

Birdland Eviction.

The squirrel is pretty, thrifty and industrious—but he has his faults. He likes to use the nests which woodpeckers hollow out of the tree trunks, and he is not always willing to wait until the bird deserts her nest. Here is a story of the way in which an impatient squirrel actually turned a family of woodpeckers out of their home.

The squirrel, descending a tree trunk, suddenly found a note, into which two of his legs slipped. Probably he felt something sharp pecking at them, for he drew them out quickly and rapidly climbed to a branch immediately above. A moment later a woodpecker flew out of the hole.

The squirrel watched her out of sight and then returned to the nest and helped himself to an egg or two, which he carried to his perch and ate. When these were disposed of, he descended once more to the woodpecker's nest and waited for the return of the bird.

The moment she appeared at the entrance to her nest the squirrel flew at her like an angry cat. The startled woodpecker fled in fear, and the squirrel came forth triumphantly and went away for a short time.

While he was away the woodpecker came again and looked into her nest. Something, however, probably a broken egg, displeased her, and she flew away again. Shortly afterward her mate looked into the nest, but he, too, was dissatisfied and flew away.

The squirrel promptly took possession of the deserted nest, and when autumn came he turned it into a storehouse for nuts.

Some Queer Mispronunciations.

Examples of "topsy-turvy" pronunciation:

"What was the Sunday school lesson about, Gwendolyn?"

"It was about Adam and Eve in the Garden of Sweden."

A little girl was studying in Sunday school about the Acts of the Apostles. "Mother, did all the Apostles get along with one axe?" she asked.

Another little girl sang the line "This is heaven's borderland" as "Mrs. Evans for the land." She said she had a friend by the name of Evans and she thought she was using the right words.

A small boy when asked how he liked school replied that he liked the teacher all right, but didn't like to have so many "supervisors" (supervisors) coming into his grade.

Another boy said they all sat up straight when the teacher said "cigarette" (felt erect).

A visitor to San Diego was impressed with the number of stores bearing the sign "Ship Chandler." Returning to his inland home, he said he "never knew that ships used so many chandeliers. I saw ever so many places where they sold nothing but ship chandeliers."

"Give me some Georgia almonds, please," said the young girl at the candy counter.

"I presume you mean Jordan almonds," said the clerk.

"Yes, that's right; I knew it was something which began with a G."

Queer Kinds of Tea.

The shrub known as "mate," or Paraguay tea, seems to have been originally native and peculiar to that South American country. It is a kind of holly, a large and handsome bush, but with leaves devoid of prickles.

At the present time vast areas in Brazil are planted with this shrub, which is also cultivated on a large scale in Uruguay and Argentina. In South America its leaves largely take the place of tea and coffee.

There is no question that "mate" affords a very excellent tea, which is agreeably stimulating. But, though many attempts have been made to introduce it into the United States, it has never found much favor with us. Nor is this very surprising, inasmuch as the introduction of anything new to eat or drink is always attended with great difficulty.

If we were deprived of our accustomed tea, we would quickly find substitutes. When the Boston folks threw the East India Company's tea into the harbor, as a protest against the tax on it, they declared very palatable what they called Hyperion tea, which was an infusion of raspberry leaves. Other substitutes they used were sage, balm, marjoram, strawberry leaves and black currant leaves.

In Sumatra, when tea is scarce, coffee leaves are mixed with it in the teapot. On the island of Mauritius tea is made from the leaves of a kind of orchid. In Venezuela our tea is considered good medicine but a disagreeable drink, and it is rarely served at hotels and restaurants in that country.

When Edison Nearly Fainted.

Fifty years ago Mr. Thomas Edison was so stranded financially in New York that he hadn't a coin with which to buy food. He was almost starving, and begged his breakfast in the city. Three days later he was watching the tape machine in a certain telegraph office during a big Stock Exchange rush, when the machine broke down. Edison calmly told the "boss" that he thought he could fix it, and proceeded to do so.

The grateful and astonished "boss" asked the stranger his name and next day put him in charge of the repair business at a salary of \$300 a month.

When the hungry, penniless, out-of-work operator heard the amount he nearly fainted.

NEW DESIGN FOR THE OVERBLOUSE



No. 9713—Misses' Overblouse. Price, 25 cents. Suitable for small women; to be worn over skirt; two styles of sleeve. Cut in 3 sizes, 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16, with bell sleeves, requires 2½ yds. 36 ins. wide or 2½ yds. 45 ins. wide; with long sleeves, 3 yds. 36 ins. wide, or 2½ yds. 45 ins. wide.

9703—Camisole Skirt, sizes 16 to 20. Price, 25 cents. This pattern may be obtained from your local McCall dealer, or from the McCall Co., 70 Bond Street, Toronto, Ont.

Welcome to the Prince.

A visit of King Edward and Queen Alexandra (when Prince and Princess of Wales) to Birmingham by road from Packington Hall, the seat of the Earls of Aylesford. On the outskirts of the town they had to pass a small local police station.

As decorations were the order of the day, the officer in charge was not going to be behind his neighbors, so he had fastened right across the building the one word in the dictionary that did not properly fit the occasion. The Prince was consequently much amused when he saw "welcome" staring at him from a building not accustomed to receive honorable visitors.

