High Altitude Talks



Newspaper men while sailing along through the air 2,000 feet above Hadley Flying Field, N. J., talked with associates in London. The connections were established by engineers of the Bell Telephone Laboratories to demonstrate the practicability of such conversations from airships. This marks another epoch in the rapidly increasing communication feats which have come about with such startling rapidity in recent years that the public refuses any longer to be startled at their announcements.

(Lower left) John O'Donnell, newspaper man talking from the Laboratories' experimental plane with his New York office.

(Circle) The Bell Laboratories' "flying telephone booth" as this plane has been so picturesquely called by one of the newspaper men who participated in the recent experiments of talking from the plane to various city telephones.

(Bottom) The Steamship Leviathan (Henry Miller Photo Service) largest ship in the world which is to be equipped with a model transmitter and receiver for experiments in talking by telephone between shore and ship as the vessel plys on regular trips between New York and European ports.

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Standard Time

The United States Naval observatory has three standard clocks running in constant temperature vaults, electrically wound and sealed to keep the air pressure constant. Meridian circle observations of selected stars are taken regularly on clear nights, and from these observations the errors of standard clocks are determined. The observatory sends out time signals. Correct time is given over radio networks as an advertising device.

"Lost and Found" Home

The "lucky bag" aboard a man-of-war is a place where the ship's police petty officer stows effects for safe keeping that are found adrift about the ship. At frequent intervals the lucky bag is opened and the effects are distributed to the owners. Lucky for the owners, but when persons are found guilty of carelessness, and they usually always are, in leaving their effects adrift, some mild form of disciplinary action is taken.

National Museum

The United States National museum is at Washington, in charge of the Smithsonian institution. The museum is rich in the natural history, geology, paleontology, archeology, and ethnology of America, and has collections of American history, including war collections, as well as many series relating to the arts and the industrial arts. It is an educational and research museum.

Ubiquitous

Out on the fringes where the world begins there is found a man known to his shipmates as Doc. He is a hospital corpsman in the United States navy. He is found wherever the American navy or marine corps goes, Guam, Samoa, Panama, Haiti, Virgin islands, Manila, Brazil, Nicaragua or China is home to him.—Exchange.

Allowed to Change Name

Sophie Frances Shepard bequeathed $50,000 to Christ Episcopal church at Charleston, S. C., with the provision that the church change its name to "St. Peter's church." A friendly lawsuit resulted in a ruling that the "defendants are within their rights in proceeding to change the name of the said church."

Term of Objurgation

"Rapscallion" is a form of rascallion, which comes from rascal, meaning a low, sneaking person. Rapscallion means about the same thing, although there is a tendency to use it in an affectionate sense, especially when speaking to a boisterous boy or a mischievous dog.

Book Centuries Old

The oldest printed book in the United States is a Chinese book, printed on wood paper with wooden type, and while the exact date of its printing cannot be determined the authorities know that it was before 1190 A. D.

Stamp of Inferiority

Can't is a word that should have no place in our language. It really isn't a word, but a state of mind. And few who harbor it ever attain success. People who "can't" should get off the main highway and not block traffic.—Grit.

The Last Salute

The firing a salute over a soldier's grave is an old English custom introduced into this country by Washington in 1777. The custom is so ancient that the original reasons for its existence are not known.

Aberdeen's Quarries

Aberdeen has nine granite quarries employing 5,000 men. Aberdeen's granite is the hardest in the world, but not so brightly colored as granite from Norway, Sweden and Finland.

Kink Somewhere

A man who has a mind too big for his needs is one who sits on the courthouse steps and discusses the situation in Europe when the flour barrel at home is empty.—Exchange.

World's Largest Valley

The largest valley in the world is the Great rift of Africa. It begins in the north of Palestine and stretches nearly as far south as Natal, a total length of 5,000 miles.

Napkins Placed on File

In some of the smaller cafes in France regular patrons file their napkins in a type of rack. They are taxed once a week for the laundry of the linen.

Not All Bad

While the legend of Cindrella may be the story of one stepmother, it does not even symbolize the story of many another.—Woman's Home Companion

Opportunity for All

Well, God give them wisdom that have it; and those that are fools, let them use their talents.—Shakespeare

Fable

The old fellow was ninety-four and told reporters he didn't attribute his longevity to any particular diet.

Need a Moses

What this country really needs is some one to really tell what it really needs.—Boston Transcript.

Value of Right Words

There is no calamity which right words will not begin to redress.—Emerson.

Friction in Criticism

If you would be loved as a companion, avoid unnecessary criticism upon those with whom you live.—Helps.

Merino Leads

The merino sheep has the largest weight of wool in proportion to the weight of the body.

First American Duelists

The first duel fought in this country was in 1621 in Plymouth between two serving men.

Fritz, a Good Matchmaker

By LEETE STONE

(Copyright.)

ON EITHER side of the four downward steps that led to Fritz' Greenwich Village bookshop were rainstreaked stands stacked with dusty books, magazines and mid-Victorian color prints.

A bell jingled when the rickety black door creaked inward, disclosing a deep rectangle of twilight dim obscurity.

This was a dark, mausolean room with all manner of books grotesquely piled, tumbled and shelved in every conceivable crevice of space.

Gaunt, gray-bearded Fritz was monarch of all these forgotten relics of faded inspiration. For years he had lived, and had saved enough to buy a tenement from the earnings of this literary tomb.

Annette Abbey lived in Greenwich Village; but she was not of it. She had drawn a French mother's humor from a shaken hat of traits; with the other childish hand she had snatched a British father's mental poise and fibre.

