senn-ho, which began A. D. 1120. The Hindus come in with a claim for almost the same date, but are only able to back it up with tradition, while the Chinese have the documents. Both nations used them in their religious services, each card bearing the symbol of a certain god, spirit or star.

The first reliable account of the presence of cards in Europe is an entry in the expense account of Henry V., of France, in 1370, of about fifteen dollars for painting a deck of cards. At this time his majesty was suffering from melancholy, and it was thought that cards might interest him. Of course, they had to be gotten up in fine style. The King got better and his improvement was attributed to the cards. The result was that in a short time card playing was popular among all classes.

Poker is the game of the century. Although not more than sixty years old, it has spread all over the civilized world, and they are clamoring for it. It was first introduced by gamblers on Mississippi river steamboats. Being so simple and convenient for gambling purposes, it grew in popularity.

Euchre has long been the leading society game, with occasional intermissions, when casino, cribbage and other games would have a run—seven up, or old sledge, was the gambler's game before poker. It is played some yet, particularly among the negroes of the South. Auction pitch, and all such games are modifications of it.

The games most popular in the army were euchre and seven-up. When there was gambling to be done either poker or chuck-a-luck were resorted to. Among regular army officers poker and whist were the favorite games. Just before a battle the roads would be strewn with cards, there being few men, even though inveterate players, who would take the risk of being killed with a deck of cards in their pockets. Before the smoke of battle was cleared off, however, these same persons would be offering almost any price for a deck.

Until recently ladies have confined their playing to euchre and the more innocent games, but of late they are beginning to play poker. At first they put up hairpins, shoe buttons, etc., to play for, but it was only a question of time until the jingle of coin was heard. In New York and other eastern cities they have regular poker clubs, and are said to become more infatuated with the game than men.

In colleges, poker and cribbage have the call, because they can be made so interesting. It usually so happens that there are a few expert players among the students, or those who associate with them, that carry off the boodle. All colleges have the strictest kind of rules in relation to card playing, but they are not equal to the suppression of it.

He who hopes at cards to win Must never think that cheating's sin; To make a trick whenever he can, No matter how should be the plan. No case of conscience should he make, Except how he may save his stake: The only object of his prayers Not to be caught and kicked down stairs.

My advice to young men is, never marry a too high-spirited girl. All that is wanting to start up real sulphurous flames is a little sulphur. My private opinion is that much of that which is called spirit is pure devilishness; while artlessness, so called, is premeditated, intentional deception.

WATCH HEAT AND AIR IN CHICK HATCHING. When Centre county poultrymen are troubled with slow and late hatches, low room temperatures may frequently be the cause. A temperature of 65 to 70 degrees should be maintained in the incubator room. It is also important that the room be well ventilated.

Temperatures at which to run the incubator, supply of moisture, turning of eggs, and regulation of ventilation in the machine are all discussed in detail in directions furnished by manufacturers of incubators. Since the control of these various factors differs with the several makes of machines, the most successful operation can be secured by following the directions accompanying the incubator.

THE STILL ELUSIVE BONUS.

When young Bill Kennicut of Main St., and George Babbitt Jr., of Zenith, together with Tony Spinelli, Hans Berghof and Francis X. O'Reilly, all American veterans of the world war, read of the final enactment of the Federal Adjusted Compensation Act—otherwise the Bonus—on May 19, 1924, their common first impulse was a grateful determination to send in and get the money. They were all good Americans. Then they read a little further and discovered that no money was to be actually paid out until March 1, 1925—for those entitled to \$50.00 or less. And then, reading still a little further, they found that most of the money would be paid out by Uncle Sam some time about twenty years from now. Of course, the veterans would get "adjusted service certificates" in the meantime; but to the average veteran that didn't mean much. To nine out of ten veterans, at a conservative guess, Bonus meant cash—money in hand that could be spent. On sober reflection they might, as most of them probably do, feel that the deferred payment plan serves their interests better. But a certificate maturing twenty years from now doesn't create any mad desire for haste in filing an application.

