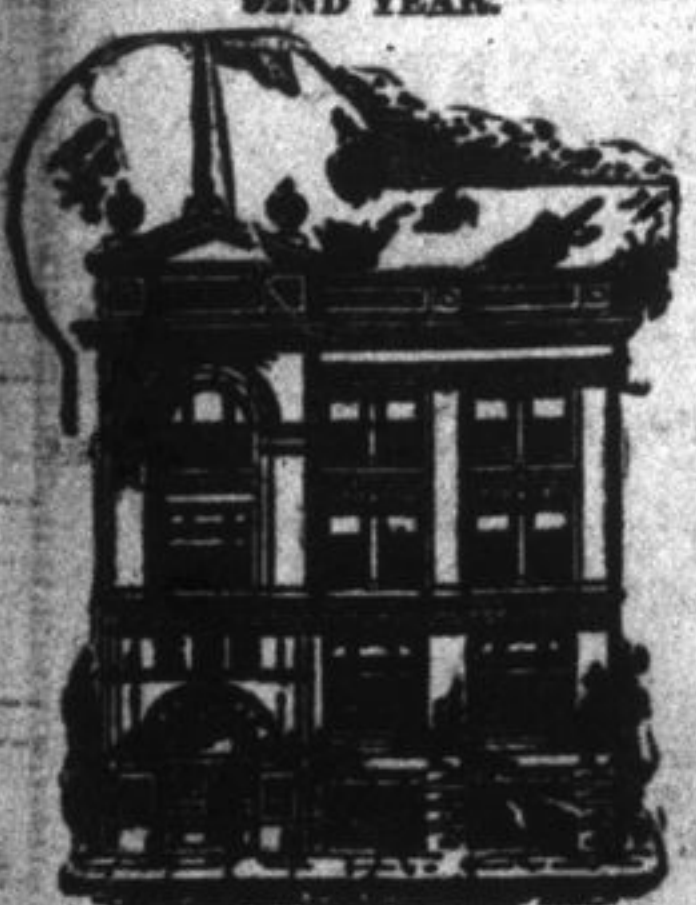


THE BRITISH WHIG



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Beware the brides of March. The most annoying laws, however, are in-laws. Long skirts had to go. They were considered effeminate.

Still, a law might be constitutional and yet be idiotic. For that matter, age cannot wither nor custom stale a flivver.

About all a book-keeper gets for long and faithful service is bent. Some people are always surprised that things didn't turn out worse.

Indications are that the north pole has gone home for the summer. The hardest lap on the journey to fame is that from Page 7 to Page 1.

Average reaction to law: Howling about it; accepting it; forgetting it. Warm water makes the skin chaf; hot water makes the meek chaf.

Very rich men who prefer shabby clothes always live in some distant town. Freedom is a state of mind, the reward of reconciling yourself to tyranny.

Life becomes more humane anyway. Once girls pinched their cheeks to get that glow. Description: He is the kind of man who answers advertisements to get free samples.

The most humane way to kill murderers would be to try them in three days. The shock would do it. Poverty has compensations. The fewer spare bedrooms, the fewer relatives you can entertain.

The world moves, and each year there are fewer people who know how to spell Hohenollern. Radio is dangerous. Man down east says over the radio, a girl heard him singing and married him.

Correct this sentence: "I'm dieting," said the wife, "but I keep on preparing fine meals for John." Now, then you see an auto wreck with nobody hurt. But, just the same, it is a very bad habit.

A village is a place where everybody knows everybody so well that it isn't worth while to snub anybody. Well, members of the legislature may need more money. They do say that bootleg prices in Toronto are outrageous.

Correct this sentence: "No, sir," said the deaf man; "I have no idea that I could make money raising chickens." Our contention is that a man should be at least 50 before he wears a cane and twice that before he wears spats.

"Where are the radicals of yesterday?" asks a magazine writer. They are standing pat, but they are called reactionaries now.

BIBLE THOUGHT THE RIGHTEOUS shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.—Psalm 37:29, 31.

READING ALOUD.

