

# The SNAPSHOT GUILD

CHARACTER STUDIES



With a selftimer on your camera, you can make "character" snapshots of yourself.

Did you ever stop to think that all of us have had a desire at some time to be a stage or screen star? Deny it or not it is still true that we like to see ourselves in pictures—although it may be just a snapshot.

Way down deep in everybody's nature is that feeling that we have certain points of similarity to some noted actor or actress. Then too there are certain facial expressions that we have cultivated which seem always to amuse our friends.

Now if you want to convince yourself of your ability—or failure—as a comedian or a tragedian you can do so quite effectively with your own camera. Put yourself in pictures.

Few properties are needed for this personal, informal character snapshots. Special costumes are not always necessary, for in many instances it will be the facial expression that tells the story. In the two pictures shown here, however, the costume plays a rather important part. A burnt cork, sharpened to a point, will help accentuate the features of the character you wish to portray.

You may find it difficult to hold a certain expression for more than a few seconds so have your cameraman have his camera properly focused, and ready to shoot before you "go into character."

Suppose that you want to experiment with the idea by yourself. You can take your own pictures. How? Use a self timer. A self timer is an inexpensive gadget that fits over the end of the button on the cable release of a folding camera. It is adjustable so that you can set it to give you as much as 30 seconds to take your position before your camera and control your face into character and then—*click*—and you have your picture. Some camera shutters have a built-in self timer so if you have one of these models and haven't used this feature now's your chance.

These snaps can be taken outdoors or indoors by well lighted windows or at night with two or three floodlight lamps. With floodlight lamps, however, it will be necessary to use a camera with an f.6.3 or faster lens. The shutter speed in this instance should be set at 1/25 second. Set the diaphragm at f.5.3.

You will find this type of snapshotting a lot of fun and it will help you while away many hours during the cold winter days and nights when outdoor activities are none too pleasant.

JOHN VAN GUILDER.

## "Day of Dead" Observed in Many Mexican Towns

Distinctive among the customs of Mexico is its celebration of the "Day of the Dead." The festa lasts for two days, notes a writer in the Chicago Tribune.

For days in advance bakers' windows are full of displays of "Bread of the Dead," round loaves varying in size from the quite small to perhaps 30 inches in diameter. The tops have designs in the shape of bones, hoarily frosted white with sugar, and bits of black fig inlaid.

Confectioners display sugar skulls, having eyes of colored tin foil, and ranging in size from a couple of inches to life size. They are somewhat reminiscent of the sugar Easter eggs of our childhood.

On the Day of the Dead every one goes to a cemetery laden with flowers and candles. In these times it resembles our Decoration day; but in the old days families took their dinner basket laden with food and drink, spread it out on the grave, and stayed all day and part of the night, singing praises of those who had gone. And often, as the shadows lengthened and the quiet took effect, they would recall things not altogether to the credit and glory of the departed one.

The practice has been prohibited in the large cities, and is continued only in the outlying districts. It is to be understood, of course, that this took place only among the lower, and sometimes the middle, classes. In the better cemeteries the custom has always been to bring flowers and candles and to leave the private mausoleums open for visits from friends.

## Rhymes of Mother Goose

The nursery rhymes of Mother Goose are simply an accumulation of such verse, written by various persons and at various times, according to a writer in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

It seems likely that the name is from French sources, although other sources have been claimed. It is said that there was a Mrs. Goose, mother-in-law of Thomas, an early Boston publisher, and that he issued the collection under her name. The earliest known edition bears the inscription "Songs for the Nursery, or Mother Goose's Melodies for Children; printed by T. Fleet at his printing house, Fiddlers Lane, 1719."

That this was the first use of the name Mother Goose has been disputed by various critics, who say Perceval published "Contes de ma mere l'oye" in 1697, by the Satriet Regnier more than a century before. Queen Goosefoot, or Bertha with the great foot or goose foot, appears synonymous with Mother Goose in French tales. The second day of the year is her festival, and was kept as a children's holiday.

## INTERIOR DECORATING

Painting & Graining ESTIMATES GIVEN. SIGN WRITING A SPECIALTY.

FRANK PEAREN  
MILTON : : : PHONE 132

## Notice of Application to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario.

Notice is hereby given that Alfred Pehlke will apply to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario at the next Session, for an Act to enable him to carry on the business of a Druggist, Practitioner under the terms of the Druggists Practitioners Act, being R.S.O. 197, Chapter 200.

Dated at Toronto, this 10th day of December, 1935.  
ALFRED PEHLKE,  
By J. C. M. Garman, K. C.,  
his solicitor.

## Notice of Registration of By-Law.

Notice is hereby given that a By-Law was passed by the Council of the County of Halton on the 17th day of December, 1935, providing for the issue of debentures to the amount of \$3,000 for the purpose of meeting the cost of construction of County Roads, and that such a by-law was registered in the Registry Office of the County of Halton on the 24th day of December, 1935. Any motion to quash or set aside the same or any part thereof must be made within three months after the first publication of this notice and cannot be made thereafter.

