

RELIGION AND IDLENESS

The Same Problem Nineteen Hundred Years Ago As We Have To-day

"And about the eleventh hour He went out, and found others standing, and He said unto them, Why stand ye here idle? They said unto Him, Because no man hath hired us. He said unto them, Go ye into the vineyard. . . . It is interesting, as we turn the pages of the Gospel of Matthew, to come to this scene in the market place and thus to find that in ancient Palestine, nineteen hundred years ago, there was exactly the same problem of unemployment with which we are grappling to-day. And it is interesting to note as well that this "householder," who went into the market place "about the eleventh hour," did not berate the unemployed for their idleness, or even offer them food, or shelter, or charitable relief of any kind, but simply proceeded forthwith to give them jobs. He sent the men into the vineyard—and it is significant to note that the men went!

Unemployment Is Employment.

Right here do we have the only method of dealing with the problem of unemployment which is worth serious consideration. The answer to unemployment is employment! And just to the extent in which we find it difficult or even impossible, in this late period of the world's history, to give this answer to this question, not merely on occasion but for good and all, to just this same extent must our civilization be set down as a failure. "A man willing to work," said Thomas Carlyle, "and unable to find work, is perhaps the saddest sight . . . under the sun." Least of all the tragedies which attend upon the condition of such a man is the material discomfort which comes upon him

and upon those who look to him for sustenance. Hunger, nakedness, cold are "heavy burdens and grievous to be borne." But worse than these is that gradual weakening and corroding of the fibre of honest, upright, independent, decent manhood which is the fruit of idleness and of the poverty which follows in the train of idleness. Let a man remain unemployed for a period of time, and before he knows it, he is unemployable. He is not only physically but morally weakened. He has lost not only the capacity but the desire to work.

The Desire to Work.

Where he once felt it his chief pride to stand alone he now finds it his easiest course to lean upon the charity of others. The unused man, like the unused machine, depreciates with every moment of his idleness, and in the end becomes fit for nothing but the scrap heap. The body starves, but worse—the soul perishes!

Just here does the fact of employment become transformed from an economic into an out-and-out religious problem. That men should starve and freeze and wander homeless may or may not be a religious question. But that men should perish morally and spiritually under the stress of involuntary idleness is so obvious a religious question that the Church can surely never rest until it is solved. How terrific the remark of the rude peasant in Charles Kingsley's "Alton Locke," "O'h, religion's all very well. But I don't see how a man can bear sermons with an empty belly, and there's so much to fret a man now he can't no wise go to pray a bit, as gentilefolks does."—Rev. John Haynes Holmes.

shall be a refreshment as men. They are often too much tethered to their house by their duties, with the result that they do not get enough fresh air. They also live too much in the narrow bounds of the home, not getting there so much change as a man does by merely going to his daily work and coming in contact with other people, exchanging ideas and opinions, hearing news, and so on.

HEALTH

Physical "Ties."

A great many obstinate little physical habits arise through the effort to relieve nervousness. Among them are blinking, scowling, grimacing, twisting, or wringing the hands together, and tapping or swinging the feet. One girl when she reads always pulls down a single hair, and twists it round a finger. To all remonstrance, she replies, "It keeps me quiet" and that would be the answer of all nervous people with physical "ties," if they knew enough to give it.

These habits are simply unconscious efforts to placate the restless nervous system by giving it something to do. Unfortunately, some of them are harmful, most of them are unattractive, and all of them are confessions of weakness. Sometimes the victim of such a habit will make a determined effort to cure it, only to find that a different one has established itself.

That often signifies that the nerves are literally "too tired to keep still." In that case, the surest cure is to give them less work. But remember that the stillness of nervous tension with teeth and fists tightly clenched is not rest; it is only another form of work, and hard work, too. The instant you relax the unnatural tension, the nerves will resume their tireless tricks again with the energy of despair.

It does not matter how the nerves become fatigued; the result is the same. The society butterfly wears herself out with too much pleasure, and the self-supporting girl wears herself out with too much hard work. The cure in the first case is indicated clearly enough. But even if the working girl cannot give up her work, there is still much that she can do. Overwork is sometimes only another name for too little oxygen. It is astonishing to see how quickly an increased supply of fresh air will improve a nervous condition. It is especially helpful to have plenty of fresh air in the bedroom all night. Always begin the day with a little breakfast, and do not eat heavily when you are very tired. Learn to breathe properly and to relax whenever you can; probably your nerves will then abandon their restless habits.—Youth's Companion.

How to Rest.