Reading aloud is one of the happiest of social occupations. It may be two lovers, reading turn about some exquisite and fanciful tale, and more intent on the flowing music of the reader's voice or the study of his changeable face than on the matter in hand. It may be a mother sitting in a bare hallway and raising her voice so that the tale will be heard through the open doors of both rooms where her brood lie cosy in their cots. Perhaps it is the father, home from the day's distractions, standing under the lamp and reading stories of glorious daring or melting sentiment, while mother mends and the restless youngsters wriggle about his feet and on the sofa but miss never a word. Or children who have been encouraged will read their favorite books to each other and to their insistent juniors who are still unable to read anything but the pictures. Wherever people meet together intimately, reading aloud can be cultivated.

Like most other good habits, reading aloud is one that needs a little determination to set it going. It never happens, largely because this difficulty of beginning has never been faced. Although, of course, individual tastes must govern here as in other matters of social conduct. There are families in which the good man and wife prefer to sit each under a different light and read a different book in their own way.

It is something of a compliment to a book if it can be read aloud. If it is a dull book, or has long areas of aridity, the exercise is merciless to its faults. For one thing, the reader has to understand better the sense of what he is reading aloud than when only his eyes are following the lines. Then, too, there is a considerable physical effort involved in reading aloud and the book must be worth the breath. A book which is straining to be humorous wits under this test as quickly as one that is dull. But the sharing of a good work illuminates it with pleasant associations and new meaning.

It can be observed that families which are given to reading aloud are closer-knit and generally happier than those in which this co-operative pleasure is unknown. It may be that common reading is an effect rather than the cause, and that in reading together the family is finding expression for an affinity which already existed. But the probabilities point the other way. Such sharing of cheerful and pleasant books is a strong tie which wards off some of the disintegrating forces that assail family life so persistently and dangerously.

WITHIN THE MIND.

For most of the day and possibly all through the night we think of nothing but ourselves. Whatever our occupation our minds circle about and about that little world in which each of us stands supreme and alone. Except when interrupted by some practical issue or more or less laboriously directed and controlled, all thought floats about the beloved ego. Even in prayer, or argument or reasoning the mind is constantly homing to its own personal concerns. Aristotle is said to have had bony legs and small eyes, and doubtless his most abstruse calculations were invaded by thoughts of these mistortunes.

These spontaneous thoughts flit about so rapidly that we are ordinarily scarcely conscious of them. We would certainly be ashamed to describe them to others, for they are too personal, ignoble or trivial, yet other people's reveries are doubtless quite as silly as our own. Vanity plays a large part in this sort of thinking. We are constantly engaged in measuring our superiority over those about us, in justifying ourselves when things do not turn out as well as we had expected.

Two other sorts of thinking make numerous brief interruptions in the flow of reverie. We are frequently called on to make practical decisions. Shall we telephone or call? Shall it be steak or pork chops? And so on, all day. Or there is rationalizing which is aroused when our opinions are questioned. Most of these opinions have been acquired anyhow. The mental experts find that we unconsciously absorb from those about us practically all of our ideas on such matters as family relations, property, business, religion, our country and the state. These opinions, which are the product of suggestion and not of reasoning, have the quality of perfect obviousness, so that to question them seems absurd if not wrong. When we meet a man, the product of an entirely different environment, with his mass of inherited opinions, we cannot comprehend why he should be so blind as to hold and even defend them in the white light of the higher knowledge which we possess. The blind and the blind! When he suggests that it is we who are wrong we at once find numerous good reasons in support of our preconceptions, without observing that we have reversed the process of logic by first adopting certain views and then finding reasons for them.

It is in our very nature to defend our own from attack, whether it be our person, our family, our property

or our opinion. And the opinions for which we fight so blindly are important to us chiefly because they are the outer fortifications of our self-esteem. Every time something from outside forces us to reverse our opinion, self-esteem is wounded. And it is to avoid that hurt that we maintain our opinions in the teeth of all attacks.

There is yet another kind of mental activity known as creative thought, but few are troubled with it. It seems established that most thought is idle or obstinate. But will an appreciation of our own boundless fallibility make us the least bit more charitable towards other dullards?

A LOST NAME.

The disappearance of the name of Gould from the railway realm has been co-incidental with the sale of the St. Louis & Southwestern to the Rock Island. That was the last of the Gould family holdings. This event will recall the tremendous operations carried on for many years by the late Jay Gould, whose exploits would be quite impossible under modern conditions as to railway regulation. In those wild days, pools, mergers and stock control were the instruments by which the buyers of transportation were made to contribute to the private fortunes of individuals. It was a form of legalized banditry, and called for some of the daring of the highwayman; for the assumption that there has always been honor among thieves does not rest on a historical foundation. The railway exploiter did not need to fear the law so much as he did the "honor" of his associates.

