

RANDOM REELS

By HOWARD L. RAND.

Seasickness is a disagreeable malady which is caused by the stomach being in equilibrium and so having no motion. People do not always miss the equilibrium at first, but this is not true of the so forth.

Seasickness almost always results from contact with water which refuses to lie flat. There is nothing more terrifying than a large body of water which stands first on one leg and then on the other and causes the apprehensive tourist to wish that he had been carried off by the numpie in early youth. It would seem that science could discover some method of preventing the ocean from rising up and driving ineffective passengers away from a table d'hôte dinner which was paid for before leaving the dock, but it has not been able to do so. This teaches us that science is of about as much use to the average citizen as the interstate commerce commission.

Seasickness usually sets in as soon as the three-mile limit is passed, and dies a lingering death on reaching the Irish channel. There are several successful cures for this ailment, however, and after a man has tried them all he will be in sight of land and will feel considerably improved. Many a person has started an ocean voyage relying upon some cure for seasickness recommended by a friend who never got out of his corn belt only to be bitterly disappointed in its workings and have to be propped up with malted milk.

There are several forms of seasickness which can be contracted without getting off of dry land. Some men can hardly sit down in a low-bum hammock and swing to and fro with a loving wife without thinking of the days when they were free and untamed and becoming violently seasick. Another popular form of this malady is caused by attempting to drink a company of wide-mouthed companions to a complete standstill.

Seasickness has its drawbacks, and there are times when it doesn't seem to have anything else.

RIPPLING RHYMES

By WALT MASON.

I told you, Wilhelm, how 'twould be, when you unsheathed your snickernee, and said you'd rule the world: I said that any bonehead kind who tried to pull so coarse a thing, would from his throne be hurled.

And now your splendors all are gone, your crown and scepter are in pawn, no homage do you know; and while, distressed, you walk the floor, I whisper at your bedroom door, "Oh, Bill! I told you so!" Your German Gott, to whom you call, has turned your picture to the wall, the last great, crushing blow; and while your fingernails you chew, I whisper softly down the rue, "Oh, Bill! I told you so!" You wished to set Time marching back along a dark and dismal track to feudalism's age; you'd have the world no longer see the institutions of the free, in your blind, vandal rage. I told you 'twas too big a stunt for one anointed Prussian runt and tried to stay your hand; but you laughed all my words to scorn and blew a blast upon your horn, and straddled to beat the band. And now you go your path alone; you have no scepter and no throne, no courtiers bending low; and while you dream of seas of gore, I'm at the keyhole of your door, to say, "I told you so!" You'll hear me when the midnight rain is streaming down the window pane, and when the breezes blow; oh, when you sleep and when you eat, you'll hear me evermore repeat, the words, "I told you so!"

Just Folks

Edgar A. Guest.

He built great guns and armament; Trained men to kill and maim the weak. For forty years his life he spent To stand on power's topmost peak. He fashioned mighty ships of steel And kept their purpose grim unknown. He boasted that the world should kneel Some day before his mighty throne.

The child was taught to bear a gun. His practice was the law of hate. Love was forbidden to the Hun. Except the love which served the state. The voice that dared to speak of truth Was stifled, only that allowed Which led a nation's trusting youth To serve a kaiser, coldly proud.

Never in all those forty years Of training was there hint of right: His people's praise, his people's cheers Were all reserved for force and might. And then at last he launched his blow Which was to rend and shatter truth. For power he spent a nation's youth, For power he spent a nation's youth.

Never such armies men had faced. Never such guns had mortals known. They had great fortresses in waste, They were temples overthrown. Before his ranks the helpless fled. A devastation marked their trail. With blood their hands and feet grew red And they believed they couldn't fail.

For forty years he'd build his might. In less than five he came to know That none shall ever conquer right. However well he plans his blow. For they who loved the ways of peace And taught their children to be just, Have made his mighty cannons cease And blown his palace walls to dust.

Dodged unto failure is the man Who strives to rise by power alone; However well he makes his plan, In time he shall be overthrown. For rain are all the guns of hate And all the cunning plots and schemes. The man who would be truly great Must first let justice shape his dreams.