Everyone, no matter what their occupation may be, requires a certain amount of rest regularly. Part of this is, of course, taken during the night, but a part ought also to find a place during their waking hours. Many people make the mistake of thinking that rest is a synonym for idleness, but some of the best and most refreshing forms of rest keep people occupied. It would, indeed, be almost truer to say that rest is a change of work more often than it is idleness. The man engaged in absorbing mental work, for example, may feel immensely benefited if he makes a point of doing regularly some manual labor, especially if this be of a kind that can be done in the open air. The man whose work is sedentary and keeps him tightly to an office desk would be better for a brisk walk, but he does not enjoy it because he has no companion, but if he exercises his muscles and enforces deep breathing on his lungs by digging in the garden, chopping or sawing wood or any similar work, he will get the needed change and feel much invigorated. This is where a hobby is so valuable either for men or for women. Women are quite as much in need of rest that

LOSS OF MEMORY.

Irresponsibility of Afflicted Person Shown by Startling Instances.

Responsibility assumes that a person is aware of the nature of his acts and the consequences which follow, writes Dr. F. D. Crothers, and that he is able to judge of the conditions and impressions which come to him from surroundings and contact with others. He may reason incorrectly from these data, and misinterpret them, and form wrong conclusions, but it is assumed that he is fully conscious of passing events and surroundings. When this consciousness and memory is shut off, and the words, acts, and conduct of others fail to make any impression, there is abnormality and irresponsibility. What is called the personality of the man, or his consciousness of the present, is lost, and conduct and mentality are without guidance or control.

Many very startling instances have been noted which confirm this fact. Thus, a conductor, running daily on an express train, drank heavily at night before retiring. The next morning he would go out on his train, attend to all his duties as usual, only showing a little more reticence and abstractedness. He was apparently conscious of everything that went on. Many hours afterwards on his return trip, he would suddenly become excited and inquire with great anxiety to know what had happened, and said he had no recollection of anything from the time of retiring the night before.

Sometimes this blank of memory would last during the entire trip. To his associates this condition was recognized by his reticent, gruff manner. His work was performed automatically, with apparent judgment. On several occasions of great excitement from accidents, he would apparently recover his normal condition and be unusually disturbed to know what had preceded the event.

These blanks continued several years, and were known only to his intimate associates. Another example was of the president of a very large manufacturing concern, who drank steadily in moderation. He had distinct blanks of memory, sometimes for days at a time. He was actively engaged in business, planned and conducted important matters, and yet was oblivious of events occurring during these periods.

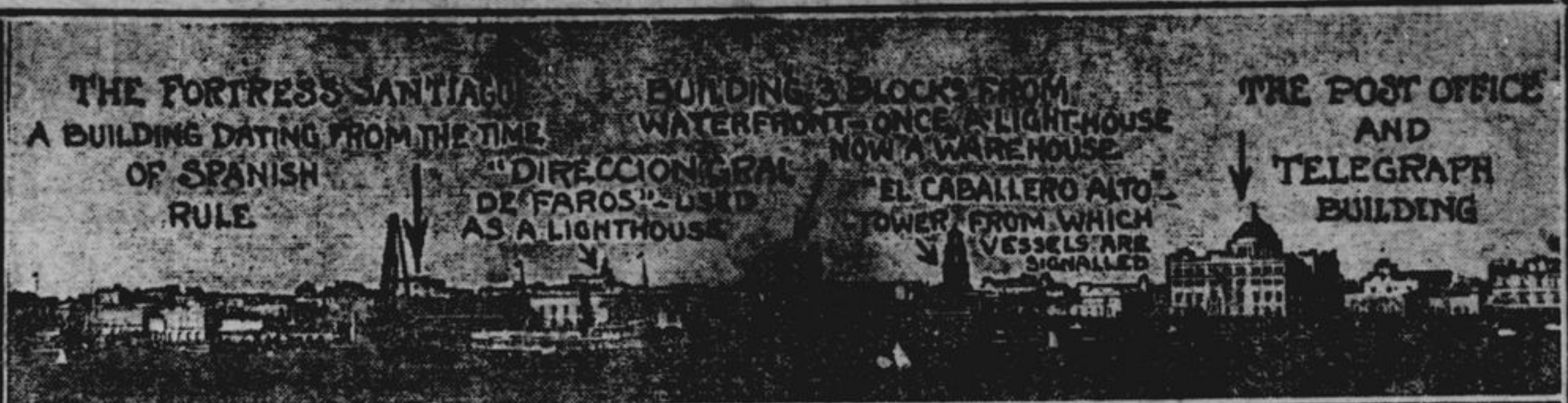
A third example was that of a travelling man who took both drugs and spirits. He would have no conscious memory of where he was or what he had sold, except when he referred to the diary which he kept with great minuteness.

