

"A Little Nonsense Now and Then"

Kernal: Did you bury all the dead as I ordered this morning?

Privit: Yes, sir, but we had a little trouble with one of them.

Kernal: What?

Privit: Why, one of them raised up on his elbow and said he wasn't dead, but then he was one of them d—d Germans, and you never can believe anything they say, so we buried him anyway.—Aw-gwan.

A negro was standing an examination for the position of rural free-delivery carrier. Among other questions written for him to answer was the poser:

"What is the distance between the earth and the moon?"

His prompt, but indignant, reply was:

"See heah! If you's a-going to put me on dat route, I quit righ now."—The Ave Maria.

An Irish housekeeper was showing to some visitors the family portraits in the picture gallery.

"That officer there in uniform," she said, "was the great-great-grandfather of the present owner of the property. He was as brave as a lion, but one of the most unfortunate of men. He never fought a battle in which he did not have a leg or arm carried away."

Then she added, proudly:

"He took part in twenty-four engagements." — Tit-Bits.

A. R. Whaley, former operating vice-president of the New Haven, recently inspected the congestion in the Jersey terminals and was discussing it with the yardmaster, an old time railroad man.

"What's the basic trouble?" asked Whaley. "We used to handle things better."

"I'll tell you," said the yardmaster. "Twenty-five years ago, when you and I started, they had wooden cars, but they had men of steel handling them. Now they've got steel cars, but there's a blamed lot of wooden men handling them."—Boston News Bureau.

Germany's miserable apology to the Argentine led Senator Hardwick, of Georgia, to say the other day:

"That apology ought to be received as the Atlanta woman received her apologizing husband."

"An Atlanta husband, having offended, came home the evening of the quarrel with a parcel under his arm."

"Darling," he said to his wife, "look here. I've got something here for the person I love best in all the world."

"She came forward with a shrug."

"Humph! What is it?" she said. A box of stogies?" — Philadelphia Bulletin.

Andy Foster, a well-known character in his native city, had recently shuffled off this mortal coil in destitute circumstances, although in his earlier days he enjoyed financial prosperity.

A prominent merchant, an old friend of the family, attended the funeral and was visibly affected as he gazed for the last time on his old friend and associate.

The mourners were conspicuously few in number and some attention was attracted by the sorrowing merchant. "The old gentleman was very dear to you?" ventured one of the bearers after the funeral was over.

"Indeed, he was," answered the mourner. "Andy was one true friend. He never asked me to lend him a cent, though I knew that he was practically starving to death."—Harper's Magazine.

One of the military lessons which is said to be hard to impart to the negro soldiers is that of addressing officers by their proper titles. For weeks little impression could be made, and from colonel down to second lieutenant the inevitable address was "Boss."

One soldier who had reported to the camp attired in two garments — a shirt and a pair of trousers — was given his military outfit on the day of his arrival. It consisted of several pairs of socks, two flannel shirts, a cap and a campaign hat, three suits of underwear, two fine pairs of shoes, three blankets and an overcoat just out of the tailor-shop. The drafted one looked at the pile of wearing wealth and, turning reproachfully to his preacher first sergeant, said: "Lawd, pa'son wry didn't you tell dis chile of the army before?"

FIRE INSURANCE FOR METHODIST CHURCH.

Rev. Dr. S. D. Chown, General Superintendent of the Methodist Church of Canada, proposes the establishment of a fire insurance scheme by the department of finance in connection with the Church property throughout the Dominion.

Writing on this subject in The Christian Guardian, Dr. Chown says:

"I am not at all sure that the Methodist Church has acted wisely in not carrying the insurance upon its own property. Has not fear rather than wisdom decided the issue in the negative thus far in our history? Sound insurance companies have begun and carried on business quite successfully upon very limited capital. The value of the property of the Methodist Church, as reported to the General Conference in 1914, is \$41,905,245. Deducting the value of our burial grounds, and twenty-five per cent from the value of our churches, parsonages, colleges, etc., to account for the land, we still have \$31,241,584 worth of insurable property. Upon this to-day we are carrying insurance to the extent of \$15,729,517, or about fifty per cent of its estimated value.

"Fire insurance is not in general an unprofitable business. It usually earns dividends for its stockholders. Why should not these be earned by the Church itself, and applied to the support of the worn-out ministers' fund or some equally worthy object?"

WITHOUT LICENSE.

All commodities except those prohibited in the President's proclamation may enter the U. S. without individual licenses.

Washington, February 20.

Vance C. McCormick, Chairman of the War Trade Board, announced to-night that a blanket license has been issued to-day permitting, without individual import licenses, the importation of all commodities from Canada, with the exception of those mentioned in the President's import embargo proclamation of November 28, 1917.

This explanatory order to United States customs officials on the Canadian boundary was issued because of misinterpretation of the President's proclamation by a number of American customs officials. It came to the notice of the War Trade Board that commodities which did not require a license were being held up by uninformed officials to the embarrassment of the Government and business generally. In the last two weeks many complaints have been received here from business men stating that shipments consigned to them have been stopped in transit at the border through a misinterpretation of the proclamation. One of the trains of the New York Central was stopped at Moira yesterday and a shipment of paper from Canada to the United States held because no special license for its importation had been obtained. The proclamation does not require a license for paper importation.

As a result of this and other complaints, Mr. McCormick issued his statement to-night. He had previously informed customs officials that licenses were not required for any commodities except antimony, antimony ore or any chemical extracted therefrom; asbestos, beans of all kinds, balata, burlap, castor weed, castor oil, cotton, chrome, chrome ore, or any ferro-alloy or chemical extracted therefrom; coconut oil, cobalt, cobalt ore, or any ferro-alloy extracted therefrom; copra, industrial diamonds, all ferro-alloys, flax, gutta joolatong, gutta percha, hemp, hides and skins, jute, irridium, leather, manganese ore, or any ferro-alloy or chemical extracted therefrom; mica, molybdenum, molybdenum ore, or any ferro-alloy or chemical extracted therefrom; naxos emery and naxos emery ore; nickel, nickel ore, matte, or any ferro-alloy or chemical extracted therefrom; sodium, potassium or calcium nitrates, optical glass, palm oil, platinum, plumbago, pyrites, rice, rubber, raw, reclaimed, waste or scrap scheelite, shellac, sisal, soyabean oil, spigeleisen, sugars, tanning materials, tin in bars, block, pig or grain, or granulated; tin ore and tin concentrates, or any chemical extracted therefrom; titanium, titanium ore, or any ferro-alloy or chemical extracted therefrom; vanadium, vanadium ore, or any ferro-alloy or chemical extracted therefrom; wheat, and wheat flour, wolframite, or wool.

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