

The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PENNSYLVANIA

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Need For Standard.

The city of Reading is trying out a new system for examining alleged drunken drivers of motor cars. They have delegated this work to a small group of policemen, some of whom are available at all hours of the day or night to make examinations according to prescribed formula.

The experiment will be watched with interest for it remains to be seen what courts and juries will do with evidence from persons who obviously have no professional knowledge concerning the effects of alcohol.

Most cities and communities have been turning drunken drivers over to physicians for professional examination. In the courts even the testimony of physicians very often finds tough sledding under the cross-examination of resourceful and clever lawyers. If they shatter the testimony of policemen there will be little wonder.

If trial juries were to sit immediately on the cases of drunken drivers there would be few acquittals in the court.

But the juries see a very much sobered person who has recovered his gentility. Furthermore they hear testimony whose vigor has been tamed by the lapse of months.

By the time cross-examination has been completed it often appears that an angel is being persecuted and that if anyone ought to go to jail it is the prosecutor, even though he has just emerged from a hospital and lost a car for which he will not be recompensed, because of the drunken driver's act.

The time must come when very definite and positive tests to determine drunkenness or the degree thereof, will be developed and will be recognized in courts of law.

Society must demand this for its security and protection against a growing menace to travel.

Rightly Decided.

The Supreme Court, as everybody with a knowledge of election law forecast, decided in the Philadelphia case that a paper ballot with an "X" in the party square and another "X" after the name of one or more candidates not of the same party, is valid and counts a vote for each candidate of the party square, save for the office for which a candidate is marked individually.

Apparently the Court found no difficulty in reaching its decision. It was in line with the legal and common sense concept that in every instance the intent of the voter, where obvious, should prevail.

The remarkable thing is that the Republican machine of Philadelphia raised the issue and challenged ballots marked as aforesaid. In the light of some election scandals in Philadelphia during the years that the Machine swung election after election by the highest handed practices at the polls and at the count, this recent attempt to achieve election purity is not impressive at all.

The Centre Democrat has every sympathy for those who seek to make certain that elections are conducted legally and honestly from end to end.

Nothing in the whole scheme of popular government seems so vital as clean elections.

But there is no disguising a smirk on the face of the average Pennsylvanian when he thinks of Philadelphia ward heeled crawling into the robes of election purists.

Speculation and Business.

The government has notified the stock exchanges that they must reorganize their practices, or submit to strict regulation by the government.

Right or wrong, the country will have to make up its mind whether the recent stock market slump was due to the activities of speculators or to other causes.

It may have been too easy to depress stock prices by the practice known as short selling.

Yet the people who sell short perform a service in times when the speculators become too enthusiastic and boost prices far too high.

It is like the old story of the man who wanted a gun which would hit if he was firing at a deer, but would miss if he aimed at a cat.

Perhaps Congress can think out some plan that will accomplish this much desired end. If they make it too difficult to speculate, people won't be able to get decent offers for securities when they need to sell.

It begins to look as though the peace-loving nations are being bluffed by those nations who believe that no one is going to do anything about it but pass resolutions.

THE OFFICE CAT

"A Little Nonsense Now and Then, Is Relished by the Wisest Men"

WHEELING IT OFF.
The bicycle craze of the olden days
Has taken the land by storm;
Some ride for the fun of the airy run,
And some to improve their form.
For the slender girl, a lively whirl
Puts color in cheeks and lips,
While the work involved has the problem solved
Of reducing the fat girl's hips.

Ever Hear This One?
Two Jewish gentlemen went on a deep sea fishing trip. After they got to the fishing grounds one of the men fished from the stern of the boat and the other from the bow. Not long after the boat was anchored the man in the bow caught a fish.

Probably Buck Fever.
Last summer a band of Indians from Oklahoma came to a New York hotel and rented the whole sixteenth floor. They put their trunks up in their rooms and built bonfires on the floor and made themselves right at home.

Short Radio Drama With a Sock.
(Presented by the Office Cat Dramatic Society)
As the scene opens the villain is sitting in the Office Cat's editorial office. His feet are planked up on the desk; he has his shoes off.

An Animal Story.
A belated story concerning a Bellefonte man has just reached us. It seems that one day during the early part of the summer he took his wire-haired terrier out for his constitutional in a nearby park of woods.

Slips That Pass in the News.
(Miss Dora Wenas, former Alfa girl, was transferred last week from the Empire exchange of the telephone company to the Newman exchange and promoted to chief operator. She works the night shift (shift) from 10 p. m. to 6 a. m.)

