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A WOMAN'S SOLILOQUY IN 1950.

[From the New Orleans Picayune.] I know my husband really tries. A pleasant home to make. But he can't seem to make such pies as father used to bake.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Great Britain may well be amazed at the extraordinary force required to fight the Boers in South Africa. No less than 213,000 men and 452 guns have been gathered for the war, although the Boers are not supposed to number more than 90,000.

It is now reported that General Roberts has called for 90,000 more men, and that the Cabinet is about to send him 50,000 militia and volunteers, and 40,000 militia reserves.

President Kruger said at the outset that the civilized world would be astonished at the cost of a war for the conquest of the Boers, and Great Britain has already been astonished.

Why are credulous people like musical instruments? Because they are often played on.

Why is a kiss like a sermon? Because it requires two heads and an application.

What part of a fish is like the end of a book? Fin-is.

What part of a fish weighs the most? The scales.

Why do hens always lay in the daytime? Because at night they become roosters.

CONUNDRUMS.

Why are credulous people like musical instruments? Because they are often played on.

What is the difference between man and butter? The older a man gets the weaker he gets, but the older the butter is the stronger it is.

My first denotes company, my second shuns company, my third calls a company, my whole amuses a company. A co-nun-drum.

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What tables may be easily swallowed? Vege-tables.

Why do hens always lay in the daytime? Because at night they become roosters.

"The Lay of the Last Hen," a new poem by the egotistic author of the foul deed.

Why is an egg like a colt? Because it is not fit for use until it is broken.

What is the difference between a young baby and a night-cap? One is born to wed, and the other is worn to bed.

What is that which has neither flesh nor bone, and has four fingers and a thumb? A glove.

Why is a dog longer in the morning than at night? Because you take him in at night, and let him out in the morning.

What is that which Adam never saw, never possessed, yet left two to each of his children? Parents.

What is the difference between the trunk of a tree and an elephant's trunk? One leaves in the spring and the other leaves whenever the menagerie does.

How long did Cain hate his brother? As long as he was Abel.

Why was Job always cold in bed? Because he had such miserable comforters.

What is that which lives in the winter, dies in the summer, and grows with its root upwards? An icicle.

What is the difference between a watchmaker and a jailor? The one sells watches and the other watches cells.

When is a plant like a hog? When it begins to root. When is it like a soldier? When it begins to shoot. When is it like an editor? When it begins to blow.

What is the largest room in the world? The room for improvement.

Take two letters from money and there will be but one left. We know a fellow who took money from two letters, and there wasn't anything left.

What is the difference between truth and eggs? "Truth crushed to earth will rise again," but eggs won't.

Which is the smallest bridge in the world? The bridge over the nose.

If a lady who hesitates is lost, must it then be for a lady who stammers or stutters?

Why is a son who objects to his mother's second marriage like an exhausted pedestrian? Because he can't go a step-father.

Why is a loafer like a weather-cock? Because he is continually going around doing nothing.

Why is a well-trained horse like a benevolent man? Because he stops at the sound of wo.

Why is a domestic and pretty young girl like corn in a time of scarcity? Because she ought to be husbanded.

Why is a mad bull like a man of convivial disposition? Because he offers a horn to every one he meets.

Why are the complaints of married people like the noise of the waves on the shore? Because they are the murmurs of the tide (tied).

Why are cats like unskillful surgeons? Because they mew till late (mutilate) and destroy patience (patients).

Why is the fate of Joan of Arc preferable to that of Mary Queen of Scots? Because a hot steak is better than a cold chop.

Why is an omnibus strap like the conscience? Because its an inward check to the outward man.

Why is the map of Turkey, in Europe, like a dripping-pa? Because there is Greece at the bottom.

The best training for a business man is the ability to think.

THE ORIGIN OF GOVERNMENT.

Written for the News by D. H. M.

It appears evident that the first governments were not the result of deliberations. The usages of the patriarchs, established without the sanction of legislative assemblies, gradually became the first laws among mankind; consequently, these customs were the origin of all political regulations that have either depressed or ameliorated the condition of the human race in all succeeding ages.

Nimrod was the founder of the first empire of which we have any authentic account. We are informed by the sacred historian that he was a mighty hunter; and we are led to infer that the people were often with him, that they gradually put themselves under his authority, and, in process of time, he conquered nations, increased his power, and founded the Babylonian, or Assyrian empire, for he became a "mighty one in the earth."

It is a remarkable, but irrefutable fact, that the first human governments were of a despotic character; yet they were baneful in their operation, and signally failed in securing either the order, harmony, prosperity, or tranquillity of individuals—peace between tribes and nations, or the permanent power and magnificence of empires.

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WIDOW'S INFANT BURNED TO A CRISP AT DRY RUN.

On last Wednesday evening the alarm was given in Dry Run, Franklin county, that the house of Mrs. Belle Deihl was on fire. At once the citizens hurried to Mrs. Deihl's home to find that the house was safe, but that a worse catastrophe had taken place. Mrs. Deihl's youngest child was burned to a crisp.

Retracing her steps quickly, she entered the house and was horrified to see the awful spectacle of her little three-year-old daughter completely enveloped in flames. Quickly she threw a blanket around its body, but she was too late; the flames had done their work. Every vestige of clothes was burned from its body and the charred body was laid upon the bed writhing in agony.