Dated the 24th day of December, 1935.  
H. M. PETTIT,  
Clerk.

## Notice of Registration of By-Law.

Notice is hereby given that a By-Law was passed by the Council of the County of Halton, on the 17th day of December, 1935, providing for the issue of debentures to the amount of \$25,000 for the purpose of meeting the county's portion of the cost of construction of the King's Highway, and that such a by-law was registered in the Registry Office of the County of Halton on the 24th day of December, 1935. Any motion to quash or set aside the same or any part thereof must be made within three months after the first publication of this notice and cannot be made thereafter.

Dated the 24th day of December, 1935.  
H. M. PETTIT,  
Clerk.

## Tenders for Wood

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up to January 21, 1936, for ten cords of 2-foot No. 1 hardwood; also one cord of cedar for kindling, to be delivered to Ligny School.

J. A. ELLIOTT,  
Secretary-Treasurer,  
R.R. 3, Milton.

## Tenders for Wood.

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned on the Jan. 25th, 1936, for 5 cords of No. 1 hardwood cut in 2 ft. lengths; piled and measured in school yard No. 7 School, 6th line, Trafalgar.

GEO. PEACOCK, Sec'y,  
R.R. 4, Milton.

## FARM WANTED

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## Black Cats Long Thought to Be Cause of Bad Luck

The idea that black cats bring bad luck is very old, notes a writer in the Washington Star. The black cat was long supposed to be the companion of witches, and it was even believed that the much-feared witches had the power to transform themselves into cats nine times.

A book called "Beware the Cat" was written during the Sixteenth century. This book contained a warning against these witches in disguise, and stated that killing a black cat did not always mean that the witch's power was ended, because of her ability to change herself so often into animal form.

In the Middle Ages women who thought that they had magic power made pets of black cats, and always carried them about. They used the brains of black cats in compounding their remedies. So the unlucky reputation of the black cat spread. There are still many superstitious folk who believe that black cats bring bad luck.

## "Thumb Nail," Name for the Earliest Thimbles

The use of thimbles dates from time immemorial. The very early ones were probably hollowed-out bones, but they were soon followed by thimbles of iron and brass, and several of these have been found in the excavations of Rome.

In England the needlewomen of Anglo-Saxon times wore them on the thumb, which then exerted the pressure on the needle instead of the index finger. They called them "thumb-balls," from which we get the name thimble.

The first silver thimbles of which we have any record, says a writer in the Montreal Herald, were used by the ladies of the French court during the Fifteenth century. The fashion soon spread to England, and all through the reigns of the Tudors a period which has often been called the "golden age" of needlework, the ladies vied with each other in the beauty and elegance of their thimbles.

Exquisite specimens of finest gold, richly chased and embossed, and set with precious stones, flashed on dainty fingers as the fair needlewoman sewed together at their pieces of tapestry and delicate embroidery, while ivory thimbles with gilded rings on the outside, were found especially suitable for use with the gold and silver center of their designs.

## Bittern Roars Like Lion

When He Is Making Love

When the bittern, which is a small heron, goes courting, it lets all the world know it. The cry of this wading bird is described as sounding somewhat like the roar of a lion and under favorable circumstances can be heard at a distance as great as a mile.

The courting season of the bittern is in the early spring, when the love-call of the male bird is heard as a loud, deep boom. The male selects a small open space in swampy ground, and heed of receding a nearby flat ground. He approaches the object of his affections with lowered neck and partly spread wings. All his feathers are puffed out, and in this position he circles round her, doing his best to show that he is a very handsome and important bird. But it often happens that another male bittern approaches and this means a fight. The long, sharp beaks of the love rival appear to be formidable weapons as they circle round and round. Little damage is done, however, for as one bird strikes at the other, the defender opens his long wings and brings them forward in front of his breast in the form of a shield.

## Current Current Thought . . . 1 yr.

Pictorial Review . . . 1 yr.

Canadian Magazine 1 yr.

National Home Monthly . . . 1 yr.

Canadian Horticulture & Home Magazine 1 yr.

## Emeralds Are Not Easily Imitated, Writer Asserts

Emeralds, one is told at the Geological Institute, have always been more easily imitated than diamonds and rubies. However, states an authority in the Los Angeles Times, no student of gemology has need to worry about being deceived as to the value of an emerald. Tests of hardness, dichroism, refractive index, and the nature of inclusions easily reveal the counterfeit.

There are some inferior imitations of most gems which can be detected by homely tests. Glass feels much warmer to the tongue or cheek than a diamond. Glass, bakelite, and galialith imitations can be scratched with a steel file, whereas, the real stones cannot be.

The reconstructed stones which were once made by fusing many small pieces of the genuine stone together are no longer manufactured, therefore, they are more valuable than the usual synthetic stones. But they do not have the value of one large stone.