It's Fun to Be Fooled.
When the lights were suddenly switched on at a roadside dance a few nights ago one of the fellows discovered that he had been necking the wrong girl.

Knows Everything There is to No.
"How do you like my sermons?" asked the new minister of the young girl who sang contralto in the choir.

Our Poet's Corner.
He married Helen, Helen earned.
He left Helen, Helen sued.

He Knew the Old Trick.
She—"Oh, Henry, there's a bug down my back."
He—"Aw, cut it out. Those jokes were all right before we were married."

The Absent-Minded Judge.
It was a warm day in the court room, and a dull case concerning the rights of a firm to the use of a stream was being argued.

Glad to Contribute.
An income tax collector had died and a subscription was raised in a business office for a wreath. The boss promised \$5. A few days later, one of the clerks called to collect the money. The chief handed him a \$10 bill.

Good Stuff.
Customer—"Is that hair tonic any good?"
Barber—"Say, I spilled some of it on my comb last week and now it's a brush."

Warning to Pedestrians.
Never walk on the outside of the road.
That's all, folks. We just heard of an old fellow whose word is so unreliable that he has to get somebody else to call his hogs at feeding time. They won't believe him.

Just Around The Corner



Modern Etiquette

- 1. What should a girl do when a man with whom she has frequent engagements is invariably from twenty minutes to an hour late in calling for her?
2. Do Christmas cards that are engraved with the person's name carry as much sentiment as the cards that are signed?
3. When a woman is seated next to a stranger at a banquet or a large dinner, may she introduce herself?
4. If a girl is a close friend of her brother's fiancée, would it be all right for her to give a shower for this bride-to-be?
5. When writing the letters R. S. V. P. on an invitation, is this form correct or should it be written R. S. V. P.?

The Household Scrapbook

- Making a Polish
An inexpensive polish can be made by using equal parts of raw linseed oil and turpentine. Pour into a bottle and shake thoroughly. Apply on a piece of cheesecloth, going over the entire surface, then polish with another clean, dry cloth.
Doors
The annoying slamming of doors can be stopped by slipping wide rubber bands over the door knob and stretching over to the knob on the other side of the door.
Bananas
When slicing bananas, use a silver knife and sprinkle the slices with lemon juice. This will prevent their turning dark.
Brass
To prevent brass from tarnishing, rub it once a week, or oftener, with a flannel cloth moistened with sealing machine or olive oil.
Starch
When starch is necessary for dark materials, mix the starch with cold sea. A substitute for starch to be used on black or dark blue material is to dissolve one teaspoon of gelatin in a quart of water.
Hot Dishes
Dishes that are to be heated for use on the dinner table should be dipped in hot water. Cracks and discoloration often are the result if the dishes are placed in the oven for heating.
The Scissors
Fit a cork into a thimble and then force this cork into the point of the scissors. This will eliminate the possibility of the scissors poking through the bag when carrying sewing about.
Artificial Fruit
Artificial fruit and flowers may be cleaned by dipping in and out of white soapsuds several times; then rinse by dipping in clear water containing a few drops of ammonia.
Cream Substitute
A pleasant substitute for coffee cream can be made by beating the yolk of an egg in the cup.
Tight Shoes
The tightness of shoes can be relieved by wringing a cloth out of very hot water and placing over the spot where the shoe pinches. Do this while the shoe is on the foot. The heat in the cloth will cause the leather to expand.
Pie Crust
A pleasing variation in the flavor of a pie crust may be affected by using a couple of tablespoons of peanut butter, or the grated rinds of oranges or lemons. Try using orange juice or cream cheese to moisten the dough, instead of water.

English Lesson

- Words Often Misused
Character and reputation are not synonymous. Character is what one really is. Reputation is that which one is thought to be by others.
Do not say, "Your letter has been received, and in reply to same we wish to say, 'Omit to same.'"
Do not say, "I am not very well posted on this subject." Say, "I am not very well informed on this subject."
Do not say, "My wife loves to read good books." Say, "My wife loves her children, and likes to read good books." The word love is much abused.
Do not say, "What did you do that for?" Say, "Why did you do that?"
Do not say, "From thence we went to St. Louis." Omit from. Thence means "from that place."
Words Often Mispronounced
Circuit. Pronounce sur-kiit, u as in fur, i as in kit, not sur-kut.
Circuitous. Pronounce sur-ku-i-tus, first u as in fur, second u as in cute, i as in it unstressed, third u as in us, accent second syllable.
Aviation. Pronounce first a as in save, not as in have.
Automation. Pronounce o-tom-a-tion, first o as in or, second and third o's as in on, unstressed, accent second syllable.
Invalid (one who is ill): accent first syllable. Invalid (not having legal force): pronounce it a as in at and accent second syllable.
Ave Maria. Pronounce a-va ma-ri-a, first, third, and fourth a's as in have, not as in have.
CONSCIENT (adjective): having agreement; consistent. "What he has done has been consonant with his view of the general good."
PAGAN (adjective): relating to the worship of false gods; heathen; as, pagan tribes or superstitions.
PROPAGATION; continuance by generation or successive production; as, the propagation of animals or plants.
Drive carefully and you might live to see Christmas day.