Had any of these persons committed overt acts, no defense of loss of memory would have been considered. They were in reality exceedingly dangerous and irresponsible persons, liable at any moment to commit abnormal acts.

Crisply Explained.

New Guesses.—When I was your age I could answer any question in grammar." Gladys.—Really! But then you had a different teacher."

LOOKING ALONG THE WATERFRONT AT CITY OF VERA CRUZ



THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MAY 3.

Lesson V. The Prodigal Son (Temperance Lesson)—Luke 15, 11-32. Golden Text, Luke 15:18.

Verses 11, 12. And he said—This introduction separates the parable from the two preceding, and we cannot be sure it was spoken on the same occasion. However that may be, the connection in thought must be recognized by all those who read these parables, and it could not have a more fitting position than the one in which Luke has placed it.

12. The younger . . . said. Give me the portion of thy substance which falleth to me—The portion of the younger would be half of what the elder received, that is, one-third of the estate, if the father had but two sons (Deut. 21:17). The younger son's demand for his portion during the lifetime of his father was unusual, but such cases were not unheard of in the East.

13. Not many days after, the younger son gathered his possessions together. He had already made his plans; now he carried them out. Selling the land and turning everything into money, he takes his leave, apparently not to return.

14. Began to be in want—His associates in his riotous living were not the kind of friends who would stand by him when his money was gone and he needed assistance.

15. Went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country—From the luxurious quarters in which he had doubtless lived and entertained, he is thrust out to earn his food as best he may. Having no one to aid or recommend him, he must attach himself to a bond servant to a foreigner, who sent him to feed swine—to a Jew a most odious task and an abomination, since swine were peculiarly unclean, both actually and according to Jewish ritualistic classification.

16. Hoped that the swine did eat of the pods of the carob tree, still found in Palestine and other Mediterranean countries. No man gave him interest in a half-starved foreigner who could not earn enough to eat. Would the sons of many rich men to-day be as ignominious as the swine?

17. When he came to himself—His dissipation had shut out his thoughts of home. The loss of his money and his social degradation had made him lethargic. Now that he faces starvation, he arouses himself, and the thoughts of home bring returning to him.

18. Hired servants—Laborers who had no steady work, but were hired during a busy season. They were regarded much as tramps are regarded in our country, their position being inferior to that of household slaves.

19. Make me as one of thy hired servants—His penitence is real. He asks this as a favor. It is so much better than his present position.

20. While he was yet afar off, his father saw him—Was able to recognize his son even though clothed in filthy rags. Was moved with compassion and ran and fell on his neck, and kissed him—The father's welcome is given before the son has spoken a word. The father does not know in what spirit he has come; it is enough that he has returned.

21. The son makes his confession as he had planned, but the father's forgiveness is so complete and his generosity so great that the son cannot meet it with a proposal to be made a hired servant.

22. The father said to his servants. Bring forth quickly the best robe . . .—A long-stately robe worn on ceremonial occasions. Put a ring on his hand—Perhaps a signet ring, which gave the wearer some authority in the house. Shoes on his feet—Sandals, as were worn by free men. Slaves went barefoot.

23. Bring the fatted calf—Doubtless one being reserved for an approaching feast. But to the father

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FROM ERIN'S GREEN ISLE

NEWS BY MAIL FROM IRELAND'S SHORES.

Happenings in the Emerald Isle of Interest to Irishmen.

A large whale has been driven ashore on the rocks at Banavalla, near Durraneen. The employees of Dromalane Spinning Mill, Newry, who struck work a week ago, are still out.

Many acres of land along the Clogher Valley district of South Tyrone are under water on account of recent heavy rains. Barring the names of Irish soldiers who fell in the South African War, a monument at Cork has been found coated with tar.

Justice Dodd at the Limerick Assizes commented strongly on the excessive use of the knife in quarrels at fairs in the County Limerick. Masons and carpenters engaged on urban cottages, at Thurles, have struck for an increase of 75 cents in their present wages.

A serious outbreak of scarlatina has occurred in the Ballymore district of North Galway, and the Glennanadden workhouse is now full up. The death has taken place at Jordantown, County Antrim, at the age of 71, of Mr. James Moore Cullery, who has been for 43 years stationmaster there.

