"What is a Joke"

All Concern Dignity's Capitulation

Some jokes are spiced with one kind of flavoring; some with another kind; but the main ingredients are the same. They all more or less depend upon the same elements of their "laughs." In a general way, a joke is manufactured from embarrassment.

The first joke ever made in the world was when some frisky young cave man suddenly yanked away the stone upon which the hoary-whiskered old chief of the tribe was about to sit. And all jokes through the ages that have followed have been made out of about the same stuff. It is not actual material chairs that are being pulled out from under dignified people; but the best and surest jokes concern the fall of dignity in some way.

It is because I so thoroughly realize this that my comedies always have a strong, reasonable plot upon which the comedy is draped.

There is nothing funny in mere monkey business. Parenthetically, I might remark that the reason a monkey is funny is because he always looks so solemn and dignified when he does his antics.

Comedians could well take a cue from the monk. The only really funny comedy is that done seriously.

There is nothing funny in a dirty hobo falling over a bucket of water, but it is funny when a pompous, stuck up, snobbish old aristocrat falls over a bucket of water. For that reason, the successful comedy director must have a logical, serious story to "establish" the character of the snob he intends to tip over.

This is the principle upon which all comedy is built.

There are many interesting side lights. No one knows how or why, but the screen public has tacitly agreed that certain things are funny.

For instance, we never can take any liberties with a Shetland pony in a picture. They don't like to see these little fellows made fun of.

The public will enjoy fun being poked at a preacher if he wears side whiskers; dress him in any other makeup and you are on very dangerous ground. I never could imagine why this is, but it is true.

There is one character with whom we can always be as rough as we choose—the policeman.

I don't care who it is, everyone in the world is a little afraid of a policeman.

Michigan County First in Breed List

Livingston County, Michigan, is the first county in the United States listed in the better-sires movement as havng a dominant breed of live stock. The breed is Holstein cattle. According to the result of a live stock survey reported to the United States Department of Agriculture by County Agent F. S. Dunks, Livingston County, contains 250 registered bulls. One hundred purebred sires of a single breed is the number needed before that breed is officially recognized as dominant in the county. Livingston County thus exceeded the minimum by two and one-half times.

Of the 321 purebred herds of cattle in the country, 275 are Holsteins. The total number of purebred cattle is 3,688, of which 3,240 are Holsteins. About 72 per cent of the bulls in the county are purebred, 22 per cent grade, and 2 per cent scrub. Shorthorns and Jerseys are the second and third most prominent breeds.

Demonstration in Swine Breeding

With the aid of the extension loan fund which has been created by public spirited citizens of North Carolina for financing worthy boys and girls in raising purebred live stock, various county agents in that State are starting demonstrations in swine breeding which promise to be particularly convincing to farmers in the localities concerned, because the demonstrations are to be carried on largely by residents of the neighborhoods.

The method being followed is for the county agent to select a promising boy or girl in each of several districts who will agree to raise a sow for a given period. After a 4-acre plot suitable for the demonstration has been decided on and plans have been completed for improving it, an approved note is given by the youthful stock raiser to cover the purchase price of a sow, the cost of fencing and erecting one or two colony houses. The pig and the improvements are then purchased with money advanced from the extension loan fund.

The plan contemplates raising pigs to the age of 8 months. All animals used in the demonstrations are to be purebreds. The first North Carolina farmer to whom this proposal was presented instantly agreed to co-operate and set aside for his child four acres near the highway along which many people pass. The tract is to be fenced this winter according to the most approved methods and provided with a model self-feeder and an automatic waterer. A registered Poland China sow will take possession early in the spring and will farrow a March litter in her new quarters. It is confidently exepcted that in this demonstration, as in the others being arranged in various parts of the State the selected animals will pay the expenses, including fencing and seeding the first year.

Polish for Leather

To keep leather-covered chairs in good condition a polish must be applied frequently. Equal parts of linseed oil and turpentine mixed make a good polish. It should be applied with a soft flannel and polished with another flannel.

To Europe by Air

There are two definite projects afoot to establish regular transatlantic air routes. It is reported that the land has already been secured near New York City for a landing place. One of those routes is planned by Germany and the other by England. In both cases the dirigible baloons are to be used similar to the great R-34 which made a successful round trip last year. It is figured that the air line could be made to pay by charging a little more than the regular ocean steamship rate. Within a few years, surely not more than five, we shall be able to cross the Atlantic in three days or less by air route.