Answers to Modern Etiquette

- 1. The next time, wait no longer than fifteen minutes, then go out alone, and without leaving a message. This may correct his inexcusable habit.
2. Never. I should far prefer a one-cent engraved card, signed personally, than a five-cent engraved card.
3. Yes; merely say, "I am Mrs. Walter Brown."
4. It would be better not to do so, as it might cause criticism on account of the relationship. Some other girl friend could do so with propriety.
5. Either way is permissible, but the first style is preferred.
6. Yes, but not if her hand is gloved.
7. No; present the man to the woman, unless the man is perhaps seventy years of age and the woman is eighteen or twenty.
8. They may be recalled by brief notes, or even by telephone.
9. On the service plate.
10. Yes, if the invitation is a personal note, or one is also invited to the reception.
11. She may say, "I am sorry, but I already have another engagement."
12. A supper is given after the theatre, opera, or concert, to members of the party; or, on any night when, at a later hour, it takes the place of dinner.

Query and Answer Column

PROBLEMS.—Our readers are invited to send us factual or fictional problems, riddles, puzzles, "catch" questions, or what have you. These must be mailed to us, accompanied with the correct answer. We will endeavor to publish one each week at the top of this department, but the answer will be found elsewhere in this column. This will give the readers a chance to try their wits before looking for the correct solution. Here is the first one:

A man has a clock that strikes the hours from 1 to 12. On top of this clock there is a wooden man with a large hammer. Every time he hears the clock strike, he strikes twice. For instance, if he hears the clock strike three times, he will strike six times, and so on for the twelve hours. Now then, how many times does he strike for the twelve hours? The answer will be found at the bottom of this column, but we advise that you don't look at it until you have exhausted your efforts at solving the problem.

S. F.—Will you please explain what the Japanese and the Chinese are fighting about?

Ans.—Both sides have their own reasons for the conflict. The most generally accepted reason is that the Chinese claim it is a war of conquest by Japan; that the Japanese have their eyes on rich gold deposits in the mountainous regions of Tibet which they want to confiscate or control.

A. L.—Has the search for the Russian fliers lost near the North Pole, and the search for the lost Amelia Earhart and her companion been abandoned?

Ans.—It was abandoned temporarily, but new searching parties have been organized and they are now combing the frigid wastes of the north, and the torrid waters of the South Sea in search for the Russian fliers and Amelia Earhart respectively.

N. D.—When scientists are making stratosphere flights eight and ten miles above the earth what is there to prevent them from going higher and higher if they want to?

Ans.—The higher they go, the thinner the air gets. It finally gets too thin to hold up the wings or balloon, and it will not go any higher.

F. J.—Why does chloroform produce unconsciousness?

Ans.—Chloroform has an unusually strong affinity for nervous tissues, including the tissue of the brain. It collects there and affects this tissue so that nerve impulses cannot pass through it; neither the pain sensations through nerves, nor thoughts through different parts of the brain. In reviving, the blood slowly removes the chloroform from the nervous tissue until the nerves and the brain are able to work again.

H. O.—Is the story of "Robinson Crusoe" a fact, or is it fictional?

Ans.—While the story of "Robinson Crusoe" is based on a fact, it is fictional, and many of the experiences are drawn from imagination. Alexander Selkirk, whom Daniel Defoe characterizes as "Robinson Crusoe," was a Scotch sailor who died in 1723. In 1703 he engaged as a buccannier in the South Seas where he quarreled with his captain. In October of that same year Selkirk was put on the island of Juan Fernandez where he remained a solitary resident for four years and four months, when he was rescued by Capt. Woodes Rogers. Beyond this fact the story is fiction.

F. H.—I would like to know what was the "Thirty-Years War"?

Ans.—The "Thirty Years War" is the name of a conflict in central Europe, whose seat was chiefly in Germany. It was a struggle between the Protestants and the Roman Catholics for supremacy, and extended from 1618 to 1648.

