

Tales of Insurance Men.

"Shop talk," which it is the fashion to deprecate, is responsible for some of the best anecdotes which get into print. Here are two which were interchanged by a brace of insurance men not above swapping stories of their calling.

"Into the office of a fire insurance agent came an ancient spinster who owned a little house just on the outskirts of the town.

"I want to insure my house," said she.

"Where is the house, madam? and how large a policy do you want to take out?"

"Well, now, I want to know some things first. If I insure it for \$200 and pay my premium, and it burns down, do you say me \$200?"

"Why, most assuredly."

"Well, do you make a lot of trouble trying to find out if it was set afire?"

"Naturally the agent admitted that it looked like a case of arson the company would investigate.

"There!" said the property owner, indignantly. "I told you there was some sort of catch about this insurance business," and thereupon departed untroubled.

"It was in New York City that the heroine of the story found that fire insurance was not all she looked for. The policy on her house—a big one, for it was a fine edifice in the best part of the city—was brought to her by her agent.

"You had better give me a check for the premium now," said he.

"Why, how much is it?"

"A little over \$100. Wait a moment—I will get the exact amount."

"Oh, how tiresome," cried the property owner. "I'm in such a hurry, and besides my bank account is a little low. Tell the company to let it stand and deduct it from what I owe me when the house burns down."

On this (Neb.) street railway men have recently organized a union.

How to Attain Success.

By W. Bourke Cockran.

HAVE been some time in the world, and the result of my experience is that there is one way by which success may be obtained with absolute certainty, and that is to develop capacity. In all my life I have never known an instance of unobtainable success. There are too many seekers to any one thing to remain blind. If you possess ability and were placed in a diving bell and lowered to the bottom of the sea, expeditions would be fitted out to discover you and bring you back.

No matter what calling you embrace, if you have ability you will be in demand. If a lawyer, think how many persons there are in trouble who would be seeking your advice; if a physician, how many there are who are ill who would want your services; if an architect, how many who desire better houses built. I have heard it said that a young man needs a pull to get along. Pay no attention to that. If you have ability you will win.

Ideas on Ideal Woman.

By Professor Benjamin Andrews, Chancellor of the University of Nebraska.

ALTHOUGH the ideal of man is agreed on and varied from time to time, in the case of woman there are various ideals, each with numerous intelligent adherents. These ideals are so different that not all of them can be correct. I will mention three principal ones, from which there are, of course, many variations.

First, there is the masculine ideal of woman—the notion that she is to be as strong and as much like man as possible. Then there is the reverse idea. She is to be merely a pet, a plaything—simply an adjunct, as it were. And thirdly, there is what I will call the substantive ideal—she is to be like a man. The different ideals of woman vary indefinitely in peculiarity, all the way from the first to the third.

The woman's life is not any more than a man's incomplete or a failure by virtue of the fact of celibacy. But the ideal woman is a woman, not masculine. She is a substantive member or unit in society, not a mere adjunct, like Dickens' Dora; and the question is, how can these requirements be combined? For the ideal woman must be sweet and strong at once.

The Science of Forestry.

A Climatic Necessity.

THE profession of forestry, unknown not very many years ago, is rapidly assuming importance in the eyes of the world.

It cannot too quickly become important in the minds of Americans, for at the rate at which the lumbermen are depleting our woodlands it will not be long before we shall have not only no forests, but no climate worth mentioning.

It may make some difference with the practical care to explain that there is profit as well as principle in taking care of one's trees.

The little kingdom of Saxony, which is about as large as the State of Connecticut, is said to have the best regulated system of forestry in the world.

The timbered land is supervised by graduates of a regular course of training in this science, who have been taught chemistry, physics, mineralogy, zoology, mechanics, geology, mathematics, botany, surveying, forestry proper, and the provisions of the game and fish laws.

The forests are said to be worth \$80,000,000, and by preserving them an annual revenue of nearly three and a quarter millions is derived.

After the salaries of the foresters are paid and all other expenses met, the State gets two and a quarter millions out of this revenue. It is worth on such a scale as this that reckless and unscrupulous lumber companies have been destroying in our country.

And we Americans call ourselves the most practical people on earth, and consider the German mind dreamy and impractical.

It looks very much as if the people of this land had been living under the impression that the Government had literally money to burn.—New York News.

Education as a Reserve Power.

By Orison Sweet Marden.

