

SPIDERS TRAINED TO CHEAT

Taught to Weave Webs Among Bottles and Sold to Corrupt Wine Dealers.

"This is my spiders' school," said the young woman and with a little smile she brushed a few webs from the wall.

"Spiders' webs are in demand among persons and among the makers of certain astronomical instruments, the microscope using them to stop hemorrhages with, and the instrument maker uses them to obtain very delicate instruments."

"Six spiders in a week will add two years to the aspect of a dozen bottles of wine. Hence you will readily see how valuable the ugly little creatures are to wine merchants of a certain type."

CAVE A HOLY BAR ORDER.

Hotel Guest Compelled to Sleep in Chapel Had Drinks Charged to Pew 24.

A Philadelphian who recently returned from a trip to Florida in narrating some of his experiences, says that it is almost impossible to conceive how great was the rush of visitors at the height of the season.

"One day a man came to one of the big hotels and was told that there was no room for him in the house, but that a place to sleep could be made up in the memorial chapel on the hotel grounds if he desired."

He should not. He should not. He would hold her back out of the very arms of death. Half frenzied with his grief, he seized her. He held her. He drew her to him. She yielded. Death was being vanquished by the power of a great love.

AN AUTOMOBILE PRIMER.

Fiercely Factions Flings at the Weaving Wagon with a Whisk.

What is an Automobile? It is an Infernal Machine used by the Classes for dealing Death to the masses, says Carolyn Wells, in Collier's Weekly.

When is its Name Derived? From Auto and Mob. Hence, an automobilist ought to be mobbed.

What is the Difference between an Automobile and a Bunch of Volleys? The Smell.

What is an Auto-Race? A Race of Men who Drive Automobiles.

What do they Look Like? Like a Wild Man of Borneo disguised as an Esquimaux.

What are they called? Chauffeurs.

Why? Because they show Furs in all sorts of Weather or Climate.

What is the Difference between an Automobile and Beau Brummel? Beau Brummel was a Lady-Killer, but an Automobile will kill Anybody.

What follows the Automobile? The Autopsy.

White Cross on Russian Standards. There is a pretty story of the reason why the white cross on a blue field is the Russian naval standard.

The Massacre of the Grubs. The frost probably has had the effect of destroying many injurious insects and grubs. To them a sudden frost is fatal.

No Cup Lifters. There are no indications that among the younger naval architects in Great Britain there is any coming man who can successfully compete with our own designers in the construction of an extreme, high-powered racing craft.

Kaiser Well Guarded. The Kaiser is not quite easy about his personal safety. When he visited the German Automobile club in Berlin February 4, 600 uniformed policemen and many others in plain clothes guarded the building.

Costly National Insurance. Admiral Coghlan says the life of a battleship in peace is 20 years. Every time we renew our navy, then, we are simply taking out a 20-year insurance policy against encroachment.

Finances in Bogota. Five dollars for a postage stamp to carry a letter from Bogota, United States of Colombia, to the United States of America! That is what it costs—in paper money—and all the necessities of life cost accordingly.

Currency of China. Foreigners in China buy nearly everything on credit, giving signed "chits" for every purchase, the reason being their unwillingness to load themselves down with silver or native coin, while paper money fluctuates too much.

DREAMS OF THE BLIND.

Conjectures of a Physician Who Has Been Giving the Subject Some Study.

A new line of investigation in the phenomena of dreams has been occupying the leisure moments of Dr. Carleton Simon for the last few months. He is endeavoring, reports the New York Herald, to discover on what cause people who have been blind all their lives base their dreams.

It is a well-known scientific fact that the dreams of the normal person are invariably founded on some event or condition that they have experienced, a condition that involves sight; that they are retrospective and not prospective, despite the highly colored tales of our grandfathers concerning prophetic dreams.

