The Wrong Text.

"Very few good speeches are really impromptu," said a New Orleans lawyer, who has a reputation as a clever off-hand talker, "but it is generally easy to produce that effect by simply leading off with some strictly local allusion. Of course, that's a trick, but it's a trick employed by a good many eminent orators. I was broken of it myself by rather a peculiar incident. One day, some years ago, I happened to be in a town where a large commercial college is located, and was invited by the president to make a few remarks to the boys during the noon recess. I mentally framed a little talk on the subject of energy, and, as I was going into the main hall, I chanced to notice the word "Push" in big letters on the outside of the door. "Good!" I said to myself, "that's the very thing I need for localizing my opening sentence!" So, when I reached the platform, I launched out something like this: "My young friends, as I approached the entrance to this room a moment ago I observed a word on the panel of the door that impressed me as being an appropriate emblem for an institution of this eminently practical character. It expressed the one thing most useful to the average man when he steps into the arena of every day life. It was--- "Pull!" yelled a dozen of the boys on the back seats. There was a roar of laughter, and I was so horribly disconcerted that I was unable to take up the thread of my remarks. The miserable door had "Push" on one side and "Pull" on the other. I had taken my text from the wrong side."

-New Orleans Times-Democrat.

On the Next Page is an Interesting Statement.



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