

## THIS COURT BARS TRIVIAL CHARGES

### Applicants for Divorce Must Have Real Cause.

Council Bluffs, Iowa.—Eating with a knife, failing to shave for two days in succession or using an improper shade of face powder no longer are reasons for divorce in the District court for Council Bluffs and surrounding counties.

Judge J. S. Dewell of the Fifteenth Iowa Judicial district has served official notice that something more than these will have to be forthcoming before he will issue decrees to newlyweds who suddenly discover these or other "trivial" reasons why they cannot live with their spouses.

It will take at least a sock on the jaw or a poke in the nose, or something equally as aggressive, to get a divorce for anyone married less than a year.

Judge Dewell says he is starting a one-man campaign of not only discouraging hasty weddings but also to cut down the divorce rate.

The new ruling becomes effective September 1, when the fall term of court opens. Judge Dewell says he makes the announcement at this time so that attorneys in his district may know what to expect and may look up other testimony for divorce cases before coming to court.

The court's order applies only to those wed less than twelve months. Couples married for years, and still unable to get along together, may plead "mental anguish" and the usual run of reasons for divorces and get away with them. Decrees will be issued, as usual, to the old-timers.

Makes Mockery of Law.

"Under the Iowa laws, one of the statutory grounds for divorce is 'cruel and inhuman treatment such as to endanger life,'" the judge said. "Parties try to get in under that clause with all sorts of foolishness, such as sour pancakes, hard-boiled eggs, burned bacon, failure to attend picture shows, and kindred matters of no greater importance. They then try to sum up with a general conclusion that such treatment, long continued, endangers the life, causing a nervous breakdown and other indefinite or, rather, imaginary troubles."

### U. S. Picking Merchants for Its Model Townsite

Reno, Nev.—Boulder City, the new government townsite at the Hoover dam in southern Nevada, is not being established on a basis of "the survival of the fittest," for Uncle Sam says who can go into business there and picks those that the Department of the Interior think can best serve as workers.

The Interior department has taken the position that following the establishment of Boulder City on a permanent basis, and after the hysteria of the boom period has passed they will remove all restrictions and allow the laws of economics to operate.

According to Louis C. Cramton, former congressman and the city's "czar," "the situation is greatly aggravated by the present economic condition of the country, where every one is looking for a more fertile field and is likely to let his hopes get the better of his judgment."

"Had we thrown down the bars," he said, "there is no question but that 1,000 business houses would have opened up without any sort of investigation beyond the roseate stories in the newspapers depicting opportunity that is not here."

### Husky Longshoremen Called On to Explain

Boston.—Explanations were in order the other day in the homes of a number of husky longshoremen; for the black haired ones came home at night as bleached blonds, the gray haired ones with green whiskers and locks and the light haired men as red heads.

Unable to account for the phenomena to the satisfaction of curious wives, some of the men telephoned to their foreman, Mike Furey. His explanation was something like this:

The men spent the day loading 1,400 tons of TNT into the hold of the S. S. Nitro and the tinging of their hair was due to the minute particles of the explosive in the air in the ship's hold. He said they had been paid double for their time, \$14.45 per day.

### Cheaper to Hit Woman Than Man in Mena, Ark.

Mena, Ark.—It's \$10 cheaper to hit a woman, Everett Wimberley found out here. Wimberley, arraigned in police court on charge of assault and battery, was fined \$15 for striking Grace Pipkin, but was fined \$25 for hitting Ernest Miller. Police Judge Smith did not explain the difference in the fines.

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**Mere Youth of 110 Weds Maiden of 72**  
 Melbourne.—Robert Stevens, aged one hundred and ten, married a social visitor at the old folks' home, where he was an inmate. She is seventy-two. After the ceremony the happy couple left the institution and started life in a cozy little apartment in the heart of the city.  
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## Fashionable Life When Georges Ruled England

The "English Lady's Catechism" presents a smart caricature of how a lady of fashion spent her day:

"How do you employ your time now?"  
 "I lie in Bed till Noon, dress all the Afternoon, Dine in the Evening, play at Cards till midnight!"  
 "How do you spend the Sabbath?"  
 "In chit chat!"  
 "What do you talk of?"  
 "New Fashions and New Plays!"  
 "How often do you go to Church?"  
 "Twice a year or oftener, according as my Husband gives me new Cloaths!"