"What are the prevalent dreams of persons born blind?" queried Dr. Simon in discussing the matter with some of his professional friends. "The subject, so far as I know, has not excited inquiry but it seems of a nature to deserve it, as it might lead to some very curious results. Are forms or figures presented to them, either animate or inanimate, and if so, do they bear any resemblance to their original? Everything thus fitting before the mind's eye must be a creation, not a recollection, to him who can only have gathered vague notions of form from the touch and who can have no idea of color."

"Anyway, it's worth looking into. It seems to me."

THEN SHE CAME TO LIFE.

Death Vanquished by the Power of a Great Love and a Realistic Dream.

It was night now. Ah, well, night was as good as the day. What did it matter?

Nothing mattered now, neither time nor tide nor circumstance, for was she not dead, the woman of his heart?

Of course, relates Lippincott's, they had their little differences—what married couple has not?—and the tears filled his eyes at memory of some of their spats. He had so often been in the wrong. She—she was an angel, and they had loved each other.

Now she lay dead before him. How had this thing happened? How had this great grief come to him? Why had the Master given her to him but to take her away?

He should not. He should not. He would hold her back out of the very arms of death. Half frenzied with his grief, he seized her. He held her. He drew her to him. She yielded. Death was being vanquished by the power of a great love.

THE SONS OF ALEXANDER.

Since the Death of Sergius But Two Brothers of the Czar Remain Alive.

Of the six sons of Czar Alexander II but three now remain. Nicholas, the oldest, died in 1885. Emperor Alexander III, died in 1894. Sergius was the third to pass away. Vladimir, born in 1847, ranks next after the czar's brother, Michael as heir to the throne.

Next to Gen. Troppoff, commander-in-chief of St. Petersburg, he is the most likely target for the next bomb of the assassins. Alexis, born in 1850, is commander-in-chief of the Russian navy. He is a noted gambler, an easy-going disposition, and is not unpopular with the masses. Paul, born in 1860, is the youngest. His first wife was Princess Alexandra of Greece, and their son, Dmitri, now 14 years old, is the youngest of Russia's grand dukes.

After Princess Alexandra's death, several years ago, Paul contracted a plebeian marriage, as the result of which the czar banished him from Russia. Since the assassination of Sergius, Paul has been restored to his estates and to royal favor.

South Africa for Women. If a woman desires to be her husband's comrade and friend, his true partner, sharing his real life as well as his joys, and having his troubles, nowhere has she a better chance than in South Africa.

The Massacre of the Grubs. The frost probably has had the effect of destroying many injurious insects and grubs. To them a sudden frost is fatal. If the cold weather comes on gradually, down they go into their inner fortifications; but if a treacherous January sun lures them forth, then the first sudden and sharp frost smites them with a great slaughter.—Country Life.

No Cup Lifters. There are no indications that among the younger naval architects in Great Britain there is any coming man who can successfully compete with our own designers in the construction of an extreme, high-powered racing craft.—Scientific American.

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HIS "HEARTY" BREAKFAST.

Bluff at Putting On a Good Front That Was Not Carried Through.

"A bit of conversation I overheard in the cafe of a Boston hotel the morning after one of the big football games this fall interested me," remarked a well-known lawyer of this city, relates the Providence Journal.

"It wasn't so much what was said, but it illustrated the attempt that is sometimes made to put on the best front possible in the face of adversity and the final triumph of truth, followed by the total collapse of the bluff. A college man of middle age, who had evidently retired early in and in good order was doing ample justice to a steak and a Spanish omelet, not to mention potatoes and a cup of coffee. There stood in aimlessly a Harvard chum of the old days."

"No!" replied the graduate who had fallen from grace, snatching nervously for his cigarette box. I have just finished a hearty meal over at the Parker house."

"What did you have, Bill?" persisted the tormentor. "Bill gazed steadily into the eyes of his friend for a minute, saw that he had been sized up, and said: 'Well, to keep nothing back, I had four cocktails and two ke-oh-Malaga grapes, with the seeds taken out of them, and I feel as if I never wanted to eat again.'"

CATTLE SUFFER FROM COLD.