You have that knife—that's a tangible clue. You didn't find matches on the floor of the telephone closet—those matches you didn't find are intangible clues. But there is a better clue than either. When a tight-lipped like Togbury rubs it in that I'm to treat nearly murdered man at a cheap contract price that contemplated no such sort of case, I got my dander up. I'm the finest little clue in the world. And when that same old tight-lipped takes occasion to tell a detective he's no good, almost in the same breath that he tries to save a few pennies from me, I'm the clue that detective wants to follow, and now he's the clue that detective hates.

"To where at?" asked Mr. Gubb. "To the telephone central office," said Dr. Fleming. As they clattered down the street, Philo Gubb recapitulated in his mind the case as it stood. The Togbury jewel had been stolen; Jim Waldeck had struggled with the burglars; Jim Waldeck had been locked in a telephone booth; and the key had been turned on the outside of the door; Gubb had said, "There are several ways of class a detective may have."

was: Who stole the jewel and where was the jewel at that moment? Dr. Fleming, as the horse stopped before the telephone central office, interrupted Philo Gubb's thoughts.

"By the way," he said, "don't waste any time looking for the jewel. I know where it is."

"Did you see the foot?" asked Philo Gubb, vastly surprised.

"Felt it," said Dr. Fleming shortly. "It's safe. Come on up."

Of the sleepy girl at the switchboard, Dr. Fleming asked just three questions: "Did Togbury's residence call the police by name or by number?" "Did Togbury's residence call by name or by number?" "Did Togbury's residence call by name or by number?" The answer to all three was "By number."

"Thought so," said Dr. Fleming, and he led Philo Gubb to the street. "That means," said he, "that Jimmy Waldeck had the jewel himself."

"Did it where?" asked Philo Gubb in amazement. "You mean to indicate the information that he stole it and hid it?"

Dr. Fleming laughed. "Something like that," he said.

THE OBSCURITY CLUB HOLDS SMOKER

(Alexander Kerenisky, Provisional President.)

CHAIR—We have with us this evening the All Highest.

FERDINAND OF BULGARIA—Old stuff.

WILHELM THE FORMER—Who said that?

CHAIR—Your old side-kick, Ferd.

WILHELM—Who let that old pelt-can in here?

CHAIR—I have as much right in the Obscurity Club as anybody.

WILHELM—Except me. Nobody has as much right in the Obscurity Club as I. More cure should be taken in admitting new members.

FERD—You proposed me for membership yourself and gave me the work.

WILHELM—I must have been natty.

LUDWIG OF BAVARIA—That's a cinch.

MAX OF BADEN—T'll say he was.

CHAIR—Don't air your family troubles here in the club. Gentlemen—gentlemen. You will notice, I call you "gentlemen."

DUKE OF BRUNSWICK—I move we join in singing, "Hail, hail, the gang's all here."

CHAIR—But they are not all here yet.

SULTAN OF TURKEY—Can anybody be missing? It sounds improbable.

CHAIR—Yes, Lenin and Trotsky are on the way. They are liable to arrive at any moment.

WILHELM—When they do, let them stay in the servants' quarters. They make me sick. Those lads cost me a lot of money. They are swine.

A VOICE—Shut up. You talk too much.

WILHELM—Who said that?

CHAIR—Your friend, Charlie Hapsburg.

WILHELM—You mean Charlie Hapsburg. He's a quitter—a piker—a bum.

CHARLES OF AUSTRIA—I was a member here before you were.

WILHELM—But it was my influence that got you in. I made you what you are today. I hope you're satisfied.

HINDY—You sure fixed me up with a membership too.

WILHELM—If it wasn't for you and the Chinese Wonder, the peoples would still be driving nails in my statue.

WILHELM—He was a wooden statue with a wooden head. The statue was light.

SULTAN OF TURKEY—I rise to a point of order. There are others here to enjoy the evening besides Hohenzollerns.

WILHELM—But not so much here as we are. In Obscurity Club I am the All Highest. I impose my will upon the Obscurity Club.

SIR ROGER CASEMENT—I rise to a point of order.

WILHELM—Sit down. It was a fine top you gave me on that Irish race.

CONSTANTINE (arriving)—I am sorry I am late. I had a hard time getting away from my wife.

WILHELM—Who left the door open?

CONSTANTINE—Why, hello, brother-in-law. You here? Lend me a quarter for the taxi cab.

