

EDISON, AT SEVENTY, SEES WORLD THRU YOUNG EYES

Great Inventor Tells How He Has
Chased Old Age Away With Hard
Work, Long Hours and Light Diet

Thomas A. Edison, the electrical wizard, was 70 years old on Feb. 11th, but he doesn't look it. He doesn't look it and doesn't act it. "I don't feel any older than I did thirty years ago," he told an interviewer from the New York Sun. "I feel just as well, I am working just as hard, and sleeping just as little. What's the secret behind the secret? Light eating, friend, light eating."

"Say," Mr. Edison continued, "I see that the police squad in New York is trying to see how it feels to live on 25 cents a day. Why, I have been doing that for years. That is what keeps me so well. For six weeks at a time I have lived on eleven ounces of food, including water. I mean the water in the food, of course for I drink lots of it. I rarely eat more than six ounces. I boil everything except the water; no lettuce, celery or other raw things. The purpose of that is to guard me against bacterial invasion. I'm loaded with phagocytes—the friendly little chaps that fight your battle in the blood against disease, you know—but I don't want to make their task any harder than it is. Eating little, is what keeps my blood in good condition. A while ago I cut my finger and in three days it was completely healed."

Don't Eat Too Much

Mr. Edison has strong opinions regarding diet, but is no fastidious. "I eat three meals a day," he said, "and never between meals. I eat everything—whatever I want—but not much of anything. I have found that I get along best on small quantities. I keep my weight normal by eating only about one-fourth as much as other men; that's a good test, isn't it? Eating too much is a habit, just like sleeping too much. If the sun never set men would get out of the habit of sleeping; they'd get used to going without. Three-fourths of what the average man eats goes to feed the bacteria in the lower intestine, which creates poisons that are distributed through the system."

"What do you eat, Mr. Edison?" "Oh, a red herring, dried beef, a little piece of pie—anything I have comes along. Sometimes I have meat, then go without it for a spell."

"And do you fetcherize it?" "Fetcherize nothing, bolt. I bolt my food; that's the thing. Fetcherized food is too quickly digested. All animals bolt their food. To be sure the cow chews later at its leisure, but that's because there is so little nutriment in the grass it eats. Our food, on the contrary, is concentrated, and requires little mastication."

Cut Down on Cigars

Noting that Mr. Edison was not smoking, the interviewer asked him if he still burned twenty cigars a day, as was his habit for many years.

"No," he said, "only one or two, usually after a meal. I don't know of any particular reason for cutting down, but I did. But"—another chuckle directed at Mr. Meadowcroft.

LOSS OF APPETITE

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VERDUN CAMPAIGN SHOWN ON SCREEN AS IT WAS ACTUALLY FOUGHT BY FRENCH AND HUNS

The Great War Picture "War as it Really is" Gives the Truth About the Historic Battle—To be Shown Under Auspices of The Courier in This City

At least a dozen films pretending to show the truth about the war have been brought out since the beginning of the conflict in Europe, but none of them have been made with any of the facilities accorded to Donald C. Thompson, the daring war photographer of "Leslie's Weekly," who was commissioned by the French Government to record every detail of the French offensive before Verdun when the Crown Prince's army was driven back from the point it had struggled so long to win. Captain Thompson spent nine months in the front line in France, and the result was thirty reels of motion pictures showing every phase of the great struggle. He cut down these thirty reels to seven, in which there was actually "War as it Really is." This remarkable film was brought to Canada for its first showing under the auspices of the Toronto Star, and will be exhibited at The Rex, under the auspices of The Courier.

The picture begins with the views of the ramparts of Verdun, which are eighty feet thick and have resisted even the heavy shells of the enemy. Verdun has been under fire for months, and on account of shell explosion there is an average of one fire every five minutes of the day and night. The films show hospitals wrecked by shell fire, wounded soldiers seeking refuge in a church who are killed by a shell during the bombardment, and the terrible shambles resulting from the long continued "strafing" of the Huns.

Another interesting scene is a review of the 60,000 Russian soldiers sent by Russia, but armed and equipped by the French, who helped to defend Verdun. Most impressive is another review showing over 50,000 men just entering the first line area. These being the only troop reviews in the entire picture, the rest of which is exclusively devoted to actual fighting, a majority of it being filmed under fire by intrepid Capt. Thompson, who never seems to consider personal safety, preferring to get a picture full of excitement at any cost.

The work of the French aviators is shown in the most striking manner, an actual battle in the air having been successfully filmed as part of the series. Capt. Thompson went aloft with a noted French aviator, and when sailing through the clouds at a 10,000 foot altitude he photographed a fight between a German and British plane far below, showing

the Hun aviator driven to the earth and killed.

But above all are the views of actual trench fighting, where the opposing lines were only 40 or 50 feet apart, and where shells were breaking every moment. Nothing like this picture has ever been filmed before. Hair-raising in their intensity, the films show every method of modern trench warfare, including the use of catapults, trench mortars, hand grenades, rockets and bombs. Then a charge of French troops is shown, to be followed a few moments later by the surrender of hundreds of Germans, who run forward with their hands in the air, and crying "Kamerad."

