

"A Little Nonsense Now and Then"

M. Harris, publisher of a paper at Mounds, Ill., is not very optimistic if we may judge by a want ad he had inserted in a trade paper. His ad follows: "Wanted—A printer to take entire charge of my weekly paper while I go to war. Job may be permanent."

His hair, especially that of the top of the head, seemed to be a bit "mussed up."

"What's de matter?" asked a friend.

"Mah foots is sore," explained the boy. "Pap, he done hit me on de haid wif his ax, an' I was standin' on some ole iron."—Atlanta Journal.

He wondered why his wife turned cold on him and remained so for several days. All he said in remonstrance was:

"My dear, you'll never be able to drive that nail with a flatiron. For heaven's sake use your head."—Ladies' Home Journal.

"So your father has given up the idea of making a garden?"

"Yes. He was very enthusiastic at first, but our soil is mostly yellow clay and it blistered his hands to dig in it."

"But I thought he was going to plant vegetables?"

"So he was. Now he says that if next winter's food depends on his digging like that he prefers to die of starvation."—Detroit Free Press.

Andrew, a sweet-voiced Cockney chap, was chosen to sing in a London slum concert and obliged with "Kathleen Mavourneen." His enunciation of one line, "The 'orn of the 'unter is 'eard on the 'ill," jarred very much on the nerves of one man, who mentioned that Andrew really ought to put a few "aitches" in now and then. "Garn!" said Andy, eyeing him with pity, "don't show yer ignorance—don't yer know there aint no H in music? It only goes up to G!"

The lieutenant was instructing the squad in visional training.

"Tell me, Number One," he said, "how many men are there in that trench-digging party over there?"

"Thirty men and one officer," was the prompt reply.

"Quite right," observed the lieutenant, after a pause.

"But how do you know one is an officer at that distance?"

"'Cos he's the only one not working, sir." — Tit-Bits.

A prominent lawyer of Montreal is in the habit of lecturing his office staff from the junior partner down, and Tommy, the office boy, comes in for his full share of the admonition. That his words were appreciated was made evident to the lawyer by a conversation between Tommy and another office boy on the same floor which he recently overheard.

"Wotcher wages?" asked the other boy.

"Ten thousand a year," replied Tommy.

"Ah, wot are you givin' us?"

"Sure," insisted Tommy unabashed. "Four dollars a week in cash an' de rest in legal advice."

It was the first week that the Smiths, who had fallen heir to considerable property, had been in their new home. Mrs. Smith was giving a dinner party, with the fond hope that from this occasion she would be fairly launched in society. "Lena," said Mrs. Smith to her new cook, "be sure to mash the peas thoroughly to-night." "What ma'am?" exclaimed the amazed cook. "Mash the peas?" "Yes, that is what I said, Lena, mash the peas," repeated the mistress. "It makes Mr. Smith very nervous at dinner to have them roll off his knife."

The judge stopped to have a word with the colored man-of-all-work, and asked if he went to church.

"Yessuh, Ah goes to church every Sunday," he said.

"Are you a member?"

"Yessuh."

"What church?"

"Prespeteeryn."

"Do you believe in the doctrine of election?"

"Yessuh."

"Do you believe I am elected to the saved?"

"Law, judge, Ah didn't even know you was a candidate."—Argonaut.

POLICIES LAPSE.

Nearly 7,000,000 life insurance policies written by 19 insurance companies in England have been allowed to lapse since beginning of the war.

OWN RAILWAY SECURITIES.

President Kingsley, of New York Life Insurance Co., speaking in behalf of National Association of Owners of Railroad Securities, pointed out that railroad securities held by life insurance companies on January 1, 1916, approximated at book value \$1,583,000,000.

INSURANCE MERGER.

The Fine Art & General Insurance Co., Limited, which has ranked as one of the leading independent British fire companies, and doing a large business also in burglary and accidents, is to be absorbed by the North British & Mercantile, which offers £13 per share, payable in war loan, the proposal being conditional on the offer being accepted by 85 per cent of the shareholders.

SOMETHING UNIQUE.

A correspondent writing in the Montreal Daily Mail, makes the following suggestion:

To prevent the many serious and even fatal accidents from fire occurring to women engaged in their household duties, I would suggest that in every kitchen a shower be attached to the water pipe, so that should her clothes become ignited she could, without delay, step under the shower, pull a chain, and her whole person be instantly drenched, which her face and lungs would be absolutely protected from flame and smoke.

H. K. L.

(Montreal, June 6, 1917).

DATA ON CANADIAN WAR LOANS.

In answer to question by E. B. Devlin, of Wright, Sir Thomas White stated in the Commons that there had been three bond issues as war loans: the 5 per cent. 1915-25 war loan, \$100,000,000 at 97½; 5 per cent. 1916-31 war loan, \$100,000,000 at 97½; 5 per cent. 1917-37 war loan \$150,000,000 at 95.

The actual amount received by the Government was, from the first loan, \$97,003,600.27; from the second, \$97,789,580.17; from the third to date, \$139,832,508.94 (incomplete).

The amount paid for clerical assistance in placing the loans was \$60,876.98 and for advertising \$110,027.72.

Brokers received for selling the bonds of the first two loans a commission of ¼ per cent, and for the last loan ¾ of 1 per cent. On the first loan the banks received a commission of ¼ of 1 per cent, on the second ½ of 1 per cent, and on the third 9-20 of 1 per cent. The banks agreed, in consideration of these commissions, to take subscriptions and receive payments, deliver provisional receipts, interim certificates and bonds, keep necessary accounts and cash coupons of issues free of exchange. They also agreed if necessary to take \$50,000,000 of the second loan and \$60,000,000 of the third loan.

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Total Annual Income Exceeds - - - - -	151,500,000
Total Funds Exceed - - - - -	193,774,045
Total Fire Losses Paid - - - - -	1,245,467
Deposit with Dominion Government - - - - -	

(As at 31st December, 1916).

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