

**Duke of the Abruzzi,
Known to Americans,
Heads Mission to U. S.**



DUKE OF THE ABRUZZI

It is expected that the duke of the Abruzzi, cousin of King Victor Emmanuel, will head an Italian mission to the United States.

The name of the Duke of the Abruzzi, who takes his title from a district of Italy, is as well known to Americans, probably, as that of any other European royalty. Several years ago he figured extensively in the newspapers as a suitor for the hand of Miss Katherine Elkins, daughter of Senator Elkins of West Virginia. She is now Mrs. Hitt, but the duke has remained unmarried. He has commanded the Italian navy and has won fame as an arctic explorer and mountain climber.

A Japanese Get Rich Quick Call.

A broker in Tokyo, wishing to stimulate speculation among the English speaking residents, composed a great handbook at great pains and, printing it by some mimeographic means on a large sheet of paper reproducing handwriting, scattered it broadcast. The paper read:

"To the Wideawake Public.—One who want to make money why not try Stock business at such rare extraordinary chance? Even a fool, his pocket is swelling up every day. Why? Because he is daring it blindly. Awaiting your order. More or less yours faithfully, Okino Yonesaburo.—East and West News.

Life Expectancy.

According to the public health service, life expectancy during infancy and childhood has increased because of the more intelligent care of babies and young children, but life expectancy after the age of forty is less now than it was thirty years ago, because those who have arrived at years of discretion do not exercise discretion for themselves and take sufficient exercise to overcome modern conditions. Many more people are engaged in sedentary occupations than formerly, which deprives them of natural assistance afforded by physical exercise in eliminating through the skin and lungs the waste products of the body.—Collier's Weekly.

MEETING TROUBLE.

Difficulties and troubles, if bravely met, make strong men and women, but endless worry and anticipation of evil cannot fail to weaken the will and the character. Laugh and be glad now. If you wait till you conquer your little world you will never laugh and be glad. It is better to live in a castle in the air than to dwell in the dungeons we too often allow our forebodings to build for us.

Bad English on the Stage.

It is indeed a dreadful shock to hear a young woman, demurely pretty, exclaim: "Aw, gwan! Quitcher kiddin'" or "Cmawn up t'naight, 'fy'ain't got nuthin' t'do," or "I gotcha, Steve!" or "Whadda ya take me fer?" The stage is much to blame for the vogue of slipshod and ungrammatical diction. The text of most of the popular songs is pointlessly defiant of grammar. The singers and actors often affect a strident nasality for footlight use which they discard with their cosmetics and their costumes. If actors and actresses find that they are putting to flight a public of sensitive ears they are likely to reform.—Philadelphia Ledger.

An Odd Court Incident.

Sensational incidents are not uncommon in the closing stages of famous criminal trials. One of the most remarkable occurred in Melbourne on the last day of the trial of Ned Kelly, known as the "Ironclad Bushranger of Australia." A knife dropped from a gallery overhead and fell at the feet of the desperado in the dock. He had every temptation to grasp it and put an end to his existence, for there was not the slightest chance of his escaping the gallows. But it was promptly picked up by a bailiff, and its owner was arrested and brought before the judge. He pleaded that the occurrence was purely accidental, and the explanation was accepted by the court.

Fissures in the Rockies.

In some of the high plateaus or mesas of the Rocky mountains there are to be found a short distance from the edge cracks or fissures not more than four feet wide and often as much as eighty feet deep. During the terrific blizzards that rage in the winter these crevices are filled to the level, and cattle and horses which are not acquainted with the country frequently drop into them, their struggles only causing them to sink deeper and deeper. The cracks, into which the sun never penetrates, are like refrigerators, and the hapless brutes when death has come to their relief become to all intents and purposes mummies.

World's Oldest Investment.

The oldest investment security on earth is the real estate mortgage. We know that money was loaned on mortgages in ancient Babylon in the time of King Hamurabi, 4,000 years ago, and that some 2,500 years ago the great Babylonian banking house of the Egibi family invested large sums in mortgages on both city and farm property, the mortgages being recorded on bricks, which have been preserved in the safety deposit vaults of those times—great earthenware jars buried in the earth—preserved until the archaeologists in our own day and age dug them up to show us when, where and how mortgages originated.