So Bill and George Jr., and Tony, and Hans, and Francis X., said to themselves: "That's a good idea; I'll have to get busy and send in my application some time soon. Maybe I'll do it tomorrow."

Maybe some of them did do it tomorrow, but a great many more are still "going to." Of course, there was somewhat of a flood of applications to begin with. The first one—which reached the War Department at 10 a. m., May 20, 1924, less than twenty-four hours after the Senate passed the Bonus Act over the President's veto—was a veteran who was so anxious to be prompt that he hired a special messenger to carry it. More soon followed. During July applications flooded in at the rate of 58,000 a day—the high water mark so far. By October the daily average had dwindled to 9,000. And that with three million veterans or their heirs yet to be heard from. Bill and George Jr., and Tony and Hans and Francis X., were going on the assumption that there was still plenty of time before reveille. But was there?

Probably, those who didn't and haven't applied promptly would sum up their attitude by saying: "Well, the government's good for it; what's all the rush?"

Besides, the law gives the veteran until January 1, 1928, to file his application. But the government doesn't want to stretch the work out that long. It would like for every veteran to get busy and file his application today; or else sit down and write to the Adjutant General and inform that much harassed official that he (the veteran) doesn't want any bonus and isn't going to apply for any, now or in the future. Then, to put it colloquially, the officers in charge of administering the bonus "would know where they are at." Just now they don't know, so far as the matter of expected applications is concerned.

Some of the veterans who have not yet applied may be actuated by motives of patriotic altruism. They may think they are saving the government money by holding off. But they are not—unless they send in a definite statement that they are not going to apply at all.

For, in order to administer the provisions of the bonus law, the government was forced to set up a vast and complex machine. Headquarters were established in one of the old temporary war buildings which threaten to become permanent in Washington unless an act of God or Congress intervenes. More than 2,700 clerks, typists, and other employees were assembled and trained for the one special purpose of handling the bonus applications. Office equipment to the approximate value of half a million dollars—most of it borrowed from the various government repositories for surplus and unused property—was collected and installed. Special computing machines to determine the amount due each veteran were designed and constructed. To have attempted these necessary computations by pencil and paper would have required a veritable army of mathematicians and would then have been the source of constant error and annoyance. But this wonderful little machine that transmutes days of service into dollars and cents with due allowances for such things as twenty per cent. increase for overseas service, and insurance factors varying with the age of each veteran, solves the problem nicely. Figures don't lie; at least when they are machine made figures. The longer the veterans wait the more money this bonus is going to cost the tax payers. But extra cost to the taxpayer isn't the only evil likely to result from delay. The veteran himself, and, particularly, his heirs and dependents are likely to be the losers if he postpones filing his application.

Major General Robert C. Davis, Adjutant General of the Army, knows more about the workings of the Adjusted Compensation Act than this writer or any of his potential readers. General Davis has lived and slept with the problem of administering the bonus since the spring of 1922, when plans were prepared in anticipation of the enactment of a Bonus Law at that time. General Davis worked up the plan at that time and has kept it up to date ever since. Here's what he has to say on the advantages accruing to the veteran who files his application promptly:

"From the viewpoint of the veteran, it is even more imperative than if he intends to apply eventually for the benefits given by the Act that he should do so at once. The War Department is daily receiving cases where veterans who have thought themselves in the best of health have died or been killed by accident without having submitted their applications for adjusted compensation. Their widows and children, many of them in needy circumstances, receive, in such cases, the amount equal to approximately one-third only of that they would have received in one payment

in cash had the veteran made application prior to death. For instance, should a veteran who served overseas for a period entitling him to the maximum amount of adjusted service credit of \$625 die without filing his application, his widow, children or other dependents within the restricted class, will receive that amount only in ten quarterly installments, while if he filed his application prior to his death, the widow, children, or dependent, will receive approximately \$1,580 in one payment in cash.

"A further reason for prompt application upon the part of the veteran is that the face value of the insurance certificate furnished him is dependent upon the age of filing of his application, the amount decreasing as the age increases. By delaying filing his application, the veteran may place himself in another insurance year, thereby reducing the amount he may receive. "Lastly, the cash payments under the Act become due on March 1, 1925, and unless the veteran applies in sufficient time in advance of that date to enable his claim to be properly adjudicated and transmitted to the Veterans Bureau, the payment to him will be delayed."