Two men of the farming class, named O'Brien and Jennings, of Killybeg, County Mayo, are reported to have been drowned in a boating accident. A number of hounds belonging to the Ballymacabe Club have been poisoned while hunting near Oldcastle. It is thought that the poison was maliciously laid.

The annual spring show was held in Londonderry under the auspices of the North West Agricultural Society and excelled all the former exhibitions. A serious disturbance, in which several people were injured in a baton charge, took place near Cregg's, County Galway, following an attempt at cattle driving.

A destructive fire took place at Bray, in which a cottage, known as Staveley's Cottage, was burned to the ground before the local brigade could reach it. At Claghogue Rural Council meeting it was stated that a local merchant is investing \$5,000 in an electric generating plant and was prepared to light the town at \$7.20 per lamp.

The death is announced of Dan Mullane, a farm laborer living near Macroom, Cork, who is stated to have reached the age of 110 years. He was active up to a few months ago.

The Belfast suffragists have now instituted a campaign upon the post office pillar boxes. Several of the boxes have been found to contain a quantity of corrosive fluid. A serious outbreak of scarlet fever is reported from the Ballymore district of North Galway. In the case of a family named Fawcett the mother died and other deaths have since occurred.

The foot and mouth disease in the South has now assumed rather alarming proportions. The outbreak at Thurles and Templemore has now extended into County Tipperary. A large number of extra members of the R.I.C. have been drafted from various countries to augment the forces in Cork and Tipperary, owing to the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease.

A disease similar to infantile paralysis (which is prevalent in the Inverness district) has broken out in some districts in Ulster. Miss Carroll, a nurse in the Lurgan Union, has died from it. A disastrous fire occurred on the Garrylough estate, Portlarrington, when the old historic mansion of Mr. Richard Warburton, J.P., D.L., was completely destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$35,000.

Lord Stratheona's Maxims. Be content with your lot, but always be fitting yourself for something higher. Only cheerful perseverance will bring you to a better position, grumbling won't help you an inch. Do the work yourself; don't depend upon the influence of friends on your behalf. Opportunity comes to some men more frequently than to others, but there are very few it does not visit at some time or another. Follow the old counsel: "Trust in Providence and keep your powder dry."

A Hopeful Outlook. "Are you satisfied with the jury?" he asked his lawyer when the twelfth man had been accepted. "Yes. It's one of the toughest looking juries I ever saw." Most of the type used by Chinese printers is made in Japan.

Young Folks

The Pin cushion Doll.

Once upon a time there was a pin cushion that wished to be a doll. It belonged to the mother of two baby girls whose names were Laura and Mary Anna. Day after day the pin cushion saw the little sisters hugging and cuddling their dolls, singing to them, and playing with them from morning until night. The pin cushion did not dream that she could be a doll herself until she discovered that almost anything will do for a doll; a doll was sometimes a towel rolled up or a pillow case, or a little old dress—it made no difference to the babies; they were all cuddled up and loved.

When the pin cushion noticed that she began to fidget, she squirmed pins loose, soiled her dress, and untied her bows; she was a long pin cushion, with a soft, soft doll heart. She began to tumble toward the front of the dressing table, and she hoped and hoped that the babies would see her. At last the pin cushion had her wish.

It was the day of the evening party that Laura and Mary Anna's mother noticed that her pretty pin cushion was soiled. "We must wash this pin cushion cover and press the ribbon," said she. "Everything in this house must be fresh and spotless."

When another sat down to undress the pin cushion, Laura and Mary Anna stood by her side and watched. The pin cushion kept saying over and over in its soft heart, "Oh, let me be a doll, little girls! Oh, let me be a doll!"

Straightaway the wonder happened. "Why, it is a doll!" exclaimed Mary Anna, and she ran away for a moment. She came back with the pin cushion's muslin bonnet, which exactly fitted the pin cushion's head. "Now wrap something round it," begged the little sister.

Straightaway the pin cushion was wrapped in a towel, and became a doll in Mary Anna's soft, round arms. You can understand how happy Mary Anna was, but unless you have been a pin cushion you can have no idea how happy the new doll felt as Mary Anna rocked and cuddled it and cuddled and rocked it.

After awhile Mary Anna let Laura hold the doll, and Laura sang kindergarten songs to it, all about the old doll that lived in the tree, the shoemaker, and ever so many others.

At noon, when the little girls went to luncheon, they put the pin cushion to bed, bonnet and all. You may be sure that the doll did not sleep, but lay there wide-awake, thinking and thinking what a beautiful thing it is to be a doll.

