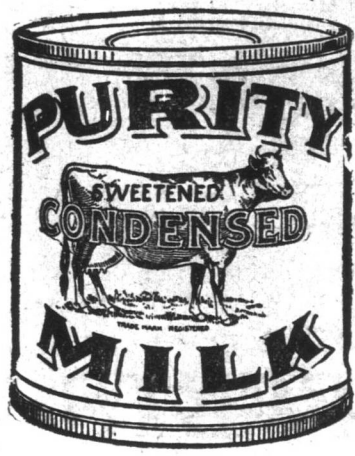


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Poverty Ends Royal Romance of Many Years

London.—The post-war poverty of many once powerful nobles has brought before the public the sad ending of a royal love affair.

The story is the romance of Princess Louise of Belgium, daughter of Leopold II, who married Prince Philip, of Coburg, and about thirty years ago left her husband and two children to elope with Captain Gesta von Mattasich, a Hungarian nobleman.

The princess was divorced by her

husband, and Captain von Mattasich lost his commission in the Austro-Hungarian army. Following the war money became scarce, and the lovers were compelled to move from their palatial residence in Vienna to a small village.

The princess disputed the will of her father, who left everything to his morganatic wife, the Baroness Vaughan, but she lost the suit. Then she appealed to her sister, the Princess Stephanie Louisa, former Crown Princess of Austria.

Princess Stephanie offered to allow Louise, who is now 64 years old, to spend the rest of her life at the beau-

tiful castle of Oroszlar, in Hungary, on condition that she leave von Mattasich. The offer was accepted, and friends now have found another home for the penniless captain.

Talkative Old Gentleman (to fellow-passenger): "How fast we travel! But, young man, have you ever thought of the flight of time? Think of the fleeting hours of youth, the golden days that swiftly pass away. Have you ever counted the minutes?"

Batteries (suspiciously): "What are you trying to do? Sell me a watch?"

SIDE TALKS.

By Ruth Cameron.

WALKING SHORT STORIES.



"I have just left my letter to let the iceman in and I have been talking to him for half an hour. Perhaps you may be invariably in our conversation. I was having some difficulty in fixing the drain and he offered to help, saying with the delightful nonchalance of youth, 'I fixed our refrigerator for my wife this morning.' He is only a youngster and of course I expressed my surprise at his marriage and then the whole story of his romance came out. I can't tell you how I enjoyed it. I think it's even more fun to read stories that way than in the magazines, don't you?"

She Is Never Bored. So writes a friend of mine. She is a woman who is never bored. And in that paragraph she unconsciously gives one of the reasons. It is a great gift, or perhaps I would better say a very fine habit to read the romances that walk around and talk to us every day, as well as those that are written down in books or magazines.

People who have it never bore themselves. Of Robert Louis Stevenson, when he was shut up by his ill health in his father's home at Bournemouth, his biographer writes:

They Stayed to Dinner. "The chance seldom presented itself to him of meeting men of any class whose lives lay outside his own, but those who fell in his way received unusual attention at his hands, more especially if they possessed original-

ity or any independence of character. Thus, the barber that came to cut his hair, the picture framer, the vet who attended Hoguey, each in their different way were originals to a man whose life was so secluded. Their coming was welcome, they invariably stayed to meals, and sooner or later, told the stories of their lives."

Of course Stevenson was an author. He had to know about people for the sake of his craft.

But somehow I feel as if he would have wanted to know about people anyway—he was that kind.

Everyone can be interesting for a time if he or she is drawn out to talk simply and sincerely about his life. I do not mean that one has to draw people's secrets out of them, but rather to get them to talking about the things they know most about and are most interested in.

The Philosophy Of A Tailor.

Some of the most vital memories of my life are occasions when people in other walks of life than mine have started talking to me about their experience and their philosophies. I remember a little old foreign tailor to whose fittings I used to look forward because some chance remark of mine gained his confidence and led him to talk freely of what he had learned about human nature as a tailor.

