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Aug 23, 1914SINAPSE'S LIVERY FOR AGENTS
DUFF.**SIDE TALKS.**

By Ruth Cameron.

ON MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES.

Every once in a while one sees in one's newspaper the chronicle of some mysterious disappearance. Some man or woman walks out of his or her home or school, or place of business, apparently intending to go through the daily routine, and then abruptly disappears.

Frequently one never sees any more in the paper about the matter. That is the end of it so far as the news goes, unless there is some reason to suspect foul play or something unusual about the case. But how very far from being the end of it it must be to those who have thus been left behind in a torture of uncertainty. I can imagine how things in life more painful to have happen to me.

All of which is a more serious introduction than I meant it to be to the subject of another kind of mysterious disappearances, which leave one in the same kind of irritated uncertainty, though only one millionth as bad in degree.

I refer to the disappearance of household articles.

The Disappearing Nail File.

Take nail files for instance. Not the elaborate ones that come in one's toilet set and are too distinguished to be easily lost, but the little steel ones that are often better beloved.

How on earth do they manage to disappear right from under one's eyes the way they do? And where do they go? Sometimes, of course, they come back on cleaning day or when you are rummaging around in some odd corner for something else. As my mother always used to say, you never look for one thing without finding the other. But I know there are some that

have never returned. Where did they go? Matter is indestructible and steel nail files appear unusually so. Is there a land where lost nail files hide in company with other household articles?

Where Are the Scissors of Yesterday? Scissors are another article that are particularly strong on mysterious disappearances. Have you with you all the scissors that you have bought since you began housekeeping? Perhaps you have if you are one of those very systematic and orderly people who never lose things. But if you are the average person, you have not. Where have they gone to? "The children," you may say, vaguely. But what have the children done with them? Perhaps one pair mysteriously disappeared when the children took it outdoors to use when they were making the string telephone that every child makes once in a while. But that cannot account for all the losses.

He Bought Six Pairs.

A man I know who complained that he never could find a pair of scissors when he wanted them, came home one day carrying six pairs that he had bought at one fell swoop. "I mean to have some scissors in the house when I want them," he said. Did he? Well, that was two or three years ago and last time I was at his home I heard the same old plaint.

Erasers, pencils, thumbtacks, pen needles, the tops of tooth paste tubes, are some more of the articles with a peculiar genius for hiding from one. There are others equally skilful. I know, but I do not think of them off-hand. They will probably suggest themselves to you.

Where do they all go? Do they get tired of serving us and escape into some haven for lost articles. If they do, I'd like to find the road to it, wouldn't you?

Ruhr Occupation Increased Red Vote

The demoralization in social and economic conditions in the Ruhr and the Rhineland which sets in with the Franco-Belgian occupation, is solely responsible for the radicalization of the working classes in those areas, in the opinion of Dr. Heinrich Brauns, Minister of Labor. Dr. Brauns, who recently was re-elected to the Reichstag on the Clerical party's ticket from the Westphalia district, and whose familiarity with labor conditions in southwestern Germany make him one of the most influential members of the Marx-Stresemann Cabinet, was discussing the heavy increase in the Communist vote in the elections.

"Radicalism of the Bolshevik brand," declared Dr. Brauns, "was wholly foreign to the calm and tactful mentality of the Westphalian, or the more sprightly temperament of the Rhineland, who, despite the highly developed industrialism reflected in the organization of the mines and the steel branches of their areas, never revealed a penchant for political radicalism, even in pre-war days."

"This is explained on the ground that unemployment was unknown then, and because the general prosperity afforded agitators little or no opportunity to incite the masses. All this changed with the occupation of the Ruhr and the unemployment, social misery and the backing of the natives, which followed in its wake." Separatist agitation and Communist propaganda, according to Dr. Brauns, were bound to thrive in an atmosphere of social discontent, despite the generous relief work carried on through foreign agencies. The Minister of Labor said he believed tangible improvement in Germany's foreign relations prior to the invasion would have stemmed the radical political tide.

"French chauvinism has proven the most effective propaganda for the western trend of Russian Bolshevism," the Minister observed. He also was inclined to view the "Mikum" accord as a disturbing factor in the Ruhr situation, in that it has been responsible for higher costs of production and lessening of market opportunities. In order to live up to the conditions of this agreement, Dr. Brauns said, working hours had to be advanced one hour, which had contributed an additional element of irritation to the situation.

Speaking for the Marx-Stresemann Government, Dr. Jarres, Minister of the Interior, designated the demands of the Socialists for a referendum on the Dawes report as premature discussion of that subject, and as an unsuitable solution for a problem on which the average voter was scarcely qualified to pass mature judgment.

Until the important preliminary details bearing on the forthcoming discussions were disposed of, Dr. Jarres said, a referendum would only prove a device for obstruction. "Unless the present plans are revised the new Reichstag is expected to convene May 27. Inter-party conferences will begin this week. They will determine the nature of the new government, and the line-up in the Reichstag."

Rheumatism

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I am silent as the dickens when the busy proboscis claims that I swiped some Dorking chickens from an old and widowed dame. When the proboscis, ask me if it isn't so, I discuss the woody

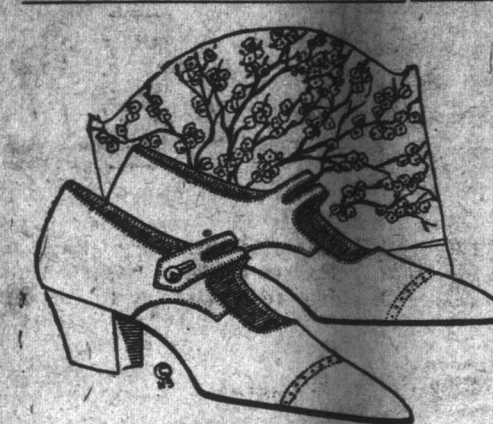
predict both rain and snow. You will never see me deigning to reply, though charges hurt; for defending and explaining make a man look cheap as dirt. Still the work of probing quickens, and the proboscis seeks my door, asking, if I copped those chickens in the balmy days of yore. While their spokesman hold enlarges on the evidence they've found, I might well deny their charges and my innocence expound; but a delegate denying always has a guilty air, and the people think he's lying, though he springs the truth with care. Better far to treat the rumor of his moral turpitude with an air of genial humor, shutting language harsh and rude. So I don't discuss a feather of the hens they say I stole, but I talk about the weather and the groundhog in his hole. If I'm guiltless it is certain that the truth will some day out, and that truth will raise the curtain on a white and martyred scout. If I really stole the chickens, silence is the safer course, while the air around me thickens with the howls of proboscis hoarse.

It is not the policy of the manufacturers of Ivory soap to make extravagant claims in its behalf. They simply say that Ivory soap is a good, pure toilet soap and that it will cleanse the skin thoroughly without injuring the most delicate complexion.

Two-in-One Python

Two pythons in the Zoological Gardens at Manchester, England, are now one, since one swallowed the other. This is said to be due to both partaking of the same lunch simultaneously. Pythons eat until they meet and the bigger keeps on eating. If both persist there is always the danger that one will be swallowed by the other, owing to the set of their teeth. The attendant once gave two pythons a rabbit, and the next day the rabbit and one python had disappeared, and on investigation he discovered the larger snake, 9 ft. long, had swallowed the rabbit and his 7 ft. companion, one having begun on the rabbit's head and the other on its tail.

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Job's Stores, Ltd.**MUTT AND JEFF****JEFF WAS STEPPING HIGH FOR A LITTLE WHILE.**

—By Bud Fisher