About three o'clock that afternoon mother began to search for the pin cushion. She wished to put on the fresh cover.

So Laura and Mary Anna carried the pin cushion to their mother. Mother had to go to the telephone, and when she came back, the cushion was nowhere to be seen. No one could find it for a long, long time.

You see, the pin cushion was trying the magic of hiding in plain sight. It did not wish to be a pin cushion again, and that was why it tried the hiding magic. In every room mother and Laura and Mary Anna searched for that pin cushion; high and low they hunted; in chairs and under chairs, on beds and under beds they looked, until at last they found it on the arm of mother's wicker rocking chair.

"It doesn't like to be a pin cushion," said the little girls. "It wishes to be a doll!"

"That is sad, I am sure," said their mother. "We must grant the wish."

And so ever since that happy day the pin cushion has been a doll; it wears a muslin bonnet and a starched plaiding gingham dress, and is loved and cuddled by two little girls.—Youth's Companion.

NEW BRONCHITIS CURE. Instrument Used to Inject Medicine into Bronchial Tubes. A new treatment of chronic bronchitis and asthma and pulmonary gangrene was outlined recently before the Paris Academy of Medicine by M. Guisez, who stated that he had been able by means of a simple instrument devised by himself to inject into the bronchial tubes by way of the mouth and larynx, relatively large quantities of medicinal substance in a solution of an electrolyte.

LET REBELS FINISH

Such is the Plan Flapped Out at Washington

A despatch from Washington advances the little cry will not be "On to Mexico City!" according to John Lind, who was special representative of the President in Mexico City until recently. Mr. Lind is supposed to be familiar with the situation and the plans.

"Now that Admiral Badger has arrived in Mexican waters with his fleet will it not be advisable under the circumstances to rush the army from Galveston to Vera Cruz and proceed directly to Mexico City and take possession before Huerta can arrange for a stubborn defence of his capital?"

This question was asked of Mr. Lind, who is probably the best posted man here on the present situation in Vera Cruz.

"No; that is not the present intention," replied Mr. Lind. "As we are now in possession of Vera Cruz, the next step will be to occupy Tampico. This should retain possession of both cities and also blockade all the remaining ports in Mexico. I do not anticipate any more fighting, as Huerta will have all he can do to contend with the army."

Comment on Events. The Third Child. According to a writer in the Popular Science Monthly school entrance in many European countries is in their own hands. It is not a matter of course that a child should be sent to school at a certain age. In some countries the parents have the right to send their children to school at any age they see fit. In other countries the law is different. In some countries the law is that a child must be sent to school at a certain age. In other countries the law is that a child must be sent to school at a certain age.

How Canadian Cities Grow. Rapidly as the city of Edmonton, with all the public utilities, Frankish, and other departments in 1901, perhaps no other department showed greater increase than the street railway. During the year 1902-1903 the street railway carried 1,200,000 passengers. The street railway is now carrying 1,200,000 passengers a year. The street railway is now carrying 1,200,000 passengers a year. The street railway is now carrying 1,200,000 passengers a year.

Electricity from the Empyrean. Very little more is known of atmospheric electricity than was known in 1901. The electricity of the air and the earth is a very interesting subject. Various devices have been used for measuring the electricity of the air. The most accurate method is the use of the electrostatic induction method. This method is used for measuring the electricity of the air. The most accurate method is the use of the electrostatic induction method.

True Thrift. There are two ways of being thrifty. One is to get into his hands. The other is to spend some of them. The latter is the better way. The latter is the better way. The latter is the better way. The latter is the better way. The latter is the better way.

Official Casualties of Occupation Were 15 Killed. A despatch from Washington says: Three dead and 23 wounded are the reports of the fighting in Vera Cruz. This makes 15 American soldiers who have been killed and wounded in the three days of fighting.

The Navy Department gave out this bulletin: Admiral Badger reports that he landed a battalion from the Minnesota, Michigan and South Carolina and that the landing force numbered 5,400 men. The Minnesota, Chester, Prairie and San Francisco are lying in the inner harbor.

First Catch Your Victim. The Old 'Un-Pluck, my boy, pluck the first and last; that is the one essential to success and business. The first 'Un-Oh, of course, I quite understand that. The trouble is finding someone to pluck.

His Greatest Wish. "What is your greatest wish, doctor, now that you have successfully passed your degree?" "Young Doctor—" "To put 'Dr.' after the names of other people."

Most of the type used by Chinese printers is made in Japan.

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