During Storms in Texas, Steers Huddle Together for Days Without Water.

"Of course it don't get this cold in Texas," said George Laveran, a ranchman of Amarillo, Tex., reports the Louisville Herald. "But the cattle suffer more from our severe storms there than they do in this country."

"They have absolutely no shelter, and must spend the night on the plains. When the cold winds and the sleet come, the great herds bunch close together. The heat of the steers' bodies is the only warmth. The steers on the outside push their heads in between the other cattle, and there they spend the night, shivering."

"Should a sleet come and cover their backs, it serves as a blanket to keep them warm. But when the bunch is broken they feel the cold, and succumb to it."

"It is interesting," continued Mr. Laveran, "to see the cattle huddle and shelter part of a range when our 'norwesters' come. They can't find trees or rocks to protect them from the wind, but they collect in the lowlands. I have seen cattle stand for days huddled together, with nothing to eat and no water to drink, rather than break from the ranks."

"We seldom get zero weather on our plains, but there is a peculiar sting and bite to the wind that sweeps across them. The cattle can't stand much of this cold."

EAGLE MATES BUT ONCE.

Once a Widower, Always a Widower, Is the Proud Bird of Freedom.

"The married life of most birds could be taken for a model even by members of the human family. There is for instance, the staid, dignified and homely baldheaded eagle—the glorious emblem of the American republic. He mates but once, and lives with his mate until he or she dies. If left a widower—even a young widower—the baldheaded eagle never mates again. He remains alone and disconsolate in the nest on the rocky crag or in the branches of a tall pine that formed his domicile while his mate was alive. No other female eagle can tempt him to forsake his disconsolate life. With him, once a widower, always a widower."

The golden woodpecker lives in a happy married state, mating but once. If the male dies his mate's grief is lasting, and she lives a widowed bird the rest of her life. So, too, the male woodpecker never seeks another mate after the death of his own. He taps on a tree beside his nest day and night trying to recall her; then at length, discouraged and hopeless, he becomes silent and never recovers his gaiety."

Mr. Butt-In in Business. The "butt-in" idea has been converted to practical use. Various lines of wholesale trade now utilize it. Upon application retail dealers are supplied with free advertising cards, on the back of which the following is printed:

"American Federation of Butters, Membership Ticket; not transferable. This certifies that — is entitled to 'butt in' at all conversations, whether public or private. Bill Goat, president, Naa Goat, secretary, Season 1905. See other side for password."

On the front appears the manufacturer's announcement. The local shopkeeper's name and address are also published. Children buying at these stores are presented with copies as premiums. The scheme is to introduce the promoter's business in the purchaser's household.—N. Y. Press.

Surprised. "Did that medium show you anything that surprised you?" "Yes," answered the inquisitive man. "After certain demonstrations with a guitar and tambourine I was astonished to find that my friends in the spirit world had become such bad musicians."—Washington Star.

Hectic Hiram in the Polar Front. Hectic Hiram—What do you carry that chunk of ice around with you for?" "Ice-ice—Oh, that is a memento. It is the tears my last sweetheart shed when I left her."—Chicago News.

FEMINE ST. PATRICK.

Cattle Queen of Lower Texas Has Been Rewarding Poons for Killing Snakes.

Through the efforts of a modern St. Patrick of feminine gender the lower Texas counties which have been overrun with rattlesnakes are in a fair way to be rid of these pests.

Mrs. King, owner of the King ranch of 1,000,000 or more acres, and widely known as the "Texas cattle queen," decided some months ago that the rattlesnakes on her place should be snatched.

She posted an offer for all the rattles of the deadly serpents that should be brought to her. The first offer was five cents per rattle. Poons and others of the section went into the snake business on an extensive scale. Within two weeks Mrs. King had received and paid for more than 10,000 rattles. The bounty was then reduced to three cents a rattle. After a few more weeks a total of 95,000 had been reached, and the bin in which the rattles were kept was enlarged so as to include the whole interior of an outbuilding.