Leading a Dog's Life at Universal City

"If a dog knows what you want him to do he'll do his best to do it."

That is the theory that is put into practice at the Universal City kennels where a corps of trainers are employed under the direction of A. C. Stecker, chief of the Universal City arena, to educate dogs for work before the camera.

"The dog," Mr. Stecker continued, "has for generation been the friend and companion of man. It is his instinct to please, serve and, if necessary, die for his master. Only by kindness can a dog be properly trained. The animal who works through fear is a pathetic spectacle and is useless before the camera."

Although he has been responsible for the training of Joe Martin, Universal's educated orang-outang, and the herd of lions frequently seen in Universal animal comedies and serials Mr. Stecker still finds time personally to train the universal dogs. His favorites are a team of Alaskan "huskies." Among the Alaskans are two of the most famous and valuable dogs in the world, Blue and Juno, prize winners of the All-Alaskan sweepstakes.

Universal City is truly the world's dog paradise. Dogs at the Universal City kennels are cared for with the zeal that would be applied to a wealthy old codger with the gout in a fashionable sanitarium.

Each day the sleeping quarters of the animals are flushed out, scrubbed and disinfected. The feeding pans are subjected to a scouring and allowed to dry in the sun.

Through the mild, sunny days of a California winter the dogs are tethered in a verdant pasture where they are free to roam at the end of twenty foot chains.

While the ancient and honorable ceremony of the bath is sometimes limited to Saturday night among humans, the dogs at the Universal City arena are dry-cleaned once a day, dipped for fleas once a week and bathed at frequent intervals.

The minute puppies are able to waddle away from their mother they are dipped in a solution that renders the average flea utterly despondent

A. C. Stecker, the chief trainer, has a standing bounty of one dollar for any of his assistants who can find a flea. One of the deputy trainers found a fat flea on a poodle the day before Christmas and collected his reward, but it is gravely suspected that he "planted" the little pest.

The dean of the Universal City dogs is "Bob," the stately St Bernard who is to be seen in "Blind Husbands," Stroheim's wonderplay of the Tyrolean Alps.

The Secret is Out Jazz is Discovered

Writing about the jazz reminds me that the subject is of such importance that a long cablegram was recently sent from London concerning the origin of the word. According to the cablegram, the secret is out, and it is an Englishman who gives us the valuable information, says Musical America.

He tells us that while Englishmen should not be held responsible for the vernacular of their brethren in the Western continent, the word jazz, he admits, is now as much a household word in England as in America. And then he goes on to say that the word came from the South and from the negroes. Now in the South, he tells us, there is a germ known as the hook worm which affects all true Southerners. Some unkind employers call it "loafer-itis." The white employer, according to the Erudite Englishman, in the South has many thousands of negroes working for him, and consequently many overseers. So not being able to remember the names of all his foremen, he generally names each man Jasper, which, according to this Englishman, is a term of the highest esteem. Through the very human love of abbreviation, Jasper became "Jas," and as the overseer's principal means of getting work out of his underlings is through harsh and abusive tongue, he was often requested to "Jass up" the work. The Southern drawl makes "Jass" sound like "Jazz." And there we have the word itself. And jazz music, no matter what classic loving critics may say about it, at least inspires energy. Hence the derivation.

Girls Make Poultry Record

The hens owned by poultry club girls in Mississippi do not lay golden eggs, but they lay enough of the ordinary kind to permit their owners to buy the golden variety if they so desire.

One of these successful young poultry growers is Gregory Russell, who lives in Lawrence County, Miss. This is her first year in poultry club work. She bought all of the dry feed for her flock but raised a tenth acre of oats and rape for their green feed. This 15-year-old girl's net return this year from her poultry work, which was supervised by the United States Department of Agriculture and the State college, was $256.

Vivian Smith of Yalabusha County, Miss., has been in poultry club work for four years. This year her net return for the work was $386.86. She started four years ago with seven chickens and made a net return that year of $70. The next year she doubled this amount, and the third year she cleared $240 from her poultry. Miss Smith has the largest flock in her section. She believes in selling the old hens, keeping the pullets for layers, and giving the birds plenty of green feed.

Both of these girls won a recent trip to Washington for making the highest return on their project of any girl in their districts.

