

In Lighter Vein

Agreed.—While James McNeill Whistler, the eccentric American painter, was trying on a hat in a London shop one day, a customer rushed in, and, mistaking Mr. Whistler for a clerk, exclaimed: "I say, this 'at doesn't fit." The artist eyed him for a minute, and then replied, scornfully: "Neither does your coat, and I'll be hanged if I like the color of your trousers."—"Argonaut."

Oh, I See.—A physician was driving through a village when he saw a man amusing a crowd with the antics of his trick dog. The doctor pulled up and said: "My dear man, how do you manage to train your dog that way? I can't teach mine a single trick."

The man glanced up with a simple rustic look and replied: "Well, you see, it's this way: you have to know more'n the dog or you can't learn him nothin'."

The Practical Mind.—A certain school teacher was giving her class reading. It came to a part about a woman drowning herself. The teacher asked a boy to read again. He began: "She threw herself into the river. Her husband, horror-stricken, rushed to the bank—" The teacher interrupted: "Now, tell me why the husband rushed to the bank?" Quick and sharp came his answer: "Please, ma'am, to get the insurance money."—"The Argonaut."

Possibilities of the Future.—Old Top: "I say, what's the matter with those Newtypes? They have been running back and forth to the drug store, and calling up all the doctors in town."

Jolly: "Why, didn't you hear? Newtype gave his wife's mother one of Dr. Research's Suspended Animation Tablets to relieve her sick headache. Newtype can't just remember where he put the prescription to bring her to, and Dr. Research has gone to South Africa on a hunting trip!"

Old Top: "But what's the hurry?"—"Life."

A Doubtful Compliment.—Old Lady: "Well, here's a shilling for you, my poor man."

Tramp: "A shillin'? Lor' bless yer, Lydy, if there ever was a fallen angel, you're it."—"London Opinion."

School Friends.—The conductor of a western freight train saw a tramp stealing a ride on one of the forward cars. He told a brakeman in the caboose to go up and put the man off at the first stop. When the brakeman approached the tramp the latter waved a big revolver and told him to get away.

"Did you get rid of him?" the conductor asked when the train was under motion again.

"I hadn't the heart," was the reply. "He turned out to be an old school friend of mine."

"I'll take care of him," said the conductor, as he started over the tops of the cars.

When the train had again started the brakeman came and said:

"Well, is he off?"

"No, he turned out to be an old school friend of mine, too," replied the conductor.

Most Unreasonable.—Two suburban mothers met on the train one day, and the topic of their conversation was their daughters. "How did your daughter pass her examination for a position as teacher?" asked one. "Pass!" was the answer. "She didn't pass at all. Maybe you wouldn't believe it, but they asked that girl about things that happened long before she was born."—"The Argonaut."

As She Heard It.—A young lady who was inspecting bicycles said to the clerk: "What's the name of this wheel?"

"That is the 'Belvidere,'" answered the salesman.

He was rewarded by a stony glare and the icy question: "Can you recommend the Belva?"

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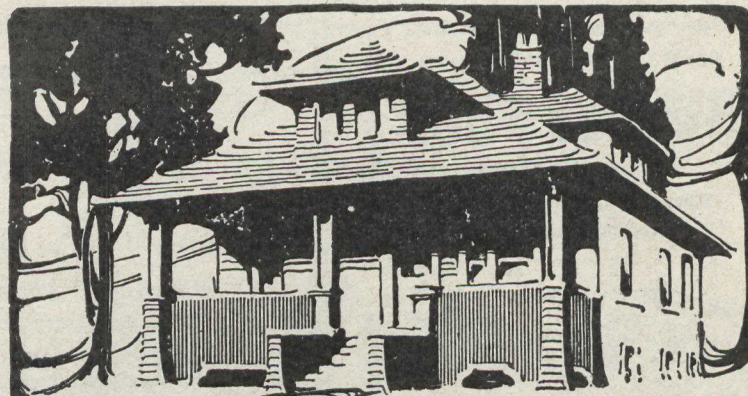
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