The older I grow the more I am coming to feel that happiness in life has much to do with being interested. The more you are interested in life, the less chance you have of being bored. And to cultivate the art of making people tell you the interesting things about themselves is to erect one more barrier between yourself and boredom.

What Would Happen if the Gulf Stream—?

Many are the forms in which the above question finishes. Nearly always, however, it is of a calamitous nature. When the Panama Canal was being built many dismal prophets prophesied that the warm waters of the Gulf Stream would flow through the Canal and leave the Eastern States and Northwestern Europe under Arctic conditions. Here is an authoritative statement by Jack W. Redway, F.R.G.S., respecting the matter. Stories concerning the dreadful things which are to happen because of the eccentricities of the Gulf Stream come quite as regularly as epidemics of the influenza, but about thirty times as frequently. The influenza visits us only about once in a generation. The vagaries of the Gulf Stream are rehearsed every summer about as certainly as August follows July.

In order to understand what may be the changes in warm ocean currents and their connection with the weather, one would better begin with first principles, namely, the Equatorial Current.

In equatorial regions a steady wind blows from the east-northeast and southeast in different latitudes, but always from the east. The skin friction of this great wind belt in the course of years multiplied by tons of thousands has finally dragged enough water along in a westerly direction to set in motion a feeble current, 1,000 miles or more in width, which flows westward. The Equatorial Current is the greatest of all ocean currents. There are other factors involved in the formation of ocean currents, such as the differences in temperature, differences in specific gravity—for salt water is specifically heavier than fresh water—and the earth's rotation; but the factor chiefly to be considered is the direction of the wind.

The South American continent projects a fairly sharp angle against the Equatorial Current, splitting it squarely in two, turning one part along the Brazilian coast, the other in a northerly direction. The latter finally becomes the Gulf Stream.

As a definite current the Gulf Stream has not nearly the extent with which common opinion credits it. The waters which form it gather rather broadly, but gradually concentrate at Santaren Channel and Florida Strait. At this locality they become the Gulf Stream. Years ago, common tradition had it that the Gulf Stream made a complete circuit of the Gulf of Mexico, and hence the name. As a matter of fact, a small amount of water is drawn out of the Gulf by a process akin to that of aspiration, but it is not stream water; it differs therefrom in temperature, color and salinity.

In extent one may safely assume that the Gulf Stream begins in Florida Strait. At a point roughly between Miami and the islands lying eastward—one of which is Bimini, with a stream not associated with the Gulf—the Gulf Stream is a powerful current with a maximum velocity between five and six knots, and a minimum of about three knots. At this point its flow reaches to the bot-

tom and sweeps the Zonne therefrom as far north as Cape Hatteras.

Off Cape Hatteras, at a point where the 2,000 fathom curve is nearest the coast, the velocity rarely exceeds one and one-quarter knots. Thence northward the velocity gradually decreases until, at the southern limit of Grand Banks off the Newfoundland coast, its force is lost and it becomes merely a wind drift.

The velocity of the Gulf Stream along the Florida coast varies with the season and even with the passage of the moon; that is, the variations are both seasonal and monthly. Its flow is swiftest in summer, when its flood is pushed as far as Grand Banks and slowest in winter, when it does not reach much further than Cape Hatteras. Its temperature in mid-summer off the south coast of Florida may be as high as 86 degrees. Even at Grand Banks its waters may be warmer by twenty degrees or more than the surrounding waters.

The Gulf Stream water is saltier than the cold water which forms its banks. Off the Florida coast its waters show a strong color contrast in comparison with surrounding waters. Between the Gulf Stream and the coast is a cold water counter-current flowing southward; and small south-bound craft frequently use its flow to gain a knot or two in speed. Off Cape Hatteras an adverse under-current appears seasonally at the surface, meeting the Gulf Stream and throwing the surface into the rips which navigators have named rather aptly "Little Hell."