S. H.—How much longer will there be CCC camps?

Ans.—Until July 1, 1940, at least.

M. C. C.—When did Kate Smith introduce her theme song, "When the Moon Comes Over the Mountain," on the radio?

Ans.—In May, 1931.

B. B.—What is the penalty for attempts to injure the King of Italy or Mussolini?

Ans.—Criminal attempts against the King, Queen, Crown Prince, and Premier Mussolini are punishable by death. Execution is by firing squad.

L. G.—What speeches are on the walls of the Lincoln Memorial at Washington, D. C.?

Ans.—The Gettysburg Address and Lincoln's second inaugural address are on the walls.

L. M.—Has tea ever been grown successfully in the United States?

Ans.—About 1880 the United States Department of Agriculture established near Summerville, S. C., a small tea-growing plantation, and various varieties were raised in an experimental way. Later the plan was extended and the Pinckney Tea Gardens were opened and further experiments made in Colleton County, South Carolina, and at Pine, Texas. While it was found possible to grow and cure good teas, it was impossible to produce them in competition with the teas of China and Japan cured by cheap Oriental labor.

S. L. S.—How are adobe houses made?

Ans.—They are constructed of sundried bricks made from any native clay. The bricks are molded and their sides turned alternately to the sun day by day a week or longer, as may be necessary. They are usually made of two sizes—16x24 and 16x12x4. The larger ones are used as headers, the others as stretchers.

W. H.—Are there any dogs that do not bark?

Ans.—The Basenji dogs from the Belgian Congo have no bark.

W. T.—What is the difference between climate and weather?

Ans.—Climate is the more general term, and is the sum and average of weather, which includes daily changes in temperature, pressure, wind and rain.

F. G.—Where are United States postage stamps made?

Ans.—All stamps are made at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D. C.

L. H.—When can the rings of Saturn be seen to advantage?

Ans.—The planet will be in the southern sky in December during the evening.

G. M.—When the United States was formed, which State had the largest population?

Ans.—Virginia. Massachusetts was second, and New York was fifth.

E. D.—Please explain to me what a patio is.

Ans.—This is the Spanish name for an inner court or enclosed space open to the sky.

J. K.—Who are considered the most popular radio entertainers?

Ans.—According to the latest program survey in thirty key cities, Edgar Bergen and his dummy, Charlie McCarthy, are the most popular radio entertainers on the air. They lead by nine points Major Bowes and his amateurs, while the third choice is the Monday night Radio Theater directed by Cecil B. DeMille.

N. T.—How did the United States reimburse Germany for German boats taken in American waters when this country entered the World War?

Ans.—The German government was not reimbursed for ships taken in United States territory. They were considered contraband of war.

Answer to Clock Problem.—He doesn't strike any. Being a wooden man, he doesn't hear the clock strike.

DO YOU KNOW

- 1. Airship travel more comfortable than in heavier-than-air ships?
2. What is the latest estimate of the population of the United States?
3. Can the President declare war without the consent of Congress?
4. What portion of the United States has been covered in the topographical maps of the Geological Survey?
5. How many homes are annually constructed in the United States?
6. Is there any radio for park areas in cities?
7. How much has the cost of living increased in the past year?
8. What are our annual exports to Great Britain?
9. Is there any law in the United States to prevent a President from serving a third term?
10. How does the world wheat supply compare with that of last year?

THE ANSWERS

- 1. Yes; dirigibles offer smoothness of riding that is not equaled by airplanes.
2. 139,357,000 on July 1, 1937.
3. No, although in fact any President can create a situation involving the nation in warfare.
4. Not quite half of the area.
5. 677,000 dwelling units a year is the estimate of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce for the years from 1920 to 1925.
6. Recreation experts say that every hundred city folks should have a park acre; a city of 5,000 persons, under this scale, should have 50 acres of parks and recreation areas.
7. The Department of Labor reports that in 32 cities from September 1936 to September 1937, the increase in the retail prices of items entered into the family budget was 3.2 per cent.
8. Last year, \$40,122,000, or 18 per cent of our total exports.
9. No.
10. About 55 million bushels more.
Cooking Stove Badly Needed
Miss Bertha Rimmer, Red Cross Nurse, reports that a family on her list is sorely in need of a stove for cooking purposes. Anyone having a coal or wood stove suitable for such use is requested to get in touch with Miss Rimmer by telephoning 421-W, Bellefonte, any day between the hours of 9 and 9:30 a. m. or 1 and 2 p. m.