

SECRET OF BRIAND'S LOVE IS REVEALED

Premier Lived a Bachelor After Romance Failed.

Paris.—The secret of why Aristide Briand, eleven times premier of France, a lover of children, remained a confirmed bachelor until his death a few days ago has been solved by the story of an unhappy love affair now being told for the first time.

The attitude of the great orator and statesman toward marriage dates to the early days when he was a struggling law student.

In his native Nantes was a Breton maiden who received the homage of all the young men of the best families, but this girl, Jeanne Kermandec, by name, was ambitious and had declared that she would only listen to the wooing of a man with a brilliant future.

She refused Briand. She refused to entertain the impetuous Briand of humble origin, and cast in her lot with a young man of his own age, one of his friends, a member of a well-known family and a brilliant star of local debating societies for whom a great future was predicted.

Twenty years later the man of brilliance had emerged from prison after serving a sentence for fraud, and he and his ambitious wife were reduced to the direst straits, living in a miserable attic in the most squalid section of Paris.

At the time Aristide Briand, who had up to then devoted himself to the law and journalism, was just coming into his own as a politician, and his dazzling eloquence earned for him the admiration of women of wealth and position who would gladly have linked their fortunes with the coming man, but Briand remained faithful to his first love, and cherished the hope that one day they would be reunited.

When he became premier, though, by no means rich, M. Briand arranged to give his former friend a new start for the sake of the woman they had both loved, but his efforts were unavailing, and after a brief career as an official in the colonial office in France and Africa, the man fell again, dragging his wife down with him.

Both disappeared, and when they were traced again the man was at the point of death and the woman was a wreck of her former self.

Again Offers Marriage.

When the husband had been in the grave a year Briand offered marriage (perhaps because) she had realized the mistake she had made in rejecting him in the first instance, she stoutly refused his offer, saying that she had no right to burden him with a woman with a past who was an ugly shadow of her former self and was representative of naught but a wasted life.

In any case, she said, her own death could not be far off, and in fact she died about two years afterwards.

She was buried in an unmarked grave in the little cemetery of Cocherel, where the remains of Briand now rest.

Each year, on the anniversary of the woman's death, M. Briand made a point of journeying to Cocherel to lay flowers on the unknown grave, and not even the most important political engagements could induce him to omit this tribute to the dead woman he had loved with such obstinacy for nearly a half century.

Now, through death, they are at rest, not far from each other.

New Hampshire Women Win Many Town Offices

Concord, N. H.—Women have captured many of the more important town offices in several New Hampshire communities as result of the recent town meetings.

At Middleton Mrs. Ruth Kelley was elected town clerk; Mrs. Margaret Kimball, town treasurer, and Gladys Whitehouse, town auditor.

Bessie Hayes was elected town treasurer of New Durham; Mrs. Ethel W. Morell, town clerk of Alton; Stella E. Ayer, town treasurer of Alton; Tressa Nelson, town clerk of Stratford; Linna B. Locke, town clerk of Barrington, and Mrs. Fannie Whitehouse, town clerk of Farmington.

President's 500 Trout Put Into Wrong River

Nashua, N. H.—If fisherman Herbert Hoover wants to catch the trout raised for him at the local government hatchery he'll have to transfer his angling operations from the Rapidan to the Rose river. The 500 eight-inch brook trout shipped to the President's camp were put off the train at Orange, Va., by mistake, according to word received here, and dumped into the Rose river by some mountaineers who were expecting a similar consignment.

Once Humble Razorfish Now Sought as Delicacy

Hyannis, Mass.—The razorfish, humble member of the clam clan, is enjoying a sudden and inexplicable spurt of popularity on Cape Cod. Once sneered at by fish fanciers as unfit for the American diet, the razorfish has been found to be quite palatable and is being rated as a delicacy.

Gold Cargo Sought

Seattle.—Five million dollars in gold that went down with the Ward liner Merida in 1911 about 65 miles northeast of Cape Charles will be sought by the Romano Marine Salvaging company of Seattle. An attempt is being made to raise the derelict, which lies in about 36 fathoms of water.