ONE of our great iron manufacturers, a man who is successfully controlling the labor of thousands of men, recently said that the best thing for a young man to do is to go to work, and get into business as early as possible. He derided the idea of getting a college education and acquiring culture. This man will probably become one of the richest men in the country, and, twenty years hence, when he shall have grown thick and fat, he will be worth \$500,000, and he will not get any high enjoyment out of it. His intellectual tastes must remain crude and undeveloped.

There are too many such men in America, ranging from millionaires to men with small fortunes. They are not content with making money, without having received an adequate education for mental training and growth late in life. It is well-nigh impossible for most of such men to acquire habits of study after thirty. The intellect, at that age, has been formed to a certain extent, and it is difficult to get any new mental habits formed. One of the hardest tasks is for a mature but illiterate mind to learn to love reading. Illiteracy, fixed by habit, holds the mind as a vice clamps iron.

But the uneducated men most to be pitied are those who have reached middle life without success. Education is the one thing they need, and their chances of acquiring it have become even more uncertain than those of the men who have achieved partial or complete success in acquiring property and influence. They lack power and self-control, and their such minds can accept only by early training and discipline. "Failed for lack of an education" would be a fit epitaph for many an unfortunate.

Matrimony, Eminence and Longevity.

By Edgar Saltus.

PROFESSOR THORNDIKE, of Columbia University, discusses in the current issue of a popular periodical two proposals of those of general interest. First, that men of eminence marry young; second, that matrimony is good for them.

The prior proposition is uncontroversial. Shining examples are superabundant. Last week, or the week before, when the Sultan of Zanzibar was married, he was already seventy-seven. In Zanzibar he is certainly eminent. Then there is Mr. Reginald Vanderbilt. Mr. Vanderbilt is twenty-three. He is not married yet, but he is going to be. If we may believe everything we hear, and that is always such a pleasure, he also is an eminent young man.

Then, too, there is the German Kaiser. Concerning his eminence, it may be Majestats-verbreehen to express a doubt. This gentleman married at an age so tender that the next morning he was up before breakfast treading the guards to a drill.

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Talks About Bomanking.

Queen Alexandra Likes Animals.

The Queen is a devotee of love and animals, and takes an opportunity of putting down cruelty and securing consideration for them. It is owing to Her Majesty's suggestion that notices were posted in the streets of London, and she has sent to her native land for specimens of a light stand for supporting the horse's nosebag, so that it may be able to take its food with greater comfort than is possible from a bag strapped to the head.

While we complain that affluence both catches and holds the dust, it is yet a fact that for strappings especially and stiched equipments of whatever form, nothing touches the fancy of the aristocracy so much as things that figure to a great extent, and no sensible person can deny that for dustless plain it doesn't beat brass. Even a plain brass is looser and looser, and the more it is used, the more it is used, while those that indulge in the average number of curves, twists and quillances generally are veritable dust traps.

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HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

Tea Ice Cream.

Tea ice cream has not the popularity that its delicate flavor warrants. Make two cups of strong tea, and season with a couple of tablespoons of sugar. Let it cool. Then add it to two parts of boiled custard that has been flavored with vanilla. The addition of a quarter of a cup of rich cream will improve it, but it is not necessary. Freeze the same as other creams.

Ginger Cookies.

The following recipe makes a delicious soft ginger cake or cookie: Cream a cup of butter or half a cup of butter and half a cup of lard. When thoroughly creamed add a cup of sugar, gradually beating it in. Add two cups of good Porto Liqueur molasses. In a cup of hot water dissolve a level tablespoonful of baking soda. Add to the other ingredients. Measure out five cups of flour, sift thoroughly and add, beating well. Roll out thin and bake in a hot oven.

Egg Surprise.

We had the oldest fish imaginable served up as a girl's luncheon the other day. It was boiled eggs served in quaint china egg cups. As we had gotten down to coffee and bonbons when the eggs made their appearance, they created quite a sensation. The first thought was of feet in a novel form; but inspection showed that the shells were of the bona fide barnyard variety. However, the shell when broken with our spoons revealed tissue paper instead of albumen. The paper in every case inclosed a delightful little souvenir of the occasion. On pulling out our treasures, we found the shells were hollow shells. The gifts had been inserted through a large opening hidden by the egg cup.—Mary Dawson, in Good Housekeeping.

Sweet Pickles of Red Peppers.