Seville is the only Spanish city in which begging is forbidden in the streets.

Minard's Liniment Relieves Distemper.

Surnames and Their Origin

PLUNKETT. Variations—Blanchet, Whittle, Whittlesey. Racial Origin—Norman-French; also Anglo-Saxon. Source—A nickname.

The family names of this group have wandered far, very far, from their original forms, with the exception of Whittle, which is not recognizable to the average person because it comes from a word now obsolete.

Whittlesey comes from the name of a town, which in turn took its name from this word.

The word in modern English is "blanket." But it did not have the same meaning in medieval times as it has today. "Blanket" was the Norman word, derived from the French "blanche," meaning white.

"Whittle" was the Anglo-Saxon word, derived from the same root as our modern word "white." In the speech of medieval England either "blanket" or "whittle" meant white cloth, that is to say, colorless cloth. In reality it was not white, but merely not dyed. It was the garb of the poorer people, and like nearly everything associated with the daily life of people in the days when the need for surnames was developing, it was called into use in connection with men's names as a mark of differentiation. Those who bore the names in this group when they were still surnames or nicknames did so because they were customarily garbed in this kind of cloth, or perhaps because they traded in it.

"Plunkett" is an early corrupted spelling of the word. One law of Richard III. relating to this cloth calls it "plonket."

Our modern use of the word "blanket" to denote a woolen bed covering is of comparatively recent development, and from it we have derived a number of similes with the general meaning of "cover all," which have no relation to the original meaning.

The English family name is properly Rowan, which was the common medieval spelling of the name of the city Rouen, in France. Settlers in England from foreign cities quite commonly came to be known by the names of the cities or countries whence they came. Picardy, Antwerp, Cologne and Lyons have given many English family names.

The larger of the two Irish sources of the name is the given name of "Roghain," which literally translated, means "the chosen one." The "Roghain," to use the nearest equivalent to the old Irish spelling, trace back in nearly every case to a chieftain of this name who was a descendant in the line of O'Dea.

The other source is from the given name, or sobriquet, "Ruadh," meaning "red." Ruadh is met with most frequently in Irish nomenclature, but always in the form of a descriptive addition to the family name, distinguishing one branch of a family from another by its coloring, which explains why we so often meet such terms in Irish, and even Scottish history as "The Red O'Connor," "The Black Douglases" and the like. But only under very exceptional circumstances have such qualifying terms developed into real family names in the Gaelic tongue. The usual course would be for such a word first to become a given name, and from this develop into a family name. So with "Ruadh," the family name developed from which is properly Ruane. But the similarity of sound between Rowan and Ruane has often led to their interchange in English spelling.

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The production of grapes in California for the present year is estimated at more than 300,000 tons. Of these a large part are wine grapes, grown in the central and northern parts of the state.

The producers are not permitted to make wine from these grapes, and they cannot ship them elsewhere for wine-making purposes. Obviously, the only thing to be done with them is to convert them into raisins.

In southern California this might be done by the ordinary process of sun-drying; but in the central and northern sections the weather is not sufficiently reliable. Accordingly, the growers are resorting to artificial dehydration.

It takes four to five weeks to produce raisins by sun-drying, but the dehydration process occupies only twelve hours, and the results obtained are described as conspicuously satisfactory.

Considering all expenses, it costs an undergraduate at Oxford at least \$1,500 a year to carry on his studies. A hen cackles after laying an egg to denote pleasure; this noise is said by some scientists to be akin to human laughter.

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In the same way, a selfish husband or a glutton can be detected by examining his shoulder-blades.

Whether or not future marriage will be based on X-ray conjectures remains to be seen. We human beings have a strange knack of preferring to rush to our fate blindfold.

Enthusiastic accounts given by the Prince of Wales in the Royal family circle of his experiences during his recent Empire trip are said to have raised a keen desire on the part of his brothers, Prince Albert, Henry and George, to go on similar voyages.

The Prince of Wales is reported to be writing a preface to a book of photographs taken during his trip, which will be sold for the benefit of a blind soldiers' hospital.

Since his return to London the Prince has been giving a series of small dinner parties to his intimate friends at St. James' Palace, which is now pretty well stocked with souvenirs of his tour. He makes an excellent host, and he has a fund of amusing anecdotes about his experiences abroad.

He is fond of playing rackets and swimming at the fashionable Bath Club, of Piccadilly. A keen follower of the chase, he has recently bought several new hunters, and he is keeping up family traditions by accepting the chairmanship of the West Norfolk Hounds, a position which his grandfather, King Edward, held for many years. He is also coming to the fore as a cattle breeder. At the recent Birmingham Cattle Show he took three prizes with three heads of Aberdeen Angus cattle from his Dartmoor farm, near Princetown.

A TONIC FOR THE NERVES

The Only Real Nerve Tonic is a Good Supply of Rich, Red Blood.

"If people would only attend to their blood, instead of worrying themselves ill," said an eminent nerve specialist, "we doctors would not see our consulting rooms crowded with nervous wrecks. More people suffer from worry than anything else."