Little Roy who is about five years old gives the following account as to how it occurred: He said the child was sitting in front of the cook stove with a straw in its hands, which it inserted through the open grate and when ablaze withdrew it, letting it fall upon its dress, which at once ignited and burst into a blaze.

PIONEER AMONG JOKES.

"Some jokes are so old that the chances are that they will never age," says an old photographer, "and repetition seems only to increase their value. Forty years ago I went into a gallery to learn the art of photography. A pretty girl came in to have her picture taken. As she posed before the camera she remarked with a smile to the operator: 'Look out, I'm so homely I may break the glass.'"

"I laughed immoderately at the thought of rays from an ugly face being so strong as to fracture glass, but the operator never smiled. When the girl went out I asked the photographer why he didn't laugh, as I thought the joke was good.

"I did laugh at it thirty years ago," said he, "when I first went into the business, and my instructor told me that he had laughed also, when he first began his work. I've heard that joke many times a day since."

Well, I went into a photograph gallery the other day, having been out of the business for several years. The first thing I heard in the operating room was the same joke.

"How many times a day do you get that?" I asked the operator. "Hard to say," was his reply, "but at least five times."

"Now, there are 100,000 photograph galleries in the country, and that means that the joke is repeated 500,000 times a day. I have a record of it for seventy years, and it seems that undergoing such usage as that it is bound to be eternal."—Detroit Free Press.

The homeliest man in Congress is said to be Mr. Eddy, of Minnesota, and he rather prides himself on this fact. Some of his political adversaries once accused him of deceitfulness and hypocrisy, but he rose to the occasion. "They say I am two faced," said Mr. Eddy. "Now, gentlemen," looking mournful and homelier than usual, "do you believe that if I had two faces I would be wearing this one?" This did up all his critics.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EXPANSION.

In these days of national expansion the Sunday school people are well up to date. The Pennsylvania State Sabbath School association, 913 Crozer building, Philadelphia, finds the Home Department expanding so rapidly that one secretary, Rev. E. F. Fales, is giving his time to that department alone. What is the Home department of the Sunday school? It is a remarkably successful effort to include parents, invalids, those obliged to work on Sunday and travelers in the plan of Bible study by systematic visitation and friendly help.

THESE RULES WILL ADMIT YOU.

Parties wishing to enter a printing office at this season should be governed by the following rules. Advance to the inner door give three distinct raps or kick the door down. The "devil" will attend to the alarm. You will give him your name, post-office address and the length of time you are owing for the paper. He will admit you. You will advance to the centre of the room and address the editor with the following countersign. Extend the right hand about two feet from the body, with the thumb and index finger clasping a \$10 bill, which drop into the hand of the editor, at the same time saying: "Were you looking for me?" The editor will grasp your hand and the bill, and pressing it will say: "You bet!" After giving him the news concerning your locality you will be permitted to retire with a receipt for an obligation properly discharged.—Marcus (Iowa) News.

THE BOERS' ADVANTAGE.

The ability of a race of brave marksmen behind entrenchments, to make a formidable resistance to assault by the very best veteran soldiery is a fact familiar to all persons of historical intelligence. The repulse of the British regulars twice by our embattled farmers' line at Bunker Hill; the dreadful repulse of Wellington's seasoned "Peninsular war" veterans, 14,000 strong, under Pakenham, by 5,000 Kentucky and Tennessee hunters and Indian fighters at New Orleans; the destruction wrought by Hofer and his riflemen in the ranks of Marshal Lefebvre's corps of Napoleon's army in the defiles of the Tyrolean mountains; the successful resistance to the Russian army offered by the Turks under English officers at Plevna, are cases in point.—Portland Oregonian.

James R. Adams, for years a well known baggage master on the C. V. R. R. and later a conductor on the South Penn. railroad, died at his home in Chambersburg, last Friday morning. The cause of death was consumption, from which he had been suffering for some time.

The last report of the civil service commission shows that removals from the classified service average only about one-half of one per cent a year. Evidently the administration cannot justly be accused of unfriendliness to the civil service law.

G. W. Reisner advertisement for woolen dress goods and ladies' jackets. Includes text: 'are determined to close out winter stuffs, and it will be in your pocket to make purchases there. Woolen Dress Goods that to-day could not be bought for 20 cents, they will sell for 16—simply as example of you can do there. They have a few very nice LADIES' JACKET yet that you can buy very good styles and qualities. they say of one article, or one will apply all through the store. Remember that in order to have a full stock of everything that you need to a large general merchant business, they are receiving New Goods Almost Daily so that you always have the best to select from. They always odds and ends, incidentally large trade that must go at a bargain. Please Call and See GEO. W. REISNER'.

ONE STAMP SELLS FOR \$1.710. Senator-elect... One postage stamp brought \$1.710 recently at the sale of the collection of F. W. Hunter, of New York City. This is the largest sum any stamp has brought in this country at auction. It was a specimen of the first issue of British Guinea in 1850. It is the two-cent denomination, printed in black on a pink ground and without perforations. Postmasters in the colony in those days had to separate one stamp from another in a sheet with scissors. The stamp was purchased by a prominent stamp and coin company of that city, who represented an English collector. Mr. Hunter bought this specimen for \$1.710.