The late Jay Gould left behind him other legacies than those which passed to his family. He shared with Commodore Vanderbilt the opprobrium of having operated on "the-public-be-damned" policy. The distrust and hatred which were thus engendered against all railways have not wholly disappeared in our day. The Goulds and Vanderbilts of the seventies have gone, and an entirely new situation obtains; yet the railways are still suspected by the un-informed of making their own rates and being predatory. Something of that nature was heard within the past few weeks on the floor of Parliament at Ottawa.

THE RIVAL AUTOMOBILE.

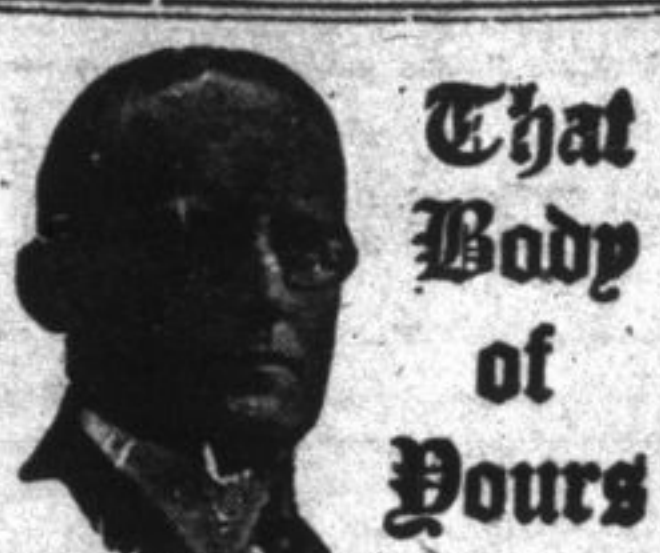
It has now been demonstrated beyond all room for cavil that the automobile has cut in heavily on the passenger business of the railways. Every year since 1920 there has been a shrinkage, on both sides of the boundary, in the number of persons using rail service. In 1924 the railways of Canada carried 10,000,000 fewer passengers than they did four years ago. Earnings were, of course, proportionately affected.

This is rather a serious matter for the railways: yet it was inevitable from the day the automobile approached its present state of efficiency and dependability. Not only do many thousands of people take short journeys by motor cars, but they do not hesitate to cross the continent by that means of locomotion. The railways have made specific tests on a comparative basis, and are now thoroughly satisfied as to the extent and persistence of this new form of competition.

Except under favorable conditions, and in territory where the density of traffic is high, there has always been some degree of doubt as to whether or not passenger service could be made to yield a profit. Be that as it may, the railways are compelled to maintain that service under the requirements of their charters, particularly for the carrying of the mails. Were it not for earnings from mail and express service, helped in small measure by receipts from excess baggage, the loss on account of passengers alone would be intolerable.

Yet the very agency which has struck the railways this cruel blow, has in part provided a remedy. The development of the internal combustion engine for auto purposes has shown the rail men how to cut down the cost of branch line and suburban services. Gasoline propelled motor cars have been adopted by a large number of railways on this continent, and the experiment has thus far yielded highly satisfactory results. It may in time solve the whole problem of branch line losses; for contrary to popular belief, relatively high local rates are seldom profitable to the railways.

In Canada last year fewer people used the railway trains than in 1925, with the result that the average number of passengers to the coach was materially reduced. These coaches are not only costly to build, but their maintenance is high. They take up much room at terminals, and in other ways present an intensifying problem to railway executives. Looking ahead, in the light of what has happened during the past decade as to the growing popularity of automobiles and their fast-growing numbers, one hesitates to visualize or predict what may be the situation at the end of another ten years. Of one thing we may rest assured: Whatever developments may take place they will be adverse to railway interests.



By James W. Burton, M.D.

Pain in the Ear.