The sort of thing which the specialist spoke of is the nervous run-down condition caused by overwork and the many anxieties of today. Sufferers find themselves tired, low-spirited and unable to keep their minds on anything. Any sudden noise hurts like a blow. They are full of groundless fears, and do not sleep well at night. Headaches and other nerve pains are part of the misery, and it all comes from starved nerves.

Decorating the nerves with poisonous sedatives is a terrible mistake. The only real nerve tonic is a good supply of rich, red blood. Therefore, to relieve nervousness and run-down health, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills should be taken. These pills make new, rich blood, which strengthens the nerves, improves the appetite, gives new strength and spirits and makes hitherto despondent people bright and cheerful. If you are at all "out of sorts" you should begin taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

You can get these pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Character Told by X-Rays.

Modern marriage is not the sentimental thing it once was; it will be less romantic still if the startling suggestion of a French specialist is adopted.

Before you wed, he says, submit yourself to a thorough X-ray examination. Character is clearly revealed under X-rays, and many unhappy unions might be avoided if care in this direction were only exercised.

There are, apparently, certain peculiarities of anatomical construction, which, under the rays, are sure indications of meanness and fickleness, ob-

stiacny, bad temper, and other qualities which cause unhappy marriages. Such photographs, too, reveal whether or not a woman is of jealous disposition, merely by studying her breathing apparatus. Shallow breathers are usually jealous and mean; deep breathers are more generous in disposition. The nagging wife who henpecks her husband is shown by a highly-tilted diaphragm and short, sharp ribs.

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BANK OF MONTREAL

Annual General Meeting, Held 6th December, 1920.

The 103rd Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Bank of Montreal was held on Monday, December 6th, at the Bank's Headquarters. The President, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., occupied the chair, and presented the annual report of the Directors.

Before moving the adoption of the report, Sir Vincent Meredith gave a comprehensive review of the economic situation. During the year, he said, an overwhelming demand for credit had taxed resources to the utmost. It had been difficult to make men who had grown accustomed to high prices recognizing the fact that economic conditions, which no artificial means can alter, alone are the cause of price decline. "The demand for intervention through Government control is still insistent," he said. "Canada alone cannot control world-wide conditions, and it is idle to turn to the Government for relief from falling prices. This applies to wheat as well as all other commodities."

Summing up, he said: "The situation in Canada at present, as I view it, is that while there does not appear to be any cause for apprehension, there is every reason for the exercise of the utmost measure of caution. Canada cannot dissociate herself from world conditions, and world conditions are not satisfactory. On this continent the two years supervening upon the Armistice have been marked by unexampled trade activity and prosperity, a circumstance common to the conclusion of all great wars, but the reaction has set in and may not yet be in full play. Happily, Canada is well buttressed on many sides, and the exercise of prudence and sagacity should enable her to meet the shock of falling prices, restricted credits and deflated currency, without serious impairment of her commercial and financial vitality."

The General Manager, Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, in reviewing the operations of the Bank during the year, said the payment of a bonus of 25 to the shareholders was not the outcome of higher rates of interest on current loans in Canada but a reflection of the increase in current rates and of high interest rates on call loans in New York, the volume of which was governed by the Bank's requirements in liquid reserves. One anomaly which attracted attention was that, with credit restriction as acute here as it was across the line, the price of money was materially lower in the Dominion. This condition, he said, was regarded as a tribute to Canada's good banking system.

Dealing with the growth of the Bank's operations, he said: "It is noteworthy that the greatest expansion of the Bank during the past few years has been in our own country. This is revealed in our greatly increased loans and deposits in Canada and in the number of branches opened during the period."

Loans Deposits in Canada in 1914 \$123,147,000 \$168,557,000 1920 240,725,000 358,878,000 302

The annual report was unanimously adopted and the retiring directors were re-elected. The shareholders gave approval to the motion by Lord Shaughnessy to increase the number of directors from 16 to 18 and to elect two new positions on the Board were elected Sir Lomer Gouin and General Sir Arthur Currie.

At a subsequent meeting of Directors, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., was re-elected president, and Sir Charles Gordon, G.B.E., was re-elected vice-president.

Fairy Gold.

In the lore that is known to our childhood, the beautiful story is told that under the foot of the rainbow the fairest have hidden their gold. Forever eluding but tempting, the sunshine is bright on the rain, and over the hills and the valleys we follow the glory—in vain.

Though we stand where we thought it had rested, Yf distant it ever appears; For what seems the rainbow to others To those at its foot may be tears. The strongest of charms is upon it, This treasure, which never is gained.

And bright, with a glory celestial, Is the goal that is never attained.

A searchlight of 7,000,000 candlepower has recently been exhibited in New York.

Sitting with the legs crossed is conducive to obesity.

"Pain's enemy"—I'll say it is!

When you want quick comforting relief from any "actual" pain, use Sloan's Liniment. It does the job without staining, rubbing, bandaging. Use freely for rheumatism, neuralgia, aches and pains, sprains and strains, backache, sore muscles.

Keep it handy SLOAN'S LINIMENT 35¢ 70¢ 1.40 At all druggists

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