

SUCH IS LIFE—The Modern Term—By Charles Sughroe



WHEN THE URGE IS ON

By THOMAS ARKLE CLARK
Dean of Men, University of Illinois.

PRESTON is at the head of an organization whose members are not doing well. In fact they are doing very ill and bid fair, if they do not improve, to bring up at the lower end of the list of similar groups.

"What do you think is the matter with our boys?" he asks me. "They certainly aren't dumber than the other fellows; they've had just as good training, and our house is just as well suited to study as are the other houses, where the fellows are getting on much better. We would like to have good grades."

The explanation was quite easy. They didn't have the urge. They saw no especial reason for doing well. They were not pushing themselves mentally to reach any particular goal. They were not trying their best.

Most people will recall that ten years ago or so when young fellows were preparing themselves to enter the active service, how quickly they got ready. In some of the more technical branches of the service where a knowledge of mathematics and mechanics was necessary men did in three months what it would ordinarily have taken them a year or more to accomplish. They were eager to make the necessary preparation; they held their minds to the work in hand; the urge to reach a certain perfection of accomplishment was on them, and we all marveled at what they were able to do in a surprisingly short period of time. It was equally true in all branches of military preparation, we learned. When we push ourselves to the utmost we can go far in an amazingly short time.

The speaker at church this morning has traveled frequently in Palestine, and he was telling us of a long walk he and a companion had taken—44 miles it was in all, I believe, there and back—from Jerusalem to the sup-

Study Flying Fish

New York.—That troublesome question, "How do flying fishes fly?" is still pestering scientists, although many attempts to solve the mystery have been made.

J. T. Nichols, curator of recent fishes at the American Museum of Natural History, and C. M. Breder, Jr., research associate of the New York aquarium, find some truth in both sides of the argument as to whether these fishes sustain their flight by flapping of the wings, or pectoral fins, or whether they merely soar as gliders.

Writing in Natural History, the museum's journal, the ichthyologists say:

"The flight is largely a planing one,

but at certain times and under certain conditions a definite wing motion may enter into and contribute to it. The enlarged pectoral fins or wings are on anatomical grounds and structurally—from an engineering point of view—ideal gliding planes, so arranged as to be easily held rigid at the proper angle.

"The wings of large flying fishes are sometimes seen to vibrate or flutter, a motion more reasonably referable to tension in setting them, or to the wind, than to a definite function in flight. In very small and young fishes, on the other hand, the wings vibrate to such an extent that they blur, appearing like those of a flying insect.

"It seems that with an increase in age and size, a buzzing, bee-like flight is replaced by a true soaring flight and that the former is very likely a function of absolute size as are so many larval specializations.

"Flying fishes fly more freely in a strong breeze and attain greater elevation, speed and distance than in calm weather. The conclusion is almost inevitable that they utilize the wind to some extent to lift and propel them, even though it is difficult to understand how this would be accomplished."

The observations were based on the collection of flying fishes gathered by William Beebe's Arcturus expedition.

DIPPING INTO SCIENCE

Chalk Once Animals

Can you believe that the chalk with which you write on the blackboard or state is made of the remains of living creatures? This is true. It is the calcium carbonate from the bodies of tiny animals that once lived in the sea. This substance drifted to the ocean bed and, piling up, formed the chalk cliffs.

(© 1928, Western Newspaper Union.)

Help Plants to Breathe

Are your palms spotted with scales? If so, wash the fronts with white oil soap, says Nature Magazine. At the same time sponge the leaves of all house plants to remove accumulated dust and help them to breathe.

Put Ban on Red

Washington.—Through the ministrations of the home demonstration agents of the Department of Agriculture, farm women have put the ban on unsightly homes.

The lavish use of red paint, associated in the past with farms, is frowned upon by her field agents, says Miss Grace Frysinger, head of the home demonstration work in the Central states.

Federal employees are trying to point out to the farmers' wives that even the slightly lower price of red paint cannot make up for the landscape-blotting qualities it has when daubed informally upon all buildings on the property.

Classes are being conducted in all the states, with the co-operation of county agents, state universities, and their departments of agriculture, in methods of beautifying the farm home, both internally and externally.

"This present campaign, we hope," Miss Frysinger says, "will result in a unity of color in the buildings, and also the clearing up of the front yards."

"Women are being shown demonstra-

NOTRE DAME STAR



The photograph shows Fred Miller, captain of the Notre Dame football team of 1928, who is the millionaire member of the Knute Rockne Olympic and European tour which the famous coach is conducting the coming summer. The football which Rockne's overseas team will display is bound to astonish the Europeans who have probably never seen such speed in either football or rugby.

Curators Battle for Heart of Queen

Nantes, France.—Disputed possession of a queen's heart has started a feud between the scholarly curators of the museums of the city of Nantes and the Loire Inferieur.