HIS SWEETHEART

By WARREN MILLER

While serving with my regiment as surgeon at Manila I received a letter from my old friend Dick Thurston at Batavia, Java, asking me if it would be possible for me to come down and see him. He was ill, and despite the fact that he was taking the best of care of himself he didn't get any better. Couldn't I obtain a leave even for a short time?

I confess I did not relish the idea of making the journey, but Dick and I had long been cronies and I would no more think of refusing him than my own brother. I succeeded in getting a leave, and I found Dick Thurston on a coffee plantation, where he had gone some months before in the interest of an American grocery concern. He was living with a Javanese family, consisting of a mother, a daughter some twenty-five years old and several children. The young woman was attending to the patient's wants. Indeed, she had the whole care of him.

Dick was suffering from malignant dysentery. I put him under treatment, but got no response. A couple of days after I began he was as bad as ever. What puzzled me was that his trouble was intermittent. At one time he would appear so well that I couldn't believe there was anything the matter with him. Then, when I was congratulating myself that he was going to come out of it, down he would go again. As to the drugs I gave him, they appeared to have no effect whatever.

I hadn't been attending him long before I discovered that the Javanese girl who nursed him was in love with him. This set me to thinking. I had seen an extract somewhere—I think it was in a newspaper—from an old Dutch report stating that when a Javanese woman takes a fancy to a European she will either have him or poison him if she gets the chance. Might not this be a case in point? Without saying anything to Dick I resolved to watch her. She was very regular in bringing in his meals, and on several occasions when she did so I concealed myself in a closet, keeping my eye to a nail hole. But if she was poisoning his food she didn't do it when she gave it to him.

"Dick," I said to my patient, "your nurse loves you."

"You don't mean it!" he exclaimed, astonished.

"Have you been making love to her?"

"I have never thought of such a thing."

"Have you any objection to doing so?" Dick demurred, but as I told him I had a theory connected with his illness he finally consented. The next time she was with him he called her to him, took her hand in his and told her that her kindness was winning his heart. She did not object to a caress and went away looking very happy.

The next day Dick was better. I told him to keep up his love-making for a few days, and he did so, with the result that his improvement was remarkable. I didn't care enough for further experimenting to ask him to cease his devotional attitude and grow worse, so I resolved to eat some of his food myself. But to get the food that I was sure was poisoned I was obliged to have him do this very thing. He turned away from her, but did not eat the next meal she brought him. I smuggled in some food for him, ate a little of that the girl brought him and made away with the rest surreptitiously. The test fulfilled the conditions. The whole length of my alimentary canal became irritated. This was the same symptom as Thurston's. I didn't care to repeat the experiment.

There was now nothing to do but let the patient from out the clutches of this too much loving nurse, but my curiosity was aroused as to what poison she was using. I thought of watching her as she prepared the food, but to do this was impracticable. I would have tested the food chemically, but had no materials for the purpose I was puzzled.

I had, among other instruments I had brought with me, a pocket microscope. It was by no means so powerful as the regular instrument, but excellent for its grade. For the want of something better I one day took up this microscope and brought it to bear on some of the food I had eaten. Immediately the cause of the trouble was revealed to me. The substance was filled with fine hairs—not animal, but vegetable—hollow tubes spiked like bayonets.

And these things had been passing through Dick's digestive organs. No wonder that he was ill. A comparatively few of them had made me feel as if I had eaten hot lead.

I took some of the food to a Javanese man from whom Dick had been buying coffee, showed him the hairs with the microscope and asked him what they were.

"Those," he said, "are bamboo poison hairs, so called from the fact that they are used by our people who wish to put some one out of the way."

After a consultation Dick and I decided that we didn't care to have anything to do with Javanese justice, so I advised him to keep on good terms with his "sweetheart" for a few days that he might get no more spikes in his stomach and get well. Nevertheless, before he ate any of the food she gave him I examined it with my glass.

Then one fine morning we walked away, leaving the maiden glaring at Dick from the door where he had said goodby to her.

To Break Large Bottles.

The method of breaking small bottles without splintering the glass by burning an oil soaked string tied about them is well known, but this method does not work well with large bottles. Following is a method by which any sized glass vessel can be broken—as, for example, a glass tub to be made out of a carboy:

Fill the vessel with cold water up to the point at which it is to be broken. Pour enough boiling oil over the water to make a good coat on the surface, and before the oil has time to cool dash cold water on the outside of the vessel. A clean break at the contact point of oil and water will be the result.—Exchange.

