

Druella Acantha Malvina's Column

Gem for the month: Entrance doors to trouble are many and wide – the exits are few and narrow.

Did you know? (I can't prove these are true facts.)

- ◆ A snake can have up to 300 pairs of ribs.
- ◆ A shark can detect a drop of blood 200 metres away.
- ◆ Just before someone is struck by lightning, his or her hair will stand on end.
- ◆ If you flew to New York from London on the Concorde, you arrived two hours before you left.

A Sunday school teacher asked the children, just before she dismissed them to go back to church, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"

Little Johnny quickly answered, "Because people are sleeping."

A group of hikers were being led through the wilderness by a guide. On the third day, the hikers noticed they had been travelling in circles. "We're lost!" one of the men complained. "I thought you said you are the best guide in the United States?"

"I am," the guide answered, "but I think we may have wandered into Canada."

Definitions received from kids:

- ◆ Asked to define H2O and CO2: H2O is hot water. CO2 is cold water.
- ◆ A spinal column is a bunch of long bones. The head sits on the top and you sit on the bottom.
- ◆ One by-product of raising cattle is calves.
- ◆ The word 'trousers' is an uncommon noun because it is singular at the top and plural at the bottom.
- ◆ Syntax is all the money collected at church by the sinners.

A musical director wasn't happy with the performance of one of the percussionists. Repeated attempts to get the drummer to improve failed. Finally, in front of all the performers, the director said in frustration, "When a musician can't handle his instrument, they take it away, give him two sticks and make him a drummer."

A stage whisper was heard from the percussion section, "And if he can't handle that, they take away one of the sticks and make him a conductor."

After church, little Johnny's new baby brother was screaming up a storm. He asked his mom, "Where'd you get him?"

His mother replied, "He came from heaven, Johnny."

Little Johnny says, "WOW! I can see why they threw him out."

A real estate agent was driving around with a new trainee when she spotted a charming little farmhouse with a hand-lettered "For Sale" sign out front. After briskly introducing herself and her associate to the startled occupant, the agent cruised from room to room, opening closets and cupboards, testing faucets, and pointing out where a "new light here and a little paint there," would help.

Pleased with her assertiveness, the woman was hopeful that the owner would offer her the listing. "Ma'am", the man said, "I appreciate the home improvement tips and all, but I think you read my sign wrong. It says, 'Horse' for sale."

Exit Lines:

- ◆ *Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.*
- ◆ *Never miss a good chance to shut up.*
- ◆ *Whether a man winds up with a nest egg or a goose egg depends on a lot on the kind of chick he married.*

Nelson Notes... Anecdotes and background about Nelson's diary entries.

By 1901 the "Barley Days" were a distant memory and the canning industry had blossomed as a critical source of income for county farmers. The magnitude of this for Nelson Hicks is seen in the hard work and the worry of the tomato patch throughout September.

Nelson's crop goes to Bloomfield and Boulders for canning. Wellington Boulter was a visionary for social and business initiatives in the county. He founded the first cannery here in 1882. He was born in Demorestville and was one of 20 siblings helping on the farm. He became a very successful entrepreneur, introducing canned produce to Europe, Africa, China and Australia; Boulter's "Lion" canned goods won gold medals at expositions in Paris, Glasgow and Chicago.

Nelson's tomatoes very probably travelled even further than those of Vicki, his descendant, now following in his tomato footsteps!

