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THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS
By H. IRVING KING

KILLING SWALLOWS

TO KILL a swallow is sure to bring bad luck, is a common superstition. In New England and eastern Canada they are a little more specific about it, and say that if you kill a barn-swallow the cows will give blood milk. This is a most firmly rooted superstition in those sections. Its pedigree is apparent. When Demeter went to live in the house of the king of Eleusis, resting awhile in the search for her daughter Persephone, she was accustomed to take the air as a swallow, darting and sailing about the house, which fact is the foundation for the general belief that swallows bring good luck. Conversely, of course, it would anger the goddess and bring bad luck to kill the bird so favored by her. The bloody milk part of the superstition comes from the fact that the Demeter of Greek mythology was confused in the popular mind with the Egyptian Isis on account of parallels in certain incidents in their stories and because, especially, of similarity in the principal attributes ascribed to them. And the cow, as we all know, was the favorite animal of Isis. Therefore to shed the blood of a barn-swallow would, by sympathy, make the cows give bloody milk. If one is inclined to be incredulous that beliefs are found today among us which are survivals from so great an antiquity as is claimed for most popular superstitions let him consider how many thousands of years those ancient beliefs lasted and how firm a hold they had upon the undeveloped human mind of which they were the outgrowth. If all the science and religion of today were swept away would not fragments of them be found existing in the popular mind two thousand years from now? Moreover we can trace the beliefs of old down through various ages and stages until they become the current superstitions of today.

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SUPERSTITIOUS SUE



SHE HAS HEARD THAT—
If you want to "tune in" with the dream oracle and learn the meaning of your pillow phantasies, you must cut out meat for one whole day, and other bad habits for three days—then you may be able to interpret your dreams.

An artist is employed by the French government to paint pictures of clouds for use in meteorological studies and forecasts.

666
Cures Malaria and quickly relieves Biliousness, Headaches and Dizziness due to temporary Constipation. Aids in eliminating Toxins and is highly esteemed for producing copious watery evacuations.

The SANDMAN STORY

PIGS AND POETRY

"A H, YES," said Porky Pig. "The beautiful springtime will be along before anyone knows it, grunt."

"Squeal, squeal," said Miss Ham, "you speak as though it were going to come a-walking on two legs or four."

"Grunt, grunt," said Porky Pig, "that is because you don't understand me as you should."

"Perhaps not as you'd like me to understand you," said Miss Ham. "Well, the fact remains, say what you will, that the beautiful springtime will be along before anyone knows it, grunt, grunt."

"You said all that before," said Miss Ham. "Things can be said more than once," said Porky Pig, "and no harm is done to anyone."

"It is not doing anyone the slightest harm because I said that the beautiful springtime would be along before anyone knew it, grunt, grunt, more than once."

"Yes, and now you're saying it again," said Miss Ham.

"But," she continued after a moment, "why are you so interested? Are you growing sentimental because it is springtime? Do you feel as though you were going to carry pigweed to some charming young Miss Pig and say to her:

"Dear Miss Pig, let me provide for you forever. Nothing would give me greater joy."

"Oh, no, no, no," grunted Porky Pig. "I'd never say anything like that. I'm an old pig, set in my ways, and I'm not going to change."

"What is more, I could never say to any pig, young and beautiful though she might be, that nothing would give me greater joy than to provide for her forever."

"I couldn't say that for it wouldn't be the truth, and I do want to tell the truth."

"I'm a truthful pig, I am, grunt, grunt."

"Then why are you so interested in the fact that before long the spring will be here?" asked Miss Ham.

"Are you looking forward to seeing the buds burst into bloom, as they talk about?"

"Who talks about them bursting into bloom?" asked Porky. "The buds themselves don't, do they?"

"No, people," said Miss Ham. "People talk that way. I've heard them when the pen has been without food and there has been nothing else to do."

"And they've talked of the lovely springtime and of its beauty and of the flowers appearing and the blossoms and the green grass and all such things."

"They have seemed quite happy about it."

"I wasn't thinking of any of those things, grunt, grunt," said Porky Pig. "I was thinking of other things. My thoughts were of mud, of beautiful, beautiful mud. Even though a pig is not by nature poetical I cannot help reciting my poem about it."

"Of course I wouldn't have composed it had it not been that the winter shed gets tiresome around this time and there wasn't much to do or to eat and I thought of happy times ahead."

"I suppose I cannot help but listen," Miss Ham said to herself, "unless I should be out-and-out rude and go off, and there isn't anywhere much to go in the winter shed. That's the way with poets."

"They always have one at a disadvantage. They corner one and now I must hear the poem."

Porky Pig commenced:
In the spring, the spring,
I sing, yes, I sing,
Or rather I squeal
Of the joy that I feel,
For there's glorious mud,
Ah, glorious mud!
In which to die,
I dance a jig
At the thought of it:
The mud with me makes a great hit.

"I don't believe," said Miss Ham, "that it is very poetical to say 'makes a great hit,' but then of course I'm not up on the very latest kinds of poetry and there's no telling what poets may do—particularly pig poets!"

But Porky paid no attention. He was satisfied with his poem and satisfied that he had had some one to listen to it!

(Copyright.)

THE PATTON COURIER

HEADS EAGLES



EDWARD J. RYAN

Edward J. Ryan, of Philadelphia, was elected Grand Worthy President of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at the National Convention of the order, held in Columbus, Ohio, August 9. Mr. Ryan is a member of Philadelphia Aerie No. 42, and has been a member of the Eagles for more than twenty years. During this period he has held important local, State and National positions in the order. The Philadelphia election was unanimous and is indicative of his popularity among the members of the order he heads.

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EXECUTRIX'S NOTICE.

In the Estate of John Gagliardi, late of the Borough of Patton, County of Cambria, and State of Pennsylvania, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary in the estate of said decedent have been granted to the undersigned. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment and those having claims or demands will make them known without delay to

THERESA GAGLIARDI, Executrix,
Patton, Pa.
Fred J. Fees,
Attorney for Executrix,
Court House, Ebensburg, Pa. 6t.

What Does Your Child Want to Know
Answered by BARBARA BOURJAILY



DOES MY HEART BEAT FASTER WHEN I AM SICK?

If you have fever, yes, because The heart does extra work To send out blood to battle with The germs wherever they lurk. (Copyright.)

Wants to Know

Atlanta, Ga.—A two-year courtship has not satisfied a Kansas City bride-to-be that she knows enough about her swain, so she has written the mayor here a request to check up on whether he has a "past."

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