WHY Air in Libraries Should Be "Washed"

Air can wear out book bindings, government scientists have discovered, and this may force libraries in the future to have their air "washed."

An experiment that lasted eight years, just completed by the Department of Agriculture, shows definitely that the acids from the air, as long suspected, are the cause of the trouble.

A set of dummy books, bound with various kinds of vegetable-tanned leather, were placed on a shelf outside a window of an office in Washington. The window was directly in the path of the prevailing winds and within half a mile of several government power plants and the main line of a steam railroad.

The books stayed there for more than eight years. Meanwhile samples of the same leathers were kept in a protected place. At the end of the eight years the physical condition and chemical composition of the exposed and protected leathers were compared.

The exposed leathers were powdery and easily scuffed, torn and cracked, while the protected leathers were sound, smooth and strong as in the beginning.

Why Electricity Is Not Yet Fully Understood

Electricity is known to be a form of energy, just as we have chemical light heat and other forms. According to one authority: "Innumerable attempts have been made to ascertain the true nature of electricity, but it cannot be said that as yet there is any true knowledge of what this subtle agent really is."

According to the electronic theory of hypothesis, the atom of matter is made up of smaller bodies called electrons electrical in their nature, and consequently all matter intimately is electrical, the atoms of the different elements of matter consisting of a certain number of electrons, thus 700 in the hydrogen atom and 11,200 in the oxygen atom.

While this, of course is only a theory, it serves to explain a great deal of the properties and manifestations of electricity, just as other theories of science help us to understand the nature of light, heat, etc.

Why Shrike "Impales"

The shrike, belying its name, is really a song bird, but a bird which has the unmusical nickname of the butcher bird. There are some 200 species of shrike, but only two of the family are to be found in the United States, these two being about ten inches in length.

Its unlovely name comes from a physical weakness which its ingenuity has overcome. It is not only an insect eater, but also preys upon mice and small birds. Its feet are its weakness, and it is unable to hold its prey in its talons. Handicapped, the shrike impales its food in its beak and then impales the hapless victim on a thorn, which serves as its talons.

Why Moisture Hurts Paint

One of the worst conditions for painting is the presence of moisture. It is important, in painting the new house, to see that all surfaces are thoroughly dry before attempting to paint them. If paint is applied over a surface containing any appreciable amount of moisture, especially if the moisture is internal, that is, contained in the material painted, just as soon as the interior of the house becomes warmed the water vapor will attempt to escape through the paint film and eventually will cause either blistering or peeling of the film.

Why Blood Clots in Eggs

Blood clots in eggs are the result of overstrained egg organs causing the membranes of ovary and oviduct to become inflamed and the swollen blood vessels let go, so that escaping blood forms a clot which later is included in an egg. Clots in or attached to the yolk come from the ovary, while those that are found in the white come from some section of the oviduct.

Why "Red-Letter Day"

Formerly red-letter days were those so indicated in the calendar of days in the Book of Common Prayer, and some prayer books are still printed in this style. In general usage the term has come to mean especially fortunate or auspicious days in a person's life, or days to be remembered because of some important event or benefit.

Why Known as "Pop"

Certain soft drinks received the name "pop" because when the bottles were opened the corks were expelled with a pop or quick explosive noise. The original name was soda pop, which was soon shortened to pop.

Why Britain Is "Red"

The British empire is usually shown in red or pink because of the custom of so coloring British territory, which began with British mapmakers, who merely desired to make the British empire prominent on their maps.

Why Shower of Rice

The custom of showering rice on newly married couples comes from India, rice being with the Hindus an emblem of fecundity.

Why Hair Turns Gray

Loss of pigment causes hair to turn gray. Extremely severe shocks have been known to cause a loss of pigment in the hair.

Coal's Value as Fuel Known for Centuries

The use of coal as a fuel in England, Belfast and China goes back to the Middle Ages or even earlier. Although coal is mentioned in a number of places in the Bible, it seems that it refers to charcoal. Coal cinders found near ancient ruins in England furnish some evidence for the belief that the ancient Britons used coal before the Roman invasion of 54 B. C. It is said that the first accurate record of the use of coal in England was in 857 A. D.