The price took another tumble, sinking to two cents a rattle, but still it proved a great business. Rattles were brought in by the bushel, and were always carefully counted and paid for at the stipulated market rate.

The number to date is reported at 225,000. Miles of the lower coast country have been hunted over, and rattlesnake skins have been preserved by the bale.

JAPANESE SPARE THE ROD.

Bring Up Their Children Successfully Without Resorting to Corporal Punishment.

The high regard in which the Japanese hold children is well known. The father or mother who would strike a child would be considered an utter barbarian, says Cassell's.

In illustration of this fact it is related that the wife of an American missionary in a Japanese town was seen to "spank" one of her children for some fault.

That was sufficient for the Japanese domestics in the establishment. They left the place abruptly, and the missionary's wife was servanted. Indeed, when the act of cruelty, as the Japanese considered it, became noised abroad, the family found themselves boycotted. The missionary's occupation also was gone, for his influence over his native flock had departed.

Although this was a heavy punishment for what was at the most a very venial offence, it is fair to the Japanese to say that their method of bringing up their sons and daughters without any form of punishment is eminently successful. Japanese children are shining examples of obedience and filial devotion.

UNCONQUERED RED MEN.

Indians of Mexico Who Have Successfully Resisted All Attempts to Overcome Them.

Modern civilization is often supposed to have subdued, or at least influenced, all the more important nations and races of the world.

But, as a well-informed traveler showed, there are still some countries the inhabitants of which have been able to hold the white man at bay.

For more than 20 years the Mexican government has waged a bitter war against some of the Indian tribes of Mexico. Away in their mountainous retreats, however, the Indians hold their own, and occasionally carry the war into the enemy's country by destroying crops and poisoning the streams. In other South American republics dwell similar tribes which successfully resist all endeavors to civilize them, and are so warlike that they have destroyed or driven back the most powerful expeditions sent against them.

Luxuries of Education. It is the experience of all who have any acquaintance with the teaching of shorthand that a large number of the young people who come under their care are poorly educated. They bring from some state or private school glowing reports on the "ologies" and the other luxuries of education to be found in those seminaries of learning, but the fact really is that they can neither spell nor explain the most ordinary English. Their knowledge of grammar, or the ability to write a composition, is in very many cases an unknown quantity. This is not the fault of the individual; it is more the fault of our ambitious system of public education.—London Oliver Magazine.

Knock at Motorists. Whoever has the interests of automobilism at heart must protest against the growing spirit displayed by motorists of regarding themselves as sportsmen, and not only regarding themselves as such, but even considering motorizing as the culminating point in the world of sport, and looking on athletes and other sports with disdainful contempt. Motorists are no more sportsmen than engineers or cabmen.—The Autocar.

Horse Not Obsolete. It is certain that, including not only the railway companies' own studs, but the auxiliary teams employed by the cartage agents, the number of horses employed in the transport of goods throughout the United Kingdom at the present day is far in excess of the total at work before railways came in to ruin the English breed of horses—as croakers averred.—Windsor Magazine.

Evidence. Mamma—No, dear, the Atlantic ocean never freezes over.

Elate—Oh! but it must. I heard papa telling Mr. Gayly that when he was camping across from Europe the last time he had his skates on all the time.—Philadelphia Press.

PLAYED IN MOTOR CARS.

In Field Sports Such as Polo and Obstacle Races Light Autos Are Used.

It is only natural that if the motor car is to supersede the horse its merits should be tried in those sports in which the horse has hitherto been employed, says Cassell's Journal.

Needless to say, no one is ever likely to go hunting in an automobile, but in the case of polo light and easily managed auto cars have been found to provide plenty of sport, the players dashing about the field, pursuing the ball with their long-handled mallets with almost as much facility as though they were riding regular polo ponies.

A very appropriate competition which has made its appearance at several motor car sports is an obstacle race, in which the obstacles take the form of figures of men and women. The object is, of course, to avoid knocking them down, and as some of the figures are on wheels a very slight blow suffices to move them out of their positions, so that it is not sufficient merely to avoid overturning them.