"Why do you go to Church when you have new Cloaths?"

"To see other People's finery, and to shew my own, and to laugh at those scurvy, out-of-fashion creatures that come for Devotion!"

"Pray, Madam, what Books do you read?"

"I read lewd Plays and winning Romances!"

"Who is it you love?"

"Myself!"

"What, nobody else?"

"My Page, my Monkey and my Lap Dog!"

"Why?"

"Why, because I am an English lady, and they are Foreign Creatures, my Page from Genoa, my Monkey from the East Indies and my Lap Dog from Vigo!"—A. E. Richardson in Georgian England.

## Seek Church's Blessing on All Undertakings

The Slav people throughout the world hold more to religious customs than any of the peoples of western Europe. Many of these beautiful old customs were created and preserved by the Bulgarians during the five centuries under Turkish rule. The people, as a rule, also call upon the clergy to perform a ceremony for what would appear, in western Europe, most trivial things. In addition to the ceremony performed in the case of marriages, births and deaths, the cutting of the first sod and the laying of a foundation for a new house or public building, the opening of a new street, building, public garden, or a factory, etc., without a religious ceremony is considered as an ill omen. Immediately the roof is placed on a new house or building, a cross, blessed by the priest, with a wreath of flowers attached is hoisted and remains until the work is finally completed. In the villages certain ideas are carried to extreme limits, and the parish priest is called upon to perform all sorts of ceremonies, such as blessing the land, prayers for rain, storms and the harvest, etc.—Detroit News.

## Trappist Monks

The Trappist monks are a reformed order of the Cistercian order, instituted in 1122 by Armand Jean le Bouthellier de Rance. Assuming control of the abbey of La Trappe in 1660, he found it in a most deplorable condition. The main purpose was to restore the discipline of the monastery. From La Trappe this austere rule spread into other parts of Europe, where it met with such instant favor that some of the most flourishing monastic houses in the world are now those of the Trappist reformers. In the United States there are three Cistercian abbeys, La Trappe at Gethsemane, Ky.; New Mellarey, near Dubuque, Iowa, and Our Lady of the Valley, Cumberland, R. I.

## The Pomp of Power

Nicholas II (of Russia) liked living in a small South German palace rather than anywhere else. . . . In Hesse the czar knew that he was safe against attempts on his life, which were always possible in Russia, and then on the banks of the pretty stream of Darm, he could live the free, quiet life of a private gentleman. Is there better proof of the worthlessness of all royal pomp and circumstance than the fact that what the autocrat of all the hundred million Russians loved most was to go in a slow train from Darmstadt to Frankfurt, incognito as far as possible, and there buy ties and gloves in the street?—From Von Bulow's Memoirs, Page 195.

## Policies Out of Date

The insurance policy issued by Lloyd's on marine risks has undergone but little change in the past century and a half, since it was first printed, says an article in Fortune Magazine. The opening sentence formerly read "In the name of God, Amen," but it has been changed to "Be it known that." This is perhaps the greatest change in the policies of Lloyd's, which are full of contradictions and grandiose language; so much so that an English judge once declared that if it were drawn up today it would be considered "the work of a lunatic endowed with a private sense of humor."

## Machines in Vineyards

Machine-age methods are now used in the large vineyards of northern Africa. Whereas in former days the spraying of the vines was done by hand, great numbers of natives being employed, each carrying on his back a copper cylinder loaded with poisonous dust, mechanical means are now coming to the front. Horses and mules, or motor trucks where the ground is favorable, carry a large metal apparatus which scatters poison by means of compressed air. This mechanization has, it is said, increased the wine yield per acre.

## SEAWEED BOLSTERS UP GOULD FORTUNE

### Iodine, Cow Food and Fertilizer Produced.

Paris, France.—Frank Jay Gould, scion of America's multimillionaire family, having made money out of Pyrenees dairy herds, chocolate, print paper, real estate developments, hotels along the French Riviera and from the green-top tables, where bacarat shoes clog gayly day and night, has now turned to seaweed to further bolster his fortune.

Simple, unadulterated seaweed, the kind that winds around your neck when you dive too deep, hitherto allowed to rot along the beaches, will be converted into gold dust, theoretically, by the Gould process.

The waters along the Brittany coast where Gould owns a respectable number of sea-front acres, abounds with seaweed of a certain quality, which is called by the sturdy Bretons "goemon."