In North America the first coal mine was opened in Virginia in 1750. Notwithstanding the use of coal in Europe for several hundred years and its use in America for a century and a half, it has been less than a century since it has become a public necessity and all-important in determining the development of countries.

The distribution of the coal deposits in the Americas, with the exception of Nova Scotia, are inland. The interior of North America contains extensive deposits, whereas the central portion of South America, including the Guineas, western Brazil, Paraguay and practically all of Uruguay contains no coal. The cordilleras of both continents contain coal that occurs in many detached areas.

Artistic Spirit of Age Evincing by Its Doors

The history of doors is the history of the times, for essentially they permit the comings and goings of humanity. From the simple board of early Egypt to the elaborately decorated panels and moldings of the French renaissance and onward to the plain, unpaneled, flush examples of the modern movement, the door has displayed the art and spirit of every period. In the early days with bare walls and floors as the background, doors and meager furniture were the only objects on which the craftsmen could display their genius.

A vivid example of this work is found in the doors of King Solomon's temple, 1000 B. C., carved and overlaid with gold. Again there are those dwelt upon in Homer which appear to have been cased in silver or brass. The very earliest records of doors are the single pieces of wood represented in the paintings of the Egyptian tombs. As hinges didn't "come in" until the Twelfth century, these ancient doors were hung by pivots working in sockets at the top and bottom of the hanging stile.

Cat's Powerful Jaws

The strength, agility and ferocity of the wild cat are proverbial and illustrated in the following story: A deer watcher's wife had lost several hens. A wild cat was suspected, and traps were set in several likely spots. One morning a large specimen was found in one, caught by a hind leg. Instinctively, the keeper stretched forward his gun, which the enraged cat seized with claws and teeth. On withdrawal, the gun showed, as it still does distinctly, the impression of the cat's teeth in the hollow, solid part between the barrel. The skin, which was in splendid fur, measured 45 inches from top to tip.

Physical Geography

The schoolmaster had been giving his class a lesson in physical geography, and had explained that the world is made up of land and water. Then, in order to see if they had been giving attention, he asked: "Now boys, can you tell me what it is land and water make?" For some time there was silence, but presently a little boy put up his hand and when asked to give the answer, he replied: "Mud, Sir."

Foreign Objects

Children put things in their mouths by instinct, because that is the way they learn the size, shape and roughness of an object, and by imitation, because what mother and dad do they believe to be correct. If mother places coins or pins in her mouth and if dad chews on a piece of wood or a toothpick, they are setting a bad example, an article in Hygeia Magazine by Dr. Mervin C. Myerson suggests.

Properly Cautious

When Sarah Josepha Hale went to Boston in 1828 and started the first "ladies' magazine" in this country, she sponsored a movement to raise funds for the Bunker Hill monument. "Some editors are against us," she wrote naively, "but the ladies' society is being organized, though we would by no means recommend any lady to join without the consent of her immediate protector."—Minneapolis Journal.

Rib of Contentment

One of those scientific prowlers who are always digging up strange and interesting things informs us that according to Brazilian Indians the first humans were not Adam and Eve, but two women, and that the first quarrel came about when each claimed to be the oldest. Either the Brazilian tradition is in error or women have changed a lot since that time.—Exchange.

Ancient Libraries

Although the ancient libraries had parchment rolls instead of books they resembled modern ones in many ways. At Tingad, in Roman Africa, was a delightful public library which was the gift of a benevolent citizen, and it was furnished as one might be today, with tables and comfortable chairs where the reader could sit at ease to consult the work he had borrowed.

HOW LATEST SAFETY DEVICES PROTECT PAPER MONEY.

Paper money at one time was directly printed from steel engravings, but now the dollar bills, as well as other denominations, are printed from chromium surfaced plates, Henry Weltze, president of the Carlton Plating company, has pointed out. "The design is first engraved on a steel plate," said Mr. Weltze, "from which a negative is made by depositing electrically, first nickel, and then alternate layers of copper and nickel. This negative serves as a mold upon which an electrolytic printing plate is deposited. This plate is plated with chromium and duplicates the original steel engraving. Paper currency is printed by what is called intaglio printing, that is, the surface of the plate is covered with ink and a blade runs over the plate, removing all the ink except that in the engraved lines of the design. This causes considerable abrasion to the surface of ordinary metal. For a time the surface of these plates were nickel plated, but with the perfection of chromium plating, which produces the hardest metal known, these plates are surfaced with chromium. The life of the plates have thus been greatly lengthened and better impressions are produced. By making the printing of currency more uniform, without abrasion marks, the detection of counterfeit bills is rendered more easy."