Doublets, triplets and foil backs are another variety of the gem counterfeiter's wares. Doublets and triplets are manufactured by assembling various portions of genuine stones and imitation stones, in an attempt to represent the genuine. If any of these are immersed in water and then held to a strong light, the seams will be readily noticed. Foilbacks consist of a portion of the genuine article backed by glass or another imitation.

It seems that simple tests are not always infallible, however, and that in some instances the detection of a synthetic stone depends on finding tiny bubbles which cannot be seen without a microscope of great magnification.

## Suddenly Standing Cause of Increase in Weight

A man standing up suddenly when excited weighs twice as much as when sitting down quietly. This fact has to be taken into consideration when race course and football stands are built, says the Milwaukee Journal.

For example, a grandstand is being built to accommodate 2,700 people. This number might represent a weight of 160 tons—that is, if they could be relied on to sit still all the time. But as, on occasion, almost all of them might be standing up at the same time, in addition, leaning forward and perhaps swaying together, they had to be treated as weighing quite 300 tons.

The stresses set up by the movements of live loads have been closely investigated. Men have been placed on the platforms of scales and made to crouch and then stand upright. It was found that the act of standing up from a crouch added 67 per cent to a man's weight. Getting up from a chair added 79 per cent to his weight.

If the man from crouching suddenly straightened up with a violent jerk, and at the same time brought his arms down violently, the scale showed that he had momentarily added 174 per cent to his weight—that is, he had increased it more than two and a half times.

## Tribute to a Dog

On a tombstone in Elligrove cemetery, at Mansfield, Ohio, is an epitaph reading: "My ever-faithful dog that guarded me in life still guards my grave." The story behind this, according to the Dayton News, is that Fred Fox, buried there many years ago, was a prosperous farmer of the neighborhood who left his home on horseback one night accompanied by his small bulldog. He failed to return the next day and when a search was started they found the dog barking furiously along the horseback trail. Following the animal, they shortly found the body of Fox in a shallow creek, where he had fallen from his horse after suffering a stroke. He had drowned and the dog had stood guard over his body until attracted by the calls of the searchers, whom he led to the scene of the accident.

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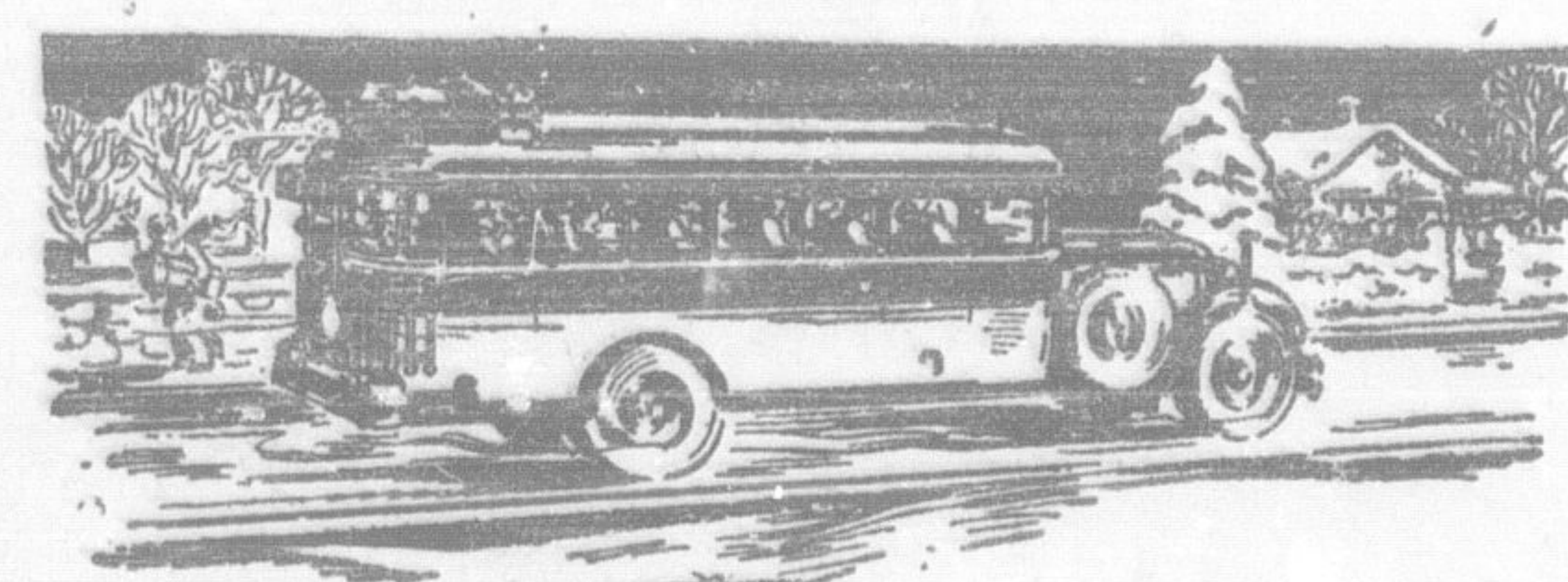
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