It is a heart of gold, containing supposedly, the vital organ of Anne of Brittany, queen of France, born in Nantes in 1477. She wedded it to the city of her birth in medieval fashion.

The quarrel arises over which museum most truly represents Nantes, the capital city of the department of Loire Inferieur.

There are many examples of great and near great French men and women who are separated from their hearts in their last rest. Often, as in Anne's case, the heart was returned to the city of childhood. Sometimes, as in the case of St. Louis, king of France, the heart is buried in holy ground. The heart of Richard the Lion Hearted is buried at Rouen.

Back Seat Driving Is Not Divorce Ground

Des Moines, Iowa.—Back seat driving by a husband is insufficient evidence for the granting of a divorce, Judge J. E. Meyer in Polk County District court ruled in dismissing a divorce petition filed by Mrs. Blanche Lashenberger, wife of Judson Lowenberg, Iowa grand master of the Ancient Order of United Workers. Mrs. Lowenberg testified that her husband found continual fault with her driving.

Father Sage Says:

That Nero was a fiddler instead of a saxophone player must have been some satisfaction to the Romans.

Lipstick

A little chap, three and a half years old, on seeing the coloring being applied to oleomargarine, for the first time, exclaimed: "Oh, butter's got lipstick!"

FRENCH BEAUTY



Mile. Raymonde Allain, who was chosen as the prettiest girl in all France to represent her country at the International Pageant of Pulchritude at Galveston, Texas.

for releasing them from control of the dreaded dragon.

Thus, it is believed in the Orient that the crystal ball is the abiding place of one's ancestors. It is believed to possess the power of foretelling evil, since any evil spirit entering the house will first attempt to hide in the ball. When trouble impends, the ball is placed at night outside the house. The cold morning dew clouds and dulls the luster. Carefully, then, and gently the surface is rubbed, and, if the dew vanishes and the ball is restored to perfect purity, the evil has been vanquished; if not—woe betide.

Crystal gazing has long appealed to humanity. Congressmen are not the only illustrious persons who find solace and comfort in its visions. Roger Bacon has told in his writings of the crystals possessed by the friars in which events happening at far distant places were mirrored.

Perfect Crystal Orb

Washington.—Resting on its circular base, the world's most perfect crystal stands ready to reveal whatever secrets of the future may be desired. Appropriately enough, this rare globe of glass, nearly 14 inches in diameter and weighing 110 pounds, is in Washington's National museum.

To this perfect orb come thousands to gaze, and, if possible, obtain a message from the mystic future or a warning based on events of the past. Here, too, might be found the answer to political hopes and legislative ambitions.

The largest crystal ball in the world, guarded closely, came originally from China, where it was said to possess mystic powers and unusual accuracy in foretelling the future.

Two hundred years ago Emperor Cheng Lung received a massive black crystal, mined in ancient Burma. It must have weighed a thousand pounds, and been at least four feet square.

The emperor gave orders that the mass be used to make a crystal ball of the largest possible size. To do

this the most skillful craftsman of the old empire was chosen. This took more than a year of effort. It was then taken to Japan for repolishing. This work consumed about six months under Japanese artisans, the most skillful known in this work. The crystal, then in all its luster and scintillating brilliance, was given to the emperor, and it was one of his most valued possessions.

It is said that, for special service, a mandarin was told that he might have any wish fulfilled and the reward chosen was the great crystal. For almost two centuries it remained in the possession of the mandarin's descendants, until financial troubles compelled its sale.

It is not hard to imagine the hands, both wrinkled and smooth, that have caressed this polished surface. What hands have drawn back, as eyes have seen, mirrored the events of the future! Ah, the mysticism and hypnotic power ascribed to crystals in all ages and all countries leaps to the imagination as one gazes on this perfect specimen. Long, long ago, in China, it is said,

Protect Clothes Moths

Conducted by the Department of Agriculture, the value of cedar, Juniper ever, to be effective in containing in the body 10 per cent of three cedar lumber. The cedar is called to the aid of neutral woods cedar veneer are not to kill clothes moths have proved that to develop from the form or larval stage, in chests lined with cedar. They cannot do cedar chests that

Use of Bread

When eat bread at meal, but oftentimes in at supper or dinner, for instance, are a substantial part of the diet. It cannot be made wholesome some without probably fewer sand- discarded from child- if the bread were best quality. Good the standard used contests, directed by Department of Agriculture, a crust, an elastic, without being dry, streaks, and has and odor difficult to recognize.



Fine Chance for Him to Try Out "Nesting"

In the general office of one of the public utilities there is a young woman, well past sixteen, unmarried who takes a motherly interest in all her fellow employees and never misses an opportunity to "horn in" in a pleasant way, in their personal affairs. This habit has become so fixed that some of the young women take it as a source of annoyance and consequently enjoy putting one over on her. However, recently she succeeded in turning that trick herself. One of the complaint men was passing through the office and in her high shrill voice, that carried throughout the room, she called: "Oh, Mr. —, come over here, you are just the man I want." Her face turned crimson as she heard giggles from all parts of the room. Mr. — also suffered his moment of torture as he stood in the midst of a group of giggling women. Turning to the office manager, he said: "I wish you would quiet that bunch of giggling hens," to which the manager responded, "Why not try putting them on the nest yourself?"—Indianapolis News.