An ear specialist has outlined two or three suggestions regarding pain in the ear, that should be helpful to all of us. The first thing to remember is, that pain in the ear is always worth a trip to your physician. If the ear itself is painful to the touch, the mere handling of the ear causing pain; it is usually due to trouble in the outer canal of the ear and is not usually serious. The opening and closing of the mouth causing pain is likewise due to trouble in the outer ear. If pressing the finger on the hard lump behind the ear causes pain, it is usually a serious sign, meaning that the inner ear is affected, and the ear specialist should be at once consulted.

If pressing the lump behind the ear toward the ear itself causes pain then the trouble is likely in the middle ear. This inflammation in the middle ear is seen very often, and if the drum is not punctured by the physician, it is often burst open by the pressure of the inflammatory process within. This allows drainage, and usually prevents the formation of mastoid trouble. Another cause of pain has been found since the advent of the X-ray. In former years cases of severe earache have taxed the patience and skill of our best specialists. There was no temperature nor pulse, no pain over antrum, but severe pain in the ear itself and in eating or speaking.

With the coming of the X-ray it was found that the last molar tooth, the wisdom tooth, owing to the fact that man's mouth is becoming smaller, did not have sufficient room to develop properly, and pointed upward and inward toward the ear. With the removal of this tooth or the one next to it, the pain in the ear disappeared.

Many times the specialist has been called so late, that the severe mastoid operation, that is, chiselling away the bone at the back of the ear has been necessary. Don't take a chance on a pain in the ear. It may be serious and early attention may prevent a severe illness, or even loss of life itself.



March 19. Three colleges in a settlement of 15,000 people indicate the mental salubrity of the builders of Manitoba, for on this day in 1871 the third, Manitoba College, was established. Dr. Bryce, Dr. Black and an assistant were the staff, reinforced a year later by Dr. Hart from Scotland. Of the population only 1,585 were white, 4,063 English and Scottish half-breeds, 5,756 French half-breeds and the remainder Indians. There were already thirty-three common schools in operation, the Bible helped used as a reader and the teachers' salaries averaging \$66 a year. The nearest university was 1,200 miles away, so by 1877 the University of Manitoba was incorporated, founded upon a confederation of St. Boniface, St. John's and Manitoba colleges, representing the Roman Catholic, Anglican and Presbyterian churches. In 1886 women were admitted. Today the University, with its many affiliations, exerts a great and beneficial influence upon the famous wheat-growing province.

TO CLOSE CABARETS.



Emory R. Buckner, the newly-appointed United States attorney in New York, who has started the "Great White Way" by applying for 14 padlock injunctions against Broadway's gayest cabarets.

PENITENTIARY OFFICERS Should Be Appointed by Department, Says Lapointe. Ottawa, March 19.—Officers of Canada's penitentiaries should be appointed by the department of justice without review by the Civil Service Commission, Hon. Ernest Lapointe said in the House of Commons yesterday afternoon in the course of a debate. If there was a rebellion in a penitentiary the minister was responsible. It was not reasonable to select wardens and guards by competitive examination. Much more depended on the character of a prison guard than on his knowledge of history and geography, said Mr. Lapointe. At this moment there was a position vacant in his department, which he would not fill because the man whom the commission wished to appoint did not possess the proper qualifications, is the view of the department officials.

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ACID STOMACH IS DANGEROUS. Sufferers From Indigestion or Stomach Trouble CUT THIS OUT. Stomach trouble, dyspepsia, indigestion, sourness, gas, heartburn, food fermentation, etc., are caused nine times in ten by chronic acid stomach. A well-known authority. Burning hydrochloric acid develops the stomach at an alarming rate. The acid irritates and inflames the delicate stomach lining and often leads to gastritis accompanied by dangerous stomach ulcers. Don't dose an acid stomach with pepper or artificial stimulants that only give temporary relief from pain by driving the sour, fermenting food out of the stomach into the intestines. Instead, neutralise or sweeten your acid stomach after meals with a little hot water and Bicarbonate of Soda and not only will the pain vanish but your meals will digest naturally. There is nothing better than Bicarbonate of Soda to sweeten and settle an acid stomach. It soaks up the harmful excess acid much as a sponge or blotting paper might and your stomach acts and feels fine in just a few minutes. Bicarbonate of Soda can be obtained from any reliable druggist in either powder or tablet form. It is safe, reliable, easy and pleasant to use, is not a laxative and is not at all expensive.

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