Nothing could show better how the Allies are winning the war than the tremendous number of prisoners captured. On the day in which this particular section was photographed the German official bulletin admitted the loss of "a few prisoners," while the motion picture shows that over 10,000 were taken captive. As soon as captured, all the buttons are removed from the Huns' clothing, as an effective method to prevent their escape. For a man cannot run far with his trousers falling off. But from the happiness which the Germans seem to manifest on being captured and being given a square meal again, it does not seem as if such precautions were necessary.

"War as it Really is" certainly has enough of interest in it to thrill anyone.

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DID ADAM REALLY EAT THE APPLE?

Controversy in Connecticut
Over Points of Biblical
Belief

Did Adam and the whole eat respectively an apple and a Jonah? Connecticut is likely to have a judicial decision on these questions. If the facts themselves are not settled by a jury, at all events the jury will determine whether it is blasphemous to doubt the Bible versions of them.

Michael Mookus is to go on trial at Matamoras, Conn., before a jury on complaint that he violated a law passed in Connecticut 274 years ago, under which there have been no prosecutions for at least a century.

The law provides penalty for any one who calls into question any portion of Holy Writ, and the specifications against Mookus, a Lithuanian minister of the Unitarian faith, are that he expressed his disbelief in the story of Jonah and the whale, and also in the apple that Adam ate.

Other specifications against Mookus contain details that would generally be termed blasphemous. Mookus was tried in September, but the jury disagreed. This time he has engaged as counsel Theodore Schroeder of New York, president of the Free Speech League, and Lawrence L. Lewis, of Waterbury.

Schroeder says he plans to argue that the statute of 1642 applied to all sacred beliefs and since those who framed the law believed in witchcraft and regarded that belief as orthodox and sacred everyone who to-day denies the existence of

withes is guilty of violating the statute.

In 1895 an attempt was made to prosecute for blasphemy, but the case was thrown out of court, on the ground that there was no law forbidding it in that State. In 1891 there was a similar prosecution in New Jersey, and the defendant was fined. Robert G. Ingersoll defended the accused and paid the fine himself.

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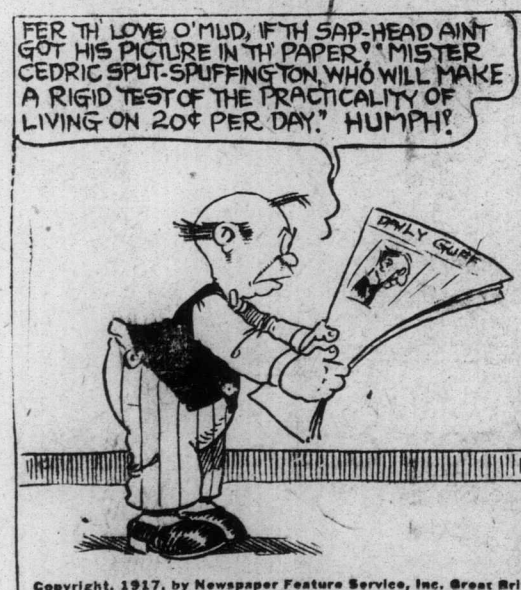
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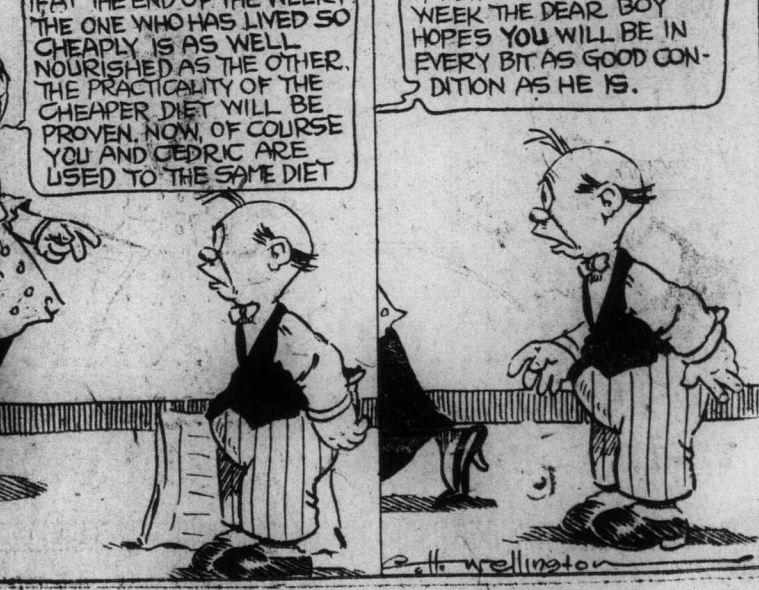
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BUSINESS BLOCK DESTROYED.
By Courier Leased Wire.
Omaha, Feb. 23.—Fire early today, in the downtown district, destroyed practically an entire block of business houses. The Berg Clothing Company and the Hartman Furniture store were the principal losers. The captain of a fire company was probably fatally injured by falling walls, while other men were caught under the shower of falling bricks, but escaped serious injury. The loss is estimated at \$250,000.

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