The Old Earth

In a recent lecture Sir Oliver Lodge, the eminent English scientist who is now visiting America, announced that the earth would probably continue to exist for 20,000,000 years more. These are, of course, round numbers. Some scientists estimate that the earth will live for ten times this age. There have been animals of one kind and another on this planet for fully this length of time. The dinosaurs are believed to have lived through some such period. The age of man, which is probably only a few thousand years, seems the merest trifle by comparison. When we consider how man has developed during recorded history, which is less than ten thousand years, we may hope that he will evolve to an infinitely finer type in the future.

Dog Gone

"I hear your dog died?"
"It did."
"Was it a lap dog?"
"Yep, it would lap anything."
"What did it die of?"
"It died of a Tuesday."
"I want to know how it died.'
"It died on its back."
"What did it die of?"
"It fought a circular saw."
"What was the result?"
"Lasted only one round."

Depletion of Our Forest Supplies

The species of timber which form the bulk of our export trade, except Douglas fir, are those of which the supplies are most depleted. Thus southern yellow pine forms half of our entire export trade, and the available supply is only 222 billion feet. At the present annual cut of saw-log size timber of nearly 17 billion board feet there remains only about 14 years cut of the original supplies.

That these figures are not a mere theoretical calculation is proved by an official statement recently issued by the Southern Pine Association estimates that 8.16 per cent of the mills will cut out their supplies in 5 years, 95.3 per cent in 10 years, and 90 per cent in 15 years.

"How's the baby?" asked the neighbor of the new father.

"Fine!" said the proud parent.

"Don't you find that a baby brightens up the household wonderfully?" pursued the friend.

"Yes," said the parent, with a sigh; "we have the gas going most of the night now."

The Furrow

News and Views About the Farm

Better Seed Potatoes

Seed stock of Irish potatoes commonly available to growers contain many mixtures, not infrequently diseased and as a rule not as productive as they should be. The Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, makes this statement in reporting on the progress of work in developing improved seed stocks. It is a recognized fact, he says, that the yield of potatoes in this country is far below that secured in some other countries, and the difference is commonly attributed to the use of relatively inferior seed stocks. Seed improvement work is being carried on by the department in co-operation with agricultural experiment stations in practically all of the important potato-producing States. The best seed stock of the leading varieties in different regions is being grown in the various States. During the progress of the season the various plants are inspected several times for the purpose of eliminating diseased plants and those which are not true to name or to type. At harvest time carefully studied selections are made for the purpose of obtaining the best strains of the different varieties. These potatoes in turn will be used for seed purposes with a view to developing stocks that are true to name, true to type, free from disease communicable through the seed, and that possess high-yielding proclivities.

Making Sure of Binder Twine

The United States has long depended for much of its supply of binder twine on henequen from Yucatan. The uncertainty of the supply during the past several years has caused serious anxiety lest there should be enough binder twine to harvest the increasing crops of grain in this country, and the United States Department of Agriculture has been making diligent efforts to find new sources of supply or new regions where binder-twine fibers may be produced. The chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry reports encouraging results. The conditions in limited areas, extreme southern Florida and on the larger keys, are regarded as suitable for the production of sisal and henequen fibers, provided the cost of land and of labor is not too high to permit successful competition. Henequen has been cultivated successfully for several years in Cuba and the plantations are being increased, but thus far they produce scarcely enough fiber to supply the cordage mills on the island. Conditions are regarded as favorable for the production of binder twine fibers in limited areas in Haiti and over a much larger area in southern Santo Domingo. Experimental plantings in Porto Rico have resulted in the establishment of a commercial plantation near Yauco and trial plantings near Quebradallas and on Mona Island have given promising growth. In the Virgin Islands excellent conditions for the cultivation of sisal have been found on St. Croix. In the Philippines the introduction of modern fiber-cleaning machines has resulted in increased plantings of sisal and private capital has bought and installed machines to develop the industry on a larger scale.

"If there were four flies on the table, and I killed one, how many would be left?" the teacher asked.

"One," answered a smart little girl; "the dead one."

Skin deep beauty is all right if the girl has money.

Carrying Capacity of Pastures

Hogs do not relish grasses except when the leaves are young and tender. Hence it is necessary for the best results to keep permanent pastures well stocked. If the plants are allowed to mature they not only become less palatable but are deficient in feeding value as well. It is usually advisable to have some other stock in the pastures with the hogs to eat the coarser plants. Cattle are best suited for this purpose. Moving the pasture in late spring should be practiced if the plants become too far advanced.