This sea wrack when burned and treated by a special process furnishes iodine. It can also be treated to make a very tasty cow food. It can also undergo a certain drying process and become the finest kind of fertilizer for the worn-out lands upon which vines grow. Sea wrack is said to give an iodine flavor to certain wines.

All those processes will be used by Gould in making his gold from seaweed, and in addition, in view of the medical qualities of the iodine-producing weed, Gould plans to build the first iodine swimming pool in the world for persons needing such medical treatment.

At Granville, in Brittany, he is building a great pool along the ocean, which will be filled half-and-half with seaweed and sea water.

## Pittsburgh Population Is Outweighed by Soot

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Approximately 107,272,000 pounds of soot—an amount probably greater than the weight of the entire population of Pittsburgh—falls within the city limits during a year, it has been estimated.

The soot falls at an average rate of 986.5 tons per square mile each year, according to H. B. Meller, head of the bureau of smoke regulation.

This is an average of 157 pounds for each resident of Pittsburgh, it was estimated, with the total probably exceeding the total weight of the population of about 700,000.

Comparative charts show a decrease of about 50 per cent in the sootfall in the downtown district in the past eight years which was attributed to use of central heating plants instead of a large number of individual furnaces.

The 1923-'30 survey shows that less soot fell than in 1923-24 when the previous survey was made, but there still was more than in 1912-13.

## Special Vault Guards Nation's Timepieces

Washington.—A special vault has been built underground at the naval observatory here to house the clocks which keep the nation's time.

It is a vault within a vault. The inner vault is constructed of hollow tile made so that hot water can be run through it in order to keep a standard temperature of 85 degrees. There is an 18-inch air space between the inner vault and the outer one, which is constructed of stone or cement. Both vaults are placed below the frost line.

By the time the new clock vault is in operation the navy hopes to have two more "Short" clocks. The clocks now in use have been telling the country what time it is for the past 30 years, and while still in good running order, will not suffer from the augmentation of two new clocks.

## Children So Numerous Mother Forgets Names

Brooklyn, N. Y.—The woman who lives in a shoe had nothing on Mrs. Alvina Reut of Brooklyn, N. Y., who had so many children she could not name all of them.

When Surrogate George Wignats asked her to name her 11 children, she remembered the older ones because she had known them longest and the younger ones because they had required the most attention recently, but she could not remember the names of the others until they stood up and she saw them.

## Cop Rides Through Town With Snake About Neck

Monterey Park, Calif.—John Ostelch, police captain and motor cycle officer, gave townspeople a few uneasy moments when he rode down the main street with a five-foot snake coiled around his neck. Ostelch explained that he had been called by a woman to come quickly and protect her from a big snake. He found the snake was harmless and conveyed it in the easiest manner to the hills and released it.

## Woman, Aged 87, Boasts 172 Living Descendants

Deep River, Iowa.—Mrs. Margaret Kerkova, eighty-seven, claims 172 living descendants. She has 65 grandchildren, 98 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. She is the mother of eight living children. She came to America in a sailboat in 1853, and married at the age of sixteen.

## Great Issue Provoked Passions of Statesmen

The startling declaration of Bob Toombs, of Georgia, that he proposed to call the roll of his slaves from the base of Bunker Hill monument—this in derision of the Massachusetts representatives who were fighting the slavery, was made in congress when the slavery question was incidentally raised in the discussion of a measure to purchase Cuba, writes J. H. Galbraith, Ohio historian. It was on February 23, 1850, and Gen. I. B. Sherwood, who told the story, said it was the occasion of his first visit to Washington. He was in the senate that night and heard the sensational debate. Over the thrilling memories of four years later in the Civil war the memory of what he saw that night stood out clear and fresh to his last days.

Toombs supported the purchase bill and made a vicious attack on Senator Seward, who opposed it. Senator Benjamin said that unless the purchase was made, Spain would free her colored slaves and there would be no tropical fruits, as these could be raised only by slave labor. Seward moved to tack on the homestead bill as an amendment. That roused Toombs to anger. "That 'land for the landless' argument was a scheme of the demagogues. 'I despise a demagogue," he said, "but I despise still more those who are driven by demagogues."—Detroit News.