Repudiated National Debts.

Spain, at one time by far the most powerful of European nations, was the earliest power to contract a national debt, which in 1556 only amounted to the modest sum of £1,000,000. By 1610 it had grown to £40,000,000 under Philip III, after whose death the whole of it was repudiated.

France in 1643 began to incur her debt, chiefly through the wars of Louis XIV, and the lavish expenditure in building Versailles. In the later years of Louis XVI, this amounted to £468,000,000, only to be repudiated on the establishment of the republic, when some creditors received 33 per cent and others nothing.

Not Used to the Railway.

Of course every one rides on the trains in Japan nowadays, for there are 7,000 miles of railways in the country, and every considerable town is at least connected with the railway by electric car or automobile. Not so very long ago, however, the train was a curiosity.

A party of ladies who were taking their first ride on the train once had trouble with their shoes. A Japanese on entering a house always leaves his shoes at the door, so when these ladies got aboard they politely left their clogs on the station platform. Great was their consternation later to find that their shoes had been left miles behind.

Fire Under Water.

Fire under water may be produced by placing some small pieces of phosphorus in a conical shaped tumbler and then covering them with the crystals of chlorate of potash. Next fill the glass with water and then add a few drops of sulphuric acid, the acid to be applied directly to the phosphorus and potash crystals by means of a long tube. If the experiment is properly carried out tongues of bright red flame can be seen flashing up through the water, the intense chemical heat produced by the action of the sulphuric acid on the potash and phosphorus being sufficient to inflame the latter, although entirely covered with water.

Untangle It.

Speaking of conversations, real or imaginary, does this one really mean anything? We've said it over to ourselves ten times since we heard it, and it gets worse all the time. But a nice old fellow whom everybody knows, but whom we will simply designate as A., said:

"Don't roast the game of golf. It has made me twenty years younger." And a younger fellow whom nobody knows and whom we shall therefore be obliged to call B. retorted thus:

"By the time you have reached the age you are now, if you keep on playing golf, how old will you be?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Taking Castor Oil.

The disagreeable taste of castor oil may be concealed by giving the dose in hot milk with salt and a sprinkle of black pepper. Another way of covering the taste is by using lemon juice. In either method sandwich the castor oil. Place a layer of milk or lemon juice in the bottom of the glass, then the castor oil upon this and then another layer of the milk or lemon juice. Castor oil prepared in this way is not tasted by the patient, and it can be given to him without his realizing what he is taking.

Dissatisfied.

The haughty looking woman upon whose features the dermatologist had been working for more than two hours sneered when she glanced in the mirror. "I certainly thought you knew your business," she snapped, "but you have not even given me fair treatment."

The man shrugged his shoulders. "If you had wanted fair treatment you should have been more explicit," he retorted. "I thought from what you told me that you wanted brunette."—Chicago News.

Premature Jubilancy.

Willy—I found mother the other day crying over your book of poems.

His Sister's Fiance (delighted)—Oh, is that so? (Aside) Ah, what glory! What fame awaits me! For a man to bring tears to the eyes of such a flint hearted woman as that is certainly a great achievement. (To Willy) She was really weeping, Willy?

Willy—Yes; she said it nearly broke her heart to think that a daughter of hers was going to marry an idiot who could write such rot as that.—London Tit-Bits.

She Believed Him.

She—What has happened to Miss Murdock? He—That affable young fellow told her she had a musical laugh, and she went into hysterics over one of his stories.—Woman's Home Companion.

Voter's Catechism.

D. Have you read the Constitution of the United States?

R. Yes.

D. What form of Government is this?

R. Republic.

D. What is the Constitution of the United States?

R. It is the fundamental law of this country.

D. Who makes the laws of the United States?

R. The Congress.

D. What does Congress consist of?

R. Senate and House of Representatives.

D. Who is our State Senator?

R. Wilbur P. Graff.

D. Who is the chief executive of the United States?

R. President.

D. For how long is the President of the United States elected?

R. Four years.

D. Who takes the place of the President in case he dies?

R. The Vice President.

D. What is his name?

R. Thomas R. Marshall.

D. By whom is the President of the United States elected?

R. By the electors.

D. By whom are the electors chosen?

R. By the people.

D. Who makes the laws for the State of Pennsylvania?

R. The Legislature.

D. What does the Legislature consist of?

R. Senate and Assembly.

D. Who is our Assemblyman?

R. Wilmer H. Wood.

D. How many States in the union?

R. Forty-eight.

D. When was the Declaration of Independence signed?

R. July 4, 1776.

D. By whom was it written?

R. Thomas Jefferson.

D. Which is the capital of the United States?

R. Washington.

D. Which is the capital of the state of Pennsylvania?

R. Harrisburg.

D. How many Senators has each state in the United States?

R. Two.

Birds and Orientation.