It is impossible to state how many animals per acre will be supported by a permanent pasture. In most cases it is advisable to have some of the best supplementary forage crops to graze in addition to the pasture. A safe rule is to have at least one acre of good permanent pasture for each brood sow kept. Of course, this acreage could be reduced or the number of hogs increased where a complete success of supplementary forage crops is raised or where the land is very productive. A greater area should be allowed if the grazing is poor.

The carrying capacity of the various supplementary forage crops varies widely, according to the growth of the crop. As a rule it is safe to graze them at the rate of ten to fifteen 100 pound shotes to the acre. A greater number will shorten the grazing period, and fewer animals will lengthen it.

Hessian Fly Withstand Cold

Specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture stationed in the Middle West have determined that in spite of the severest winter, at least three-fourths of the Hessian flies in the "flaxseed" stage overwintered successfully. Experiments have shown also, that Hessian fly eggs exposed all night to a temperature of 9 degrees above zero will hatch perfectly healthy maggots. The indications are, therefore, that the Hessian fly infestation this year will be very severe. A severe infestation was indicated last fall, the only hope of alleviation being that the number might be greatly reduced during the winter. This did not occur. Nothing can be done now toward protecting the present crop from damage, but information recently gathered by the entomologists will emphasize the necessity for the practice of control measures this fall when planting is being done for next year's crop. Control consists in late sowing, rotation of crops, plowing under of stubble, destruction of volunteer wheat, thorough preparation of soil, the use of fertilizer and selection and proper sowing of the best seed.

A fool and his money are soon parted, but it's different with a lazy boy and his warm bed.

The only proof of man's superiority over women is the fact that he never wears clothes buttoned down the back.

Only Some Pigs Died Might be Babies Next

They were only pigs, but the manner in which they were handled illustrates the costliness of human carelessness. The story of how they lost their lives is worth the telling because the U. S. Department of Agriculture believes that similar carelessness constantly endangers human lives.

The story begins with a Florida farmer who recently sent a load of hogs to market. Upon post-mortem examination by the Government inspector at the slaughter house where federal meat inspection is maintained a large proportion of the swine were found badly affected with tuberculosis. To locate the source of infection, responsible for the condition, the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry—which among its other duties aids States in eradicating tuberculosis—began an invesigation.

Tests of the Florida farmer's live stock showed no tuberculosis among his cattle, but four of his brood sows re-acted when tested, showing that probably they were diseased. Determined to find the source of this disease, the history of the hogs was investigated. The trail led to New Orleans, where it was learned that two of the sows had come from Iowa, one from Maine. The Federal inspector in charge communicated with the Iowa breeder from whom two of the sows had been secured and who was a veterinarian. He was induced to apply the tuberculin test to his drove of hogs. There were a large number of "reactors" in the pen, all of which on post-mortem examination were found to be tuberculosis. On the same farm there was a herd of cattle that had passed a tuberculin test several years before but had since been on a show circuit where they were associated with untested stock.

Upon applying a retest to find the source of infection several of the cattle reacted. When slaughtered they too disclosed lesions of tuberculosis Here is how the malady had spread to the diseased brood sows on the Florida farm. As pigs they had been fed on raw milk from the infected herd of cattle in Iowa.

Summing up the evidence, Dr. J. G. Fish, the federal inspector, states: "The point I wish to make is: That the milk or by-products that produce tuberculosis in pigs would produce the same disease in babies using the same milk."

The trail of infection is now being followed to Illinois and Maine to locate, and, if possible, stamp out the disease at the sources. In the case mentioned the tuberculosis stock menaced Florida. There is no way of telling what State might be endangered the next time. The United States Department of Agriculure advises the greatest care in purchasing breeding stock and it states that even then, before any animals are brought into direct contact with a healthy herd, they should be kept in quarantine until known to be free from infectious disease.

Some Tub

On his first trip across the Twenty-third Street ferry, little Willie, aged two, remarked: "Oh! look Mamma, all the boats in the bathtub.

BRIEFS

A high old time—the grandfather's clock.

If figures never lie what about fabulous prices?

No doubt the profiteer's favorite expression is, "How's that for high?"

Rose—"Ivy's new hat has some flowers and some currants and some cherries and apples and berries on it."