An amusing competition in the class of water race, in which the contestants have to drive rapidly over the course, each holding a glass of water in one hand, and trying not to spill it.

IMPORTANCE OF APPLE CROP.

Consumption of the United States Is Eighty Pounds Per Capita Per Year.

Apple culture is more important even than orange culture. In the United States there are 200,000,000 apple trees in bearing, from which 250,000,000 bushels of fruit are annually harvested. In ten years these trees will give a yield of 400,000,000 bushels. At the present time the apple consumption of the United States is 80 pounds per head of the population per year.

By bushel measure the American apple crop is four times greater than the entire wheat yield of Great Britain and Ireland. Billions of apple trees are grown in the orchards of the world, and millions of them are still being planted each year. The apple imports of Great Britain alone range between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 hundredweight.

In addition I estimate the census of our apple trees at 20,000,000. There are now 2,000 of these coreless apple trees available for propagation to supply the orchards of the world. It is estimated that by 1906 2,500,000 of these trees will be put upon the market. For domestic use a coreless apple will command itself to every household in the country. For evaporating purposes it would prove invaluable.

WORE HIS BUST IN GOLD.

Young Woman Had Her "Harold" Done in Miniature About Her Neck.

A pretty blond young woman caused considerable excitement at a dinner party given recently by showing off her engagement present from her fiance, relates the Chicago Tribune. "We did not like the old-fashioned idea of giving rings," she calmly announced to the horror of a couple of sentimental girls present, "so each of us had a gold bust of our head and shoulders made, which we presented to each other. Harold wears his on a watch chain, and I am wearing mine as a necklace. Would you like to look at it?" and the prospective bride passed around the chiseled features of "Harold" done in gold.

There was something of a thrill of disapproval at the sight of the bust, and some criticism at this bold display of the features of the lover.

"I've heard about wearing your heart on your sleeve," said one of the lady in a lace cap, "but it's the first time I've ever seen anyone bold enough to wear her sweetheart's head around her neck."

Floating Targets of the Sea. Even the French and British warships that patrol the Newfoundland coast during the fishery season do not escape this danger, crowded with men and carefully navigated though they are. The ice masses serve a novel purpose for the fleets all the summer through, being used as targets for big gun practice. When a specially formidable one drifts along past St. John's, a cruiser slips her moorings and runs to sea after it, pelting it with projectiles until she fires away her allowance. It is one of the sights of St. John's, the endless procession of icebergs of every size and shape that drifts by day after day, charming the eye and cooling the summer atmosphere. Sometimes they ground in the harbor mouth and prevent ships entering or leaving.—McClure's Magazine.

Congressional Compromise. "I have a suggestion," began the first member of the congressional committee on the admission of new states. "I say, I have a suggestion for simplifying two or three problems at one fell stroke of legislation."

"What is it?" echoed the other members.

"To move the Mormons to Arizona and New Mexico and call the combined newly-to-be-admitted sister 'State of Matrimony.'"—Baltimore American.

He Wrote Frequently. Mrs. Gaddabout—Here are the letters my husband wrote me before we were married. There are about 20 of them.

Mrs. Neverholm—He wasn't much of a correspondent then?

"Oh, yes, he was. You see, I only knew him three days."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

More Satisfactory. She—Why did that brilliant woman marry such a stupid man?

He—Because her first husband was a genius.—Detroit Free Press.

EFFECT OF SMELLING SALTS.

Frequent Use Brings Out and Produces Wrinkles in the User's Face.

Smelling salts will cause wrinkles. If one uses smelling salts habitually it will make his face prematurely old and wrinkled. This discovery was made, so the story goes, according to Health, by two ladies sitting by a fire, both about the same age, but one looking a great deal older than the other.