So that's that about the Bonus.—By William C. Murphy, in Columbia.

Real Estate Transfers.

James K. McClincy, et al, to Fred M. McClincy, tract in Unionville; \$1,000.

Edith D. Harvey, et bar, to General Refractories Co., tract in Curtin township; \$1.

E. R. Taylor, sheriff, to Robert W. Roan, tract in Bellefonte; \$1,600.

Jennie I. Culsor, et bar, to Robert S. Zimmerman, tract in Walker township; \$2,000.

Roy H. Grove, et al, to Elmer C. Houtz, tract in Bellefonte; \$5,300.

Mary Ellen Brown, to John Tressler, tract in Bellefonte; \$2,300.

E. L. Morris, et al, to Sim Baum, tract in Bellefonte; \$1,000.

John Bichonlamb, et ux, to Leah V. N. Wert, tract in Liberty township; \$700.

Guiseppo Coroggio, et ux, to John C. Barnes, tract in Bellefonte; \$1.

William D. Custard, et ux, to William S. Dye Jr., et ux, tract in State College; \$1041.66.

William D. Custard, et ux, to Theodore J. Gates, et ux, tract in State College; \$458.34.

William S. Dye Jr., et ux, to Theodore J. Gates, et ux, tract in State College; \$1.

Theodore J. Gates, et ux, to William S. Dye Jr., et ux, tract in State College; \$1.

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Samuel C. Bowes, et al, to Charles C. Bowes, tract in Howard; \$300.

I. D. Wilson, et ux, to J. T. Wilson, tract in State College; \$500.

Rose S. Harter, et al, to School District of Gregg township; tract in Gregg township; \$5,995.

Archibald Allison, et al, to School District of Gregg township, tract in Gregg township; \$343.70.

John A. Miller, et ux, to John Woodling, tract in Henneysburg; \$550.

Rebecca Spangler, et bar, to A. T. Greninger, tract in Miles township; \$18.

Mary C. Witmer, et al, to Thomas Gallagher, tract in Bellefonte; \$1,125.

Arthur C. Dale, Exr., to School District of Bellefonte, tract in Bellefonte; \$9,200.

Anna C. Baker, et al, to Charles M. Long, tract in Walker township; \$600.

Edna B. Gill, Com, et al, to John D. Files, tract in Rush township; \$50.

E. L. Files to John D. Files, tract in Rush township; \$50.

Off With the Lamb's Tail.

In answer to the question "Why don't little lambs have tails?" sheep men at The Pennsylvania State College say they do when they are born but if they belong to a progressive flockmaster they do not carry the decorations very long. Docking-irons take the tails off neatly and prevent blood loss. Jack knives may be used but are not considered so good. When lambs are five days to three weeks of age is the time to do the work. Docked and castrated lambs bring the best prices on the market.

Advertisement for NR TONIGHT—Tomorrow Alright. NR Tablets stop sick headaches, relieve bilious attacks, tone and regulate the eliminative organs, make you feel fine. "Better Than Pills For Liver Ills". Includes image of NR Tablets box.

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Advertisement for First National Bank, Bellefonte, Pa. Do Not Delay MAKING YOUR WILL. Name this Bank your Executor. This will insure the prompt and careful administration of your estate.

Advertisement for THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, STATE COLLEGE, PA. Do Not Risk ESTATE SHRINKAGE. Almost every day the newspapers report instances where estates have declined rapidly in value, through inexperience and poor investments of the individual Executor. Better see that your estate is properly protected and has the right kind of management — of this you are sure when you appoint the First National Bank as your Executor. Consult us freely.

Advertisement for A. Fauble clothing store. Let Your New Easter Suit Have 2 Pairs of Trousers. They are at Faubles. A big assortment, priced as low as \$25.00. Better ones up to \$45.00. All of them all-wool and tailored by America's best tailors. LET US SHOW YOU The Biggest Clothing Values in Bellefonte. A. Fauble.