Lily—"My! that must be what they call a 'garden hat.'"

In the first person—Adam's apple.

DALSIMER SHOES
Comfort with Style
FREE "CARE OF THE FEET"
By LEON S. DALSIMER, M.D.
Most foot troubles come from poor fitting. For forty years Dalsimer Shoes have been recognized for their Comfortable Fit, Unexcelled Quality and Good Style. The wide range of sizes carried by us running from 1½ to 11 and AA to F enables us to fit you perfectly. Valuable information on the cause and cure of foot troubles and how you can wear attractive and stylish shoes in solid comfort. The booklet also pictures and describes our fulline of perfect fitting shoes for Women, Men and Children. Send for it today. It's FREE.
S. DALSIMER & SONS, 1204 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?
This is Presidential election year and Coming on the heels of the Great War It will have a great bearing on
STOCKS and BONDS
Write us for our opinion and request to be placed on our mailing list.
WINSLOW TAYLOR & CO.
Main Office
130 SOUTH 15TH STREET, Dept. "A"
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Locust 5182-3-4-5-6. Race 5196-7-8.

Millions in Fertilizer
FINE COOPERATIVE PLAN FOR DEALERS
Write Today
DuBois Fertilizer Works
411 Perry Bld., Philadelphia

S-S-STAMMERING
and all defects in speech cured. Afternoon and evening classes. Call, Write, or Phone Poplar 1332 for particulars.
THE QUIGLEY INSTITUTE
For the cure of all defects in speech
1727 Master Street, Philadelphia

FRECKLES
Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots
There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as Othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these homely spots.
Simply get an ounce of Othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful, clear complexion.
Be sure to ask for the double strength Othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.
—Adv.

AFTER ALL OTHERS FAIL
Consult the Old Reliable
DR. LOBB
Forty Years' Continuous Practice
1209 Race St., Phila., Pa.
Guarantees to Cure Special Diseases
Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Write or call for free book

WHY PAY MORE?
For Full Neolin Soles and Rubber Heels $1.75
New Model Shoe Repairing Co.
Sent by parcel post. 8 South Fifth St.
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

WE ARE PREPARED
to assist you in every way in making the most of your trading account. The Present Market offers so many profit-making opportunities it is difficult to choose unless you are in close touch with a reliable source of information as to the respective merits of securities, and able to secure prompt quotations on stocks under consideration.
Whether you wish to invest a small amount, or carry a large trading account, we have every facility required to take care of your business, and offer, without charge, the privilege of consulting our Statistical Department for information on any security.
Write for our Free Booklet giving Curb and Mining quotations, which will permit you to make intelligent comparisons and select the security that is most attractive.
PRICE, GUARD & CO.
BROKERS
430-32 Widener Bldg. Philadelphia, Pa.
Walnut 2173-4 PROMPT DELIVERIES Race 5117-8

Benefit From a Personal Service
We solicit your brokerage business. Our long experience and efficient organization enable us to render flawless service.
We give personal attention to every account and protect our clients at every angle. Shares placed with us for sale will secure the highest possible price, and buying orders will receive prompt filling at the lowest market figure.
We take the time and trouble to give satisfactory service to our clients. No account is too small for our personal attention and none too large for our organized ability.
Send us your stocks, bonds, and general investments. We will give them prompt, efficient attention. Buy your investments through us, for we know the market thoroughly and can render expert service.
Send for Circular "R-1"
KOONTZ & CO.
SECURITIES
Members Consolidated Stock Exchange of New York
723-26-28 WIDENER BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
TELEPHONES—Walnut 4763-4-5 Race 3381-2
55 Broadway, New York Direct Private Wires Connecting Offices


Are your teeth in danger?
Four out of five adults have the dread disease PYORRHEA. It causes loss of teeth and leads to ills which may result in DEATH.
Pyorrhea is seldom noticed before it has a firm hold on its victims. Let us help you find out if your mouth is infected and eradicate it before you lose your teeth and the poison is spread throughout your system.
FREE BOOKLET Interesting Instructive
This treatment is applied direct to the seat of the disease. It is intended to be used in the privacy of your own home.
Neglected pyorrhea leads to certain ill health and loss of teeth. Write now for detailed facts FREE.
APEX REMEDIES CO.
Suite R, 80 West Genesee Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2929_scm3543-0204.jpg