How Britain Plans to Fight Off Air Raiders

After ten years of experimentation, British authorities have perfected a unique searchlight known as the "Spider Web." It throws a unique checkerboard pattern on the sky, and is designed to enable anti-aircraft gunners to plot raiders, exactly as artillery targets are plotted on map squares.

A correspondent of Collier's Weekly, reporting the official tests of this new device, says that when an airplane enters the searchlight's pattern, its speed, height and direction can be calculated from tables in a fraction of a minute.

How to Clean Ornaments

Clean copper and brass with vinegar, oxalic acid, buttermilk, lemon or some similar acid, follow by rubbing with whiting, wash carefully and dry. This gives a light finish and is quickly done, but all the acid must be removed or the metal will be quickly corroded again. Another method is to moisten rottenstone with sweet oil, apply with a soft cloth and rub vigorously. Polish with flannel or chamois. Rub with whiting or tripoli. This gives a richer finish than when acid is used.

How Insulation Pays

In the mind of the prospective home buyer building insulation against winter cold and summer heat is becoming a dominant factor, thinks G. D. Malory, of the natural resources intelligence service of the Canadian department of the interior. This point of view, he declares, is growing because the public is coming to realize that a properly insulated house may effect an annual saving to a large part of the taxes on that house.

How to Remove Tattooing

The new method usually advised for the removal of tattoo marks is to apply a very concentrated solution of tannin, treating the places with a tattooing needle. Then rub with a stick of lunar caustic until they turn black, removing excess by dabbing. The silver tannate which forms turns the tattoo marks black and a scurf is formed which comes off after about two weeks, leaving reddish scars.

How to Preserve Clippings

The best way to preserve a newspaper clipping is to mount with library paste and paste a fine transparent silk fabric over it. This delays the chemical changes in the wood pulp fiber of which newsprint paper is made. The clipping, if kept in a tight container in a clean, dry atmosphere, will last indefinitely.

How Porcelain Originated

The word "porcelain" is derived from Italian "porcellana," meaning "a little pig," which was the name given by the early Portuguese traders to cowrie shells, the shape of which suggested a pig's back, and later to Chinese earthenware, which is white and glossy, like the inside of these shells.

How Records Are Verified

When an aviator attempts to break an official record he carries a barograph, which has been sealed. When he lands the barograph, unopened, is sent to the bureau of standards or some similar organization and opened and tested.

How Sounds Are Heard

Physically, sound consists of waves or vibrations in the air, and we hear sounds because these waves strike against the drum of the ear and are thence conducted to the sensitive endings of the auditory nerve.

How to Polish Windshield

Use equal parts of denatured alcohol and ether. Apply this mixture to the glass with a clean woolen cloth. Rub briskly, then sprinkle with a little jeweler's rouge upon a piece of chamois skin and polish.

For years the bane of Mr. Jay's life had been the cleaning of the family rugs, a task with which his wife entrusted him twice a year. At last he confided to a friend he had solved the problem. He had taken up aviation.

"Aviation?" queried the other, perplexed. "Aviation? What's that got to do with it?" "Well," said Jay, "I fasten the rugs to the tail of my plane and loop the loop a few times."

Angry Customer: "These eggs aren't fresh."

Indignant grocer: "Not fresh? Why, the boy brought them from the country this morning."

Customer: "What country?"

Mike: "This is a great country, Pat."

Pat: "And how's that?"

Mike: "Shure, th' paper sez yes: can buy a five dollar money order for seven cents."

THE SEVERAL SCHEMES to relieve the present business situation doubtless will help

But, after three years, it looks us if we shall have to depend on the slow and deliberate operation of economic forces for permanent recovery.

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