Professor K. S. Lashley has completed an investigation of the sense of direction in birds. This is called the problem of "orientation." Dr. Lashley used the wild birds of the Florida keys known as nobby and sooty terns in experiments. In their recognition of their nests it was found that their eyes as well as their muscles are concerned. The birds showed no evidence of any special sense of locality, such as a "magnetic sense" or a "second sight." Birds are no more mind readers than men are. Nor do they have any ability to retrace their paths of flight by memory. They recognize their nests and their own young by muscle habits and eyesight.

The Macgregors.

The Macgregors were forbidden to use their family name in 1603. The proscription was removed by Charles II, only to be inflicted again in the reign of William and Mary. It was not till 1822 that a royal license to use the name was granted to Sir Charles Macgregor, up to then known as "Murray." In the early years of the seventeenth century every man's hand was raised against this persecuted race, and they could be mutilated and slain with impunity.—London Spectator.

Eat Apples and Bananas.

Baked apples and baked or fried bananas make an excellent substitute for a vegetable and may be used with meat instead of the potato or onion and at a smaller cost. Both apples and bananas contain more food units per pound (of edible portions) than onions, and they give a pleasant flavor and agreeable odor to the meal.

D. Who are our U. S. Senators?

R. Boise Penrose and George T. Oliver.

D. By whom are they elected?

R. By the people.

D. For how long?

R. Six years.

D. How many representatives are there?

R. 435. According to the population one to every 211,000, (the ratio fixed by Congress after each decennial census.)

D. For how long are they elected?

R. Two years.

D. Who is our Congressman?

R. Nathan L. Strong.

D. How many electoral votes has the state of Pennsylvania?

R. Thirty-eight.

D. Who is the chief executive of the state of Pennsylvania?

R. The Governor.

D. For how long is he elected?

R. 4 years.

D. Who is the Governor?

R. Martin G. Brumbaugh.

D. Do you believe in organized government?

R. Yes.

D. Are you opposed to organized government?

R. No.

D. Are you an anarchist?

R. No.

D. What is an anarchist?

R. A person who does not believe in organized government.

D. Are you a bigamist or polygamist?

R. No.

D. What is a bigamist or polygamist?

R. One who believes in having more than one wife.

D. Do you belong to any secret society who teaches to disbelieve in organized government?

R. No.

D. Have you ever violated any laws of the United States?

R. No.

D. Who makes the ordinances for the City?

R. The board of aldermen.

D. Do you intend to remain permanently in the U. S.?

R. Yes.

Expecting Too Much.

It was a cold, raw day, but the Neversweats and the Fearnoughts were playing a game of ball on the prairie just the same.

The pitcher for the Neversweats, his fingers half frozen, failed dismally in getting the balls over the plate.

"Aw," said the captain, "I t'ought ye wuz one o' dese cold weather pitchers!"

"I am," said the slab artist, blowing on his benumbed digits to warm them.

"But I aint a ice pitcher, blame ye!"—Chicago Tribune.

Ups and Downs.

"Did she really fall in love with an aviator?"

"No. She merely took him up for a lark."

"Oh!"

"Then he took her up."

"I see—in his machine."

"The man she had been going with for two years dropped her."

"Served her right."

"Her spirits fell. She stated the case to the aviator. He went right up in the air, and she hasn't seen him since."—Exchange.

A Quaint Introduction.

Clarence King, the ethnologist, once wrote from San Francisco to John Hay the following letter of introduction: "My Dear John—My friend, Horace F. Cutter, in the next geological period will go east. It would be a catastrophe if he did not know you. Least I should not be there to expose Mr. Cutter's alias, I take this opportunity to divulge to you that the police are divided in opinion as to whether he is Socrates or Don Quixote. I know better; he is both."

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