Regularly reports are circulated, coming occasionally from Florida resorts, giving the traditional news that the axis of the Gulf Stream has changed, thereby changing the climate of the South Atlantic States. As a matter of fact, there are slight seasonal changes in the position of the Gulf Stream, but they produce no apparent change in the climate of the Southern States or that of any other part of the world. But to say that any permanent or material change in

the Gulf Stream has taken place within recent times is to make an assertion without any basis whatever. Winds may, and frequently do, disturb the surface waters of the Gulf Stream. A favorable wind may accelerate the flow; an adverse wind may not only retard it, but scatter the surface waters to the one side or the other. A strong southerly or southeasterly wind many times has blown warm surface water out of the course of the Gulf Stream and has lodged it against the coast.

This is likely to happen when the high barometer at Bermuda indicates the presence of the bank of air known as the stranded Bermuda high. These are the misty, listless hot days of July when both men and dogs go mad, and women rush to fur neckwear. But the Gulf Stream has not changed its position.

It has blown warm water out of it and cold water into it for the time being. The Gulf Stream has much to do with the economies of the commerce of Western Europe, but mightily little to do with its climate except in an indirect way. Its flow does not reach within two thousand miles of any part of Europe. But it does carry an enormous volume of warm water into the region of westerly winds, and these same winds drag the warm water into every nook and cranny of the west coast, keeping the harbors free from ice throughout the long winters. Even at Hammerfest, within the Arctic Circle, the harbors are rarely, if ever, ice-locked.

The mild climate of Western Europe has practically no relation to the Gulf Stream. The prevailing winds of western Europe are from the west and southwest. They are ocean winds and therefore moist. Chilled by their intrusion into northern latitudes they drop their moisture in the form of rain or of snow even before reaching the coast. Now, for every pound of water condensed from the air, enough latent heat is set free to warm about half a ton of water one degree in temperature.

This enormous amount of heat is practically locked up in low latitudes, transferred to high latitudes and there set free. And even were the Gulf Stream to be put out of existence altogether, the effects would not be anywhere like those Professor Berget describes. There might not be as much warm drift, but the climate of Western Europe would not be materially different from that of British Columbia. Possibly there might be more ice in the harbors.

Closing the gaps between the keys along the Florida coast cannot possibly affect the volume of flow of the Gulf Stream or change its position. No part of the Gulf Stream reaches the keys; moreover, engineering constructions are not built across the Gulf Stream but parallel to it, a dozen miles from it.

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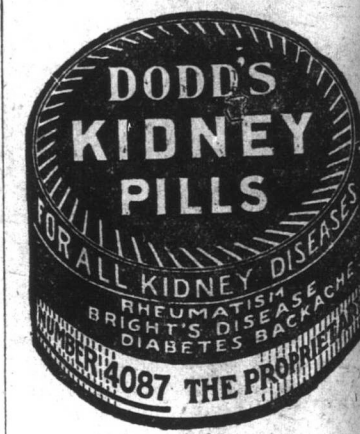
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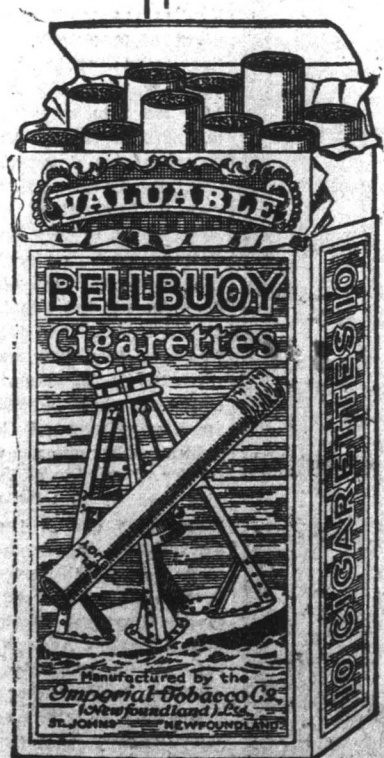
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