WILHELM—Poor relations is nix. Get out. I give you Greece and then you use it to Greece the skirts for me.

BERNSTORFF—Why should you do all the talking? You are not such a muchness.

WILHELM—I organized this club.

SULTAN OF TURKEY—Yes, and look at it. The only decent members in this organization are some nicks.

CHAIR—The first number on the programme will be a song by the famous Chancellors' Quartet—Hohweg, Don Michaelis, Von Hertling and Maximilian.

WILHELM—Get the book. I have heard those guys enough.

CROWN PRINCE—Papa, have them sing, "Der Crown Prince Could Fight Like He Could Love. It Would Not Be Good-bye Germany."

WILHELM—Shut up. Go get your five brothers out of the bar and take 'em home and put 'em to bed.

LUDWIG OF HAVARIA—I would rather see Hindy and Lady fight a duel with flame throwers, and then Wilhelm challenge der winner. I love Wilhelm like der poison ivy—him and his kids.

CHAIR—After the quarrel, Von Kuehlmann will make a speech.

WILHELM—He made one. That is enough. He couldn't say no more than he said then if he talked all night, the lowlife.

KUEHLMANN—I was der beginning of der end.

WILHELM—You had a jag like Von Jagow. I don't see what I ever saw in that fellow, either. I musta been a bum picker.

HERK KARL ROSNER—The papers are waiting to get a report of this meeting. All Highest. Shall you pick any violents this evening?

WILHELM—Not in this bunch. There are no violents here. Nothing but skunk bottles to eat.

CHAIR—Then we will have a song and dance by Boy-Ed and Von Papen.

CHARLES—This is the punkiest smoker we ever had. Nobody but Germans on the programme.

LENINE AND TROTSKY (entering)—We are a little late. We expected to be here sooner.

CHAIR—Gents, there are a couple of friends of mine. They let me get out of Russia without carrying any lead with me. Boys, shake hands with the All Highest.

TROTSKY—Hello, boss. Your check is a little late this month.

HINDY—I got my check on time—at Chateau Thierry. The American canners are always on time with their checks.

WILHELM—I shall stand no non-ferrous metals.

FERDINAND—Har-har! My botany lesson is more interesting than your guys. Good night.

LENINE—How about a little kale, All Highest?

WILHELM—You're fired. Shut up.

CHAIR—Now that our happy little party is all assembled, Von Tirpitz will show us a working model of his latest U-boat.

LUDWIG—Tirpitz has got cooties in his whiskers. Oh, boys! Ferdinand is going now.

WILHELM—Tell him to take his nose with him. Now that everything is happy I will make a speech.

(Applause by Lenin and Trotsky, who think they will get what he owes them.)

HINDY—Hush, let the poor boob make his speech.

WILHELM—The title of this speech is—SULTAN OF TURKEY—I move we adjourn.

SINCE DADDY CUT THE BOOZE.

You know my Daddy used to be a rounder.

He used to drink up all the booze in sight!

He used to pawn his clothes, he wore a blossom on his nose, And with mother and us kids he used to fight when he was stewed. But when Dad came home one night, Just imagine, our delight, As he said to mother: "I'm going to cut out the booze!"

Chorus.

Daddy's nose is getting whiter every day; Mother's eyes are shining brighter, she seems say, "Sadie's dressed up, so is Mabel; we have nice things on the table; All is harmony in our home now, since Dad cut out the booze."

Now Daddy never cares to mingle with the rounders that he meets, But always brings a great big bunch of nice things home to eat.

He never stops to linger in the bar-rooms along the way, But at the end of each week's toil he brings home all his pay.

And now the "certain" has almost disappeared from dear old Daddy's nose, Though it doesn't seem so long ago since he cut out the booze.

Flattly impossible.

"Yes," said Simpkins, "I want to do my bit, of course, so I thought I'd raise some potatoes."

"Well, I thought I would do that too," said Smith, "but when I looked up the way to do it I found that potatoes have to be planted in hills, and our yard is perfectly flat."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

He was standing with his foot on the nose of the bunger. He chuckled and not his hand in his pocket. When he drew forth his hand he opened it and disclosed to Philo Gubb's staring eyes the Togbury jewel.

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