The sweet pickle was no doubt of East Indian origin—an English imitation of the East Indian chutney, introduced by the British East India Company in the eighteenth century. The novelty of adding cayenne and coconut and such ingredients to the boiling water for about twenty minutes and then put them in a cold brine to soak over night and to draw out the crude juices of the vegetable. Finally cut them into thin slices and pickle in a sweet pickle precisely as peaches, pears and other fruits are pickled. This is just the pickle necessary with a dish of roasted meat.—New York Tribune.

Notes for Housewives.

Remove the oil which blackens silver almost instantly.

Put salt on the clinkers in your stove or range while they are hot, after taking down the fire, and it will remove them.

If an extra thing is desired in lace, place powdered saffron in water and allow the lace to lie on it, increasing the strength until the desired tint is obtained.

The ordinary, everyday omelet will put on a new air, as soon as it is "set." It is cut into quarters and each piece is rolled separately before being removed from the pan.

When traveling has been forgotten in a pudding or cake the fault may be remedied by rubbing the desired extract over the outside of the cake as soon as it is taken from the oven.

To clean gilt frames spruce them with spirits of wine or oil of turpentine, only wetting the sponge sufficient to take off dirt and fly marks. Do not wipe the frames, but let them dry in the air.

Mildew may be removed from white lawn by spreading with a paste of soft soap and powdered chalk and putting in the sun, or even by soaking in buttermilk and then sunning. As soon as the spots fade out rinse through several waters and dry.

To remove grease from cloth clothes use alcohol and salt. Dissolve one tablespoonful of salt in four of alcohol. Apply when needed with a piece of clean, white cloth or sponge. Keep this mixture tightly corked and do not use it near a fire or light, for it is very inflammable.

Always strain the juice from parboiled oysters before adding it to the soup. In parboiling the albumen coagulates and forms the thin black flakes that often are found floating in oyster soup. They do not in any way spoil the flavor, but the sight of them is unappetizing.

Steaming is the best process for cleaning veils. Wind the veil carefully, with even edges around a piece of iron handle, lay across a hob or sautepan of water and steam for about three-quarters of an hour. Leave on the broom handle until dry, and all the dirt and dust will be gone, giving it a new stiffness.

A Traveling Crane.

A traveling crane of this kind will be useful for erecting the battlement canals, to be built at the New York Navy Yard, says the Engineering News. It will consist of a double trolley 21 feet 2 1/2 inches long over all, with trolley track of 20 feet gauge. The trolley travel will be 198 feet, or 99 feet to each side of the centre. The crane girder will travel on a track of 20 feet gauge supported on a steel trestle about 62 feet high and 513 feet long over all. The trolley will thus have a clear working space of 89 feet wide and 513 feet long on each side of the trestle structure. The rise of the track is 84 feet 7 inches. The capacity of the crane is 20,000 pounds at 69 feet at each side of the centre, and 15,000 pounds at 59 feet either side of the centre. The power will be sufficient to give a hoisting speed of 125 feet per minute for a load of 20,000 pounds, or 250 feet or 300 feet respectively for loads of 10,000 or 10,000 pounds. The trolley travel will be 400 to 500 feet per minute, and the bridge travel 400 to 700 feet according to the load.

Some men get mighty little pay, and yet work for all they are worth.

CHANGE OF LIFE.

Some Sensible Advice to Women by Mrs. E. Sailer.

"DEAR Mrs. PINKHAM:—When I passed through what is known as change of life, I had two years' suffering—sudden heat, and as quick chills would pass over me as my appetite was variable and I never could sell for

Church—You know French, who keeps the restaurant? Gotham—Oh, yes.

"Well, he wants a new typewriter." "What's the matter with that good-looking one he had?" "Oh, the other day he told her to write and get the price of frogs' legs, and she addressed the letter to the Hop Growers' Association.

Merrill's Foot Powder.

An absolute cure for all foot troubles, guaranteed to stop all odor and excessive perspiration. Brings red, burning, smarting, itching, cracked and chapped feet to a perfectly normal condition. A superior toilet article for ladies. This powder does away with the use of dress shoes. Dressing, or most direct in hand, you sprinkle top of package for 25c. Drown's F. Merril, Maker, Woodstock, Va.

In the German empire, exclusive of Bavaria and Wurttemberg, there are 3300 long distance telephone stations.

Permanently cured. No more nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Peppermint Cure. Dr. R.H. Kline, Ltd., 231 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

Silk goods are said to take eyes more readily than any other fabric.

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