Reason Probably as Good as Many Given

The season of conventions, political and otherwise, is at hand, and the desire to become a delegate and enjoy the many pleasant privileges without personal expense is entertained by many. The impulse is not a modern trait by any means. Once when the Wesleyan ministers of England were choosing delegates to attend the annual conference in London, many of the members put forth all sorts of frivolous reasons why they should be chosen. Among the seekers for the privilege was a venerable member who, at a meeting, rose, and said: "Mr. Chairman, I wish to attend the meeting of conference in London. My years would perhaps entitle me to the privilege, but I waive that, as I have another reason as strong as many of those already given by my brethren, and that is—I want to get my watch by the clock in St. Paul's!"

Capital's "Inner Shrine"

There is a set in Washington more exclusive even than the circle which numbers foreign diplomats, wealthy winter residents, federal officials and their families. The capital's real "inner shrine" is composed of the few people who can truthfully call them selves natives of Washington. They are members of families which have made the capital their home for generations. Jewels and fashionable dress are confined to social functions of the other group; the native Washingtonians are content to keep on living in old houses that seem quaint beside the palatial abodes of "society" as called. Old Washingtonians delight to give the cold shoulder to office holders and the new rich. Some of the oldest inhabitants continue to drive about the street in carriages which served their forebears.

His Stand

"This 'ere permissus parking of cars anywhere and everywhere has got to stop!" sternly said Constable Slackputter of Petunia.

"There is only one car in sight besides mine," returned the offending motorist. "You wouldn't call two cars in a block 'promiscuous,' would you?"

"I wouldn't, har? By gosh—when I say a thing is permissus it's permissus, whether it is or not!"—Kansas City Times.

Says Irish Should Jig

Modern dances were strongly condemned by Rev. J. Murney during an address at a Gaelic festival at Warrenton, Ireland, recently. Irish dances did not make degenerates as "foreign" dances did, he said, and while Irish and other dances might not be the fashion in Paris or London, they should be the vogue in Ireland.

Ancient City Found

A city has been discovered at Havana, Cuba, in the Peruvian mountains, said to date back thousands of years. The ancient relic contains frame houses which, from a distance, give the appearance of glittering gold.

Noisier

An open mind is all right, but the open mouth is often worse than an open cut.—Lafayette Journal and Courier.

Few Live Century

Among human beings only one person in 20,000 lives to reach the century mark.

Married!

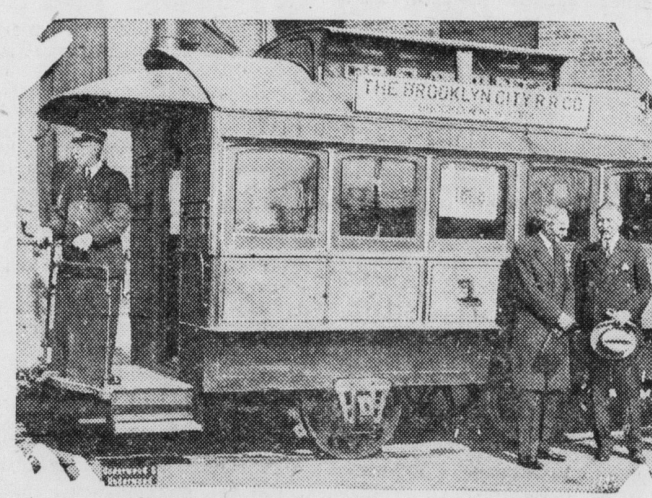
"Do you talk in your sleep?" "Whew! If I did I'd never wake up!"

Rather than not get into it at all a woman is willing to get the short end of an argument.

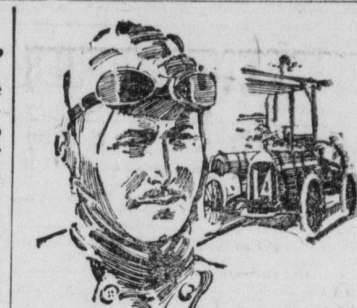
You can make a temporary angel of the average woman by complimenting her youthful appearance.

That Nero was a fiddler instead of a saxophone player must have been some satisfaction to the Romans.

Old Street Car for Ford Museum



H. Hobart Porter, president of the Brooklyn City Railroad company, presenting to Henry Ford, for installation in his museum at Dearborn, Mich., the oldest horse car of its type in existence. This car, known in its time as a "Jigger," is a one-horse model and was originally placed in service in 1866 in Brooklyn and operated until 1897.



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