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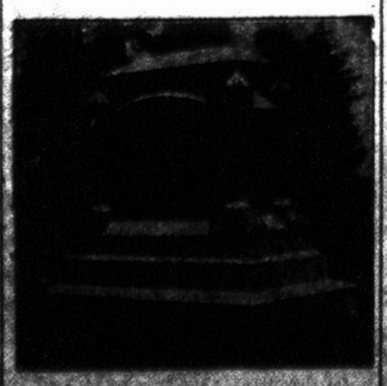

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Public Land in Texas.

The conflict between the settler and the cowman in western Texas gets fiercer as the march of civilization goes westward and the big expanse of prairie is converted into agricultural land. Of course, the cattle man does not like to be elbowed off land which he has occupied unmolested for years. To defeat the "nestor" many schemes are resorted to. One is the play for time to dispose of their cattle, which they never do; another, according to a Texas writer, is as follows: About the time the leases are to expire a number of the "cowboys" are given jobs on the ranch and a kind of secret bargain struck, to the effect that the "boys" are to have employment a specified time if each will file on four sections (the limit) of land in his own name, the ranchman footing the bill, and at the expiration of three years, or so soon as the land is "proven upon," the "cowboy" to sell to the ranchman. Thirty "cowboys" can file on 120 sections of land, or 76,800 acres. The ranchman thus becomes the purchaser, and still has 37 years of the 40 years granted by the state to the settler in which to pay for the land at one dollar per acre, at three per cent. interest, which he can very well afford. Thus he acquires title (and unless collusion can be proved the title is unquestionable) to vast areas of land for good and always, barring forever the farmer from an oppounity of getting a home, and, by the way, a home on land which, according to the figures, is about ten times more prolific, dry weather or what not, in the hands of the farmer than in the hands of the stockman.

Value of a Sense of Humor.

A sense of humor is more valuable for a busy woman than all the latest inventions for making housekeeping easy. The patent dish-washer, the self-feeding and self-shaking range, the washing-machine, the bread-mixer and the egg-beater all put together will not help "mother" through Saturday morning so well as the ability to laugh long and heartily. Unfortunately, as the Youth's Companion says, there is no school where this accomplishment can be learned. The giggling girl is not sure to grow up a laughing woman. She may regard herself and her own affairs with a portentious seriousness. Egotism is fatal to the sense of humor. So is a lack of imagination. So is that morbid conscientiousness, which is our least desirable inheritance from Puritanism. That family is fortunate indeed where the mother is first to see a joke and to lead the mirth. In too many houses her sole share in merriment is her dismal "I'm sure I don't see what you're laughing about!" The mother, an invalid for years, who could answer an inquiry about her health with a quizzical smile and a quick "Sick abed, and worse up!" was not a burden but a joy to the children who found her room "the jolliest place in the house." A nonsense rime, a droll conundrum, a lively repartee, a story of misadventure, may all serve as sauce for a dull day. The appetite for fun may be coaxed to grow by what it feeds on until the mature woman, laden with responsibilities, can smile at her own small trials and help others to follow her example. She will learn first not to cry over spilt milk, and later will master an even more useful accomplishment, and will laugh over it.

The value of the onion as a medicine is just being found out. Doctors are of the opinion that it is a preventer of smallpox and will arrest the spread of many other diseases. The onion is a household remedy which every mother has used for coughs, colds and croups for generations, but now its virtue is being tested in a more scientific way. Onions promote sleep and quiet irritable nerves. They are said to improve the eyesight. They are known to improve the complexion. They are, in fact, a most healthful and beneficial article of diet, and if they could be made to taste and smell like oranges or apples their popularity would be far greater than either of the fruits named.

Time and breeding cannot eradicate from some animals their wild ancestral habits. Sheep when frightened will rush to the highest point accessible because the first being natives of the mountains, were accustomed to do this. A dog will turn around several times before he lies down, because long centuries ago when all dogs were wild they were obliged to do this to make themselves a bed in the tall grass. Human beings are not exempt from this brand of inheritance either, for it is said that our love for jewelry and decoration can easily be traced back to our ancestral savages. Thus the stamp of habit lives as long as time.

If Pat Crowe had surrendered at the right time, he might now be out starring in a dramatic company, instead of in hiding. The path of glory leads but to the stage.

How the world has changed — $100,000,000 for "fun" at the world's fair and $100,000 for religion.

College Orations.

The Des Moines Leader and Register has a word to say about college orations that is worth a passing thought. The premium which is put in all oratorical exhibitions from high school commencements to interstate contests upon perfection of style is responsible for the close paraphrasing which students come to adopt in preparing themselves. Originality, saith our deponent, is not taken into account in the public estimation nor in the decisions of the judges, and originality being immature and without polish does not even receive honorable mention. And so it happens that high school girls give as their own, with the encouragement of school principals and to the gratification of their parents and friends, essays and orations that would cost experienced literary workers hours of labor. The college orator to win must rank with Hillis and Gunsaulus in every modern contest, and far surpass in finish nine out of ten of the great public speakers of the country, from President Roosevelt down. Some college or association of colleges should inaugurate a reformation in the standards of college oratory. At least 50 per cent. of the award of the judges should be for originality and vigor of thought and treatment, the other 50 per cent. to be apportioned to style and delivery. The question of what is and what is not justifiable paraphrasing would then never confront the young collegian of talent, who cherishes an ambition to excel in the competition

Count de Montesquiou was invited to a fashionable dance in New York. When he arrived, says the Cincinnati Commercial-Tribnue, the hostess sent word she was dressing. After waiting an hour, he said to the hostess, who came down at that minute: "My cards said ten o'clock." "But," said the lady, "that means 12 in New York." With an icy manner, the count said: "In Paris it is good manners to accept invitations punctually at the hour one is invited." And he was exactly right. It is good manners in this country too, among those who have good manners. The count went home without further ado.

Someone said in the hearing of President Hopkins, of Williams college that university men nowadays have too many sofa pillows and other luxuries in their rooms. "Oh, yes, they have their luxuries, but they also have the antidotes," said Dr. Hopkins. "I see these signs of luxury, but I also see the owners of those pillows out on the board track every day, exercising in disregard of the temperature. And they are very thinly clad, too."

The first American newspaper was Publick Occurrences. It appeared in Boston in 1690, and was promptly suppressed by the government of the colony.

The "get-rich-quick" concerns are the fastest means known to help other people get poor quick.

Some children have too many playthings, and some grown-ups do not have enough.

Dr. Van Dyke is of the opinion that there are two distinct departments in ornithology—"other birds and English sparrows."

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	Fried Perch 15	Boiled Ham 15	Soup 5
	Roast Beef 15	Beef Tongue 15	PuddingT 5
Breakfast and Supper	Small Steak 15	Pork Chops 15	Whitefish 15
	Veal Cutlet 15	Breakfast Bacon 15	Fried Perch 15
	Mutton Chops 15	Salt Pork, Broiled 15	Salt Mackerel 15
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