The older looking one was constantly taking out her bottle of smelling salts and inhaling it. The other woman noticed that when her friend used the smelling salts all the ugly, unbecoming lines of her face deepened, and that the whole expression of her face was determined by the lines made in using the smelling salts. The present odor of the salts caused her to screw up her face, and these lines had little by little settled themselves into a permanent expression, becoming more and more deep-seated and irremediable every time the smelling salts was resorted to.

Smelling salts of anything else that serves the face day after day into lines and furrows will finally cause these lines to become permanent wrinkles. A habit of frowning will in a very short time produce perpendicular lines between the eyes. Lifting the eyebrows in talking will rattle the forehead, leaving after awhile horizontal wrinkles across the brow. This is of no account, too, by squinting the eyes and wrinkling the forehead when reading a bright light or walking in a glaring sunlight. We see people every day on the streets with their foreheads puckered and contorted into a mass of wrinkles that some day will become permanently fixed in the face.

Allowing the mouth habitually to droop will soon form very unbecoming lines about it, and will give to the face a very unbecoming look.

A person can do a great deal to prevent the coming of wrinkles by a simply guarding against squinting or puckering the face into unbecoming lines. There is no use to massage the face in the hope of getting rid of wrinkles if you continue to frown or to squint every few minutes. Cold cream and massage will not be able to eradicate these lines unless the habit that causes them is stopped.

The old-time principle of first removing the cause applies to wrinkles as well as to many other things. Remove the cause of the wrinkles and then massage and cold cream will undoubtedly eradicate the wrinkles.

A TRIO OF SLEEVES.

Something Reasonable for Women Who Keep Pace with the Times in Dress.

The modistes said at the beginning of the season that there would be nothing new this winter. Womankind, having tried every new fancy had at last given up the endeavor to have something out of the ordinary and had with a down to the routine of wearing the same clothes that were worn last summer, says the Brooklyn Eagle.

Their events have proved that they were wrong. Fashion is constantly new and fresh. "I announced an observant woman, 'and not less than six new kinds of coats. Of collars there are half a hundred styles, and of skirts and their trimmings some can guess the number of new ones."

"I especially liked the puff sleeves, the shoulder that is immense at the wrist. This sleeve is precisely like the sleeve of ten years ago, except that there is less ruffling in it. It is padded out to make the shoulders square, and it is slightly stiffened. But it is not the smartly crinolined sleeve which was the fashion of then."

"However," continued she "we shall have the puff sleeves next all stiffly crinolined as of yore."

The second new sleeve is one that is all in little pieces. There is a puff at the shoulder, another puff midway, a puff at the elbow and a puff at the wrist. Four big fat puffs make up this sleeve, which is shirred between the puffs.

"And a third new sleeve is still different. It has no cuff, and it is like an elbow sleeve. It is very wide and very full at the elbow, falling open like a great angel sleeve. Inside of this there is a tight sleeve that exactly matches, so that the waist has really two sleeves of its own, a tight sleeve and an angel sleeve. And very pretty they are worn together in a handsome gown on a chilly day when the air suggests a wrap, and two sleeves seem appropriate."

"I don't think," said this woman, who is one of the handsomest dressers of the season, "that I ever saw as many novelties—nor did anyone else."

Spice Pudding. One-half cupful of granulated sugar, half a cupful of butter, one cupful of molasses, two teaspoonfuls of cinnamon and one of cloves, one cupful of boiling water in which has been dissolved a teaspoonful of baking powder. Heat well together, then add two cupfuls of flour, and lastly four well-beaten eggs. Steam and when done serve with egg sauce.—Boston Transcript.

Mildew Stains. Mildew may sometimes be removed from white fabrics by covering the spots with lemon juice and laying in the sun. Lemon juice will not serve fine colored fabrics, however, and it is said that lard makes a satisfactory substitute. Rub the spots well with lard, and lay in the sunshine day after day for a week. Wash in the usual manner.—N. Y. Post.

It Was Miraculous. "Where're you been?" "On a deer hunt."

"How'd you come out?" "Fine! Wasn't mistaken for a deer once."—Fort Worth Record.