

## "A Little Nonsense Now and Then"

"I haven't had a bite for two days," whined the tramp. "Neither have I," responded the summer boarder, according to the Louisville Courier-Journal. "Rotten fishing round here."

"I see they have recruited several clergymen for the aviation corps," remarked the incurable talker, as reported in the Harvard Lampoon. "As sky-pilots, I take it." "No, as birds' of pray."

British Tommy, "Speak English, Moosoo?"

French Storekeeper: "But—yes—a leetle, M'sieu."

British Tommy: "Righto! Then give me ten pounds o' spuds, an arnce o' baccy, a packet o' fags, and a box-o'-lights, an' be slippy."

Mother (in Passing Show)—Joan, dear, have you been doing anything to this ink? Joan—Yes, mummy, I put some water to it to make it write weak. I've been writing a letter to daddy—and I wanted to whisper something to him!

"Now," said the colonel, looking along the line of recruits, "I want a good, smart bugler." At that, says London Opinion, out stepped a dilapidated fellow who had a thick stubble of black beard. "What!" said the colonel, eyeing him up and down. "Are you a bugler?" "Oh, bugler!" said he, "I thought you said burglar."

Pat had just joined a horse regiment, and was undergoing the necessary practice in the riding school. After a particularly desperate attempt to unseat its rider, the horse managed to entangle a hoof in one of the stirrups.

"Begorra," said Pat, "if you're comin' on, then I'm gettin' off!"—Tit-Bits.

Pollu had taught Sammy a few simple French sentences, says the San Francisco Argonaut. "Now," said Sammy, "I will reciprocate by teaching Pollu a few simple United States sentences." So he gave Pollu this one to ponder: "Blackie, my side kick, is white clear through, but he's a raw half-baked piece of cheese."

Patrick had called on his Betsy and she gave him a handsome helping of her special make of apple pie. Patrick was loud in its praise.

"I tried a new way," said Betsy, beaming. "I put a few gooseberries in to flavor it."

"Begorra!" cried Patrick. "If a few gooseberries give so good a flavor to an apple pie, what a darlint of an apple pie it would be made o' gooseberries entirely!"—Exchange.

A woman, very careful of her reading, asked the late Hamilton W. Mabie, one day, to recommend to her a really good novel.

"Why not try 'A Kentucky Cardinal'?" suggested Mr. Mabie.

"No," replied the woman, "I don't care for theological works."

"But," said Mr. Mabie, "this cardinal was a bird."

"That may be," answered the woman icily, "but that wouldn't recommend him to me."

A small boy who had recently passed his fifth birthday was riding in a suburban car with his mother when they were asked the customary question: "How old is the boy?" After being told the correct age, the conductor passed on to the next person. The boy sat quite still, as if pondering over some question, and then, concluding that full information had not been given, called loudly to the conductor, then at the other end of the car: "And mother's thirty-one!"—Minneapolis Tribune.

The Irishman announced that he was about to be married.

"Married!" exclaimed his friend. "An old man like you?"

"Well, you see," the old man explained, "it's just because I'm getting an ould bhoys now. 'Tis a foiner thing, Pat, to have a wife near ye to close the eyes of ye when ye come to the end."

"Arrah, now, ye old fule!" exclaimed Pat. "Don't be so foolish. What do you know about it? Close yer eyes, indade! I've had a couple of thim, an', faith, they both opened mine!"—Exchange.

## COST OF LIFE INSURANCE.

Life Insurance doesn't begin to cost as much as the cost of being without it.

You can't fool disease, but it fools lots of people—and then they can't get Life Insurance.

Put off deciding till to-morrow, eh? That's just what you do when the baby gets sick, isn't it?—Dotted Line.

## INSURANCE LITIGATION.

The London and Midland Insurance Company, Limited, of London, England, has entered action at Orgoode Hall, against the London Mutual Fire Insurance of Ontario, asking for a declaration that the shareholders are alone entitled to share in the net annual profits. The plaintiff company takes the position that the policyholders are not entitled to share in the net annual gain.

## PROOF OF WORTH.

Twenty years ago a resident of California started an Endowment policy. Premiums were paid four years only. All the time since the insurance has been valid, and at the end of the period \$5.42 was paid him in cash. An experience such as this gives conclusive evidence of the worth and fairness of the insurance contract.

## OCTOBER FIRE LOSSES.

Fire losses in the United States and Canada during October reached a total of \$26,384,450 as compared with \$17,701,375 in October last year, and \$14,465,850 in 1915. Unusual heavy losses in October bring up the total to \$221,002,315 for the first ten months of 1917 as compared with \$189,481,220 for the same months in 1916. The figures are compiled by the New York Journal of Commerce.

## LOSS OF LIFE BY FIRE.

In the four years, 1912-15, seven hundred and eighty-nine people were burned to death in Canada, and 78 per cent of those were women and children. Over 350 lives were lost in burning buildings, and it is significant that most of these deaths occurred in dwellings. As might be expected, the majority of the fires was caused by criminal carelessness. This is especially true in regard to the kindling of fires with kerosene and gasoline, and permitting children to play with matches. Such disregard of the safety of human life constitutes a forcible indictment of the entire Canadian attitude towards the danger of fire.

## SUN LIFE PENSIONS FOR EMPLOYEES.

The Sun Life of Canada has adopted a pension plan for all its employees. The retirement age for men is fixed at 65, and for women at 60. At the indicated age a man or woman may retire on a pension equal to as many sixtieths of his average salary for the previous five years as he has seen years in the service of the company. If an employee, for example, has been with the company for thirty years he may retire on one-half of his average salary for the last five years, prior to his retirement.

A bonus plan provides each woman clerk of the company, upon the completion of three years' service, a cash bonus of \$150, and at the end of her second three years' service \$200, and at the end of her third three-year period, \$250. For each complete year of service thereafter she will receive a bonus of \$100.

## WAR AND FIRE INSURANCE.

The American Defence Society urges every patriotic American to write to Hon. W. G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, urging him not to license any enemy fire insurance company. Says the society:

"The burden of proof is upon the Germans. Why should the United States permit the Germans who sacked Belgium and sank the Lusitania to continue to extract an annual income of \$25,000,000 from the pockets of the American people? To license these companies would be constructed by Germany as evidence that the United States is not wholeheartedly in the war. It would be a source of financial support to Germany. The German companies doing business in the United States on December 31, 1916, had assets in the United States of \$27,772,000, as against \$2,853,190,000 of risks or less than 1 cent for each dollar of risk. . . ."—New York Evening Sun.

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