## Medieval Dishes That Called for Condiments

An important reason for the apparent vast thirst of the English of medieval times, William Edward Mead explains, in his volume, "The English Medieval Feast," is found in the dishes common to their tables, wherein condiments and spices played a major part. Loaded with pepper, cubebs, mace, saffron, cloves, ginger, cinnamon, nutmeg, galingale, cummin, illicorice, aniseed, and other tart ingredients, they were prone to inspire the consumer to frequent draughts from the ale keg or beer mug.

Here again the element of necessity entered. For, the author points out, fashion had in reality little to do with the extensive use of these elements. Our ancestors, he reminds us, had not yet begun to breed beasts and poultry for the table, except that the value of the capon was remembered from former days. Mutton was apt to be stringy, beef tough; and men made use of food from sources that today would be avoided with a shudder.

In the hope, then, of securing an aid to digestion, as well as to disguise the exact nature of many dishes, the spice box came frequently to hand as the cook worked. For natural crudeness cried aloud for mitigation, even at the feasts where kings ate crowned and bishops dined in cope and miter.

**Agreed at Last**  
 "Sam, where have you been?"  
 "No place—just married."  
 "That good."  
 "Not so good, I see stepdad to nine kids."  
 "That bad."  
 "Not so bad. She's got plenty of money."  
 "That good."  
 "Not so good—held on it tight."  
 "That bad."  
 "Not so bad—owns a big house."  
 "That good."  
 "Not so good—it burnt down last night."  
 "That bad."  
 "Tain't so bad. She burned with it."  
 "That good."  
 "Yes, that good."

## Backgammon in 3000 B. C.

The University of Pennsylvania museum has what is regarded as one of the oldest dice in the world. The dice, which is said to date from about 2750 B. C., was found by Dr. E. A. Speiser in excavations at Tepe Gawra, Mesopotamia.

The dice is cubical in shape and is made of baked clay. The numbers are arranged so that five opposes four and two opposes three on the cube. The university museum has also a backgammon board among its collections which dates from about 3000 B. C. It is believed probable the dice found at Tepe Gawra may have been one of a pair used to play backgammon.

## Mustard

Mustard has many household uses. Rub some dry mustard on your hands after peeling onions, and then wash in the usual way. You will find that all odor will be removed. Do the same with the knife, although made mustard is better than dry for this purpose. Place a little muslin bag containing some dry mustard next to fresh beets in the pantry. It will keep the beets fresh for days. Mustard freshly made will often remove ink stains. Spread thickly, leave for an hour, then sponge off.

## Informal Greeting

Recently I attended a movie with my wife, who stood at one side in the lobby while I bought the tickets. Being in a hurry and having quite a lot of change to put in my pocket I rushed up to "my wife" and exclaimed, "Here, hon, shake a leg and help me out."

Hearing a giggle I looked and saw that "my wife" was a strange woman. Needless to say I was in a greater hurry than before.—Chicago Tribune.

## WOMAN TELLS STORY OF INDIAN HEAD ON CENT

Add to your list of famous "debunkers," Mrs. Sarah Peck, 91-year-old resident of Falls City, Neb.

For those Americans, who believe the feather bedecked head, which appears on the Indian penny, is that of some Indian, Mrs. Peck has this information.

The "chief" was not an Indian at all. The picture is that of a little white girl, Mrs. Sarah Longacre Keen, a distant relative of Mrs. Peck.

As a girl of 12, Mrs. Keen visited her father at the United States mint at Philadelphia, where he was employed as chief engraver. A competition was on for sketches for the design for the new copper cent.

A number of Indians, with their chief visited the mint. The chief let the little girl wear his headgear. The effect was so striking that the father made a sketch, submitted it in the competition and won the award.

—Read the Watchman and get all the news.

THE PRESENT SYSTEM of doing business has endured for many centuries and, instead of "Capitalistic," it should be called "Individualistic." For individual effort of men of imagination, initiative and energy has been the vital element in the world's progress.

At recurring periods doubts arise, confidence wanes, enterprise halts; resulting in what we call hard times.

When these depressions come those who think that society collectively could do better than the individual, clamor for a change, declaring that the present system is a failure.

Experience has demonstrated that progress comes only through the individual's desire to better his condition. Destroy this incentive, and progress stops.

Time will bring about a return of confidence, a resumption of effort. History will repeat itself.

Last Summer, some people thought it never would rain again.

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