One day Annette essayed the forbidding door of Fritz; entered the dim room where Weed and Greeley must have browsed in ante-bellum days, bearing in her graceful hand a slim, lavender-hued volume.

Fritz was thoughtfully masticating his noon hour cheese and onion sandwich, reclining in a chair that once, perhaps, had rocked, eyes upwardly inclined, earnestly admiring a hanging fringe of cobwebs that valanced his highest shelf of musty, blackbound sermons.

"Something from the stand, Fraulein, nicht war?" Motionless, he barely glanced at the girl. His voice seemed ambiguous and old, like the titles on his shelves.

"My book of poems!" She smiled in friendliness and extended fifteen cents.

"Ach, so?" Fritz laid aside his sandwich and leaned a little forward. "Fraulein will then take her poems as a little gift from Fritz."

Thus started the friendship of Fritz and Annette. A certain day she stopped in to cheer the old dealer with a sparkling, funny anecdote about a village character. They laughed together. Footsteps approached from in front.

An extremely serious-faced young man found the rim of dull light; Fritz' sanctum. He balanced a book on his palm.

"I found this on the fifty-cent counter," he said, scarcely above a whisper, as one making a confession. "It's my novel and I hate its being homeless. I'm a trifle short today. Will you trust me for the change?"

With a merry, rising inflection, Annette contributed:

"Just how I felt about my silly old poems; but you're way over me; I found my book on the fifteen-cent stand."

The youth faced her with a boyish, hesitant smile.

"Are you kidding me, or d'you mean it?"

Fritz cleared his throat with a great guttural rasp and reached for the long-stemmed cherrywood pipe with the carved bowl.

"Mein jung Herr, Fritz with pleasure would have you the book accept. So it happened with this always smiling little Fraulein. Your friendship, both of you, I ask. I am much alone. Come often and our Fraulein will teach us laughter."

The two young people strolled between the books and out in animated conversation. Fritz' bearded chin sank into a time-yellowed celluloid collar and his eyes gently closed in benign reverie.

Time fostered rare companionship between the two young writers and the old bookman. Once a week at midday Gerald Brereton and Annette would penetrate the murky silences of Fritz' corner, bringing a brown-paper bag stuffed with delicatessen delicacies.

All three proceeded, between bites, to reconstruct the world of letters nearer to their heart's desire. Often Fritz would tell tales of his student life at Heidelburg, fighting over again the duel that had left a livid, crooked cheek-scar, nearly buried by the beard. Benign Fritz; laughing Annette, and the so serious Gerald!

Later Gerald informed Annette that he would renounce hack writing and free lancing in favor of a forty-a-week job in a bank if she would do him the honor to marry him.

"Good old Sobersides, of course, I'll marry you. I love you! But you mustn't give up writing. Let's wait until we make enough to marry by our writing. Won't be long! Or—Gerald! Let's go talk to Fritz. He'll know!"

"Want to be married, Fritz; but we're too poor!" Both, chorused, standing before the old German.

"Ach, so. I knew, I knew," mused Fritz, eyeing the red-bellied stove. "You must write anodder novel. Waving a pipestem at Gerald, "togedder you must write. You must give it dreams and daring, and you," a wistful glance at Annette, "you must give it the lilt and laughter of your eyes."

The two held hands in silence, like two school children.

"It iss an order! A command! I, Fritz, will dis novel publish." Thumb and forefinger fished for and found a crisp, crackling note. "Here iss money—gewiss! Ein tausend tollar! First royalties!"

Beetle Vindicated

Experiments show that while the beetle and other insects were being blamed for the destruction of public buildings, they are not guilty. Their jaws are quite unsuited to a diet of stone. All they do is to make their homes in the erosions made by the more deadly bacteria. Even hard, smooth marble does not come amiss to these bacteria, and, incredible as it may seem, experiments reveal that they will make an erosion on the hardest marble in three weeks.

Mangian Love Letters Inscribed on Bamboo

Perhaps the queerest type of love letter know in the world is that in vogue among the Mangians of the hill lands and mountains of Mindoro, P. I., who still hold to the ancient alphabet of about three vowels and ten consonants which they group into words inscribed on bamboo in a single vertical column, their bolos serving them as a stylus. They are an extremely simple and timid people and their more aggressive Malayan neighbors have made them hunt cover in the highlands and the primeval forests. For business, aside from the very important business of making love, they hardly need writing at all; and surely no bamboo ledgers to record their wealth. But love makes as ardent demands upon them as upon other folk, and their swains fallen victim to Cupid whip out their bolos, slash down a good-sized bamboo, and go to verse writing with intense gusto. So that a love missive may be strung along the length of a 45-foot pole, and the one end trailing in the forest path as the poet indites a warm postscript on the other. Popular damsels soon have enough finely etched poles to build a hut—to burn such telltale documents would be to light a fire endangering the forest. Specimens of the love letter poles have been acquired by scientists and translated, and the astounding truth discovered that a Mangian in love is an inordinate liar!

Cold Not Only Thing Hoarded by the Miser

No one loves a miser. He does not consider money as a medium of exchange, as a counter in a game, but as an end in itself. He delights to hoard it, hold it, gloat over it, but never does he delight to spend. So have I observed men to hoard their virtues, count them, finger them, exult over them, yet none escape to serve a needy world. By this it does appear men may be misers in other things than gold.

One of the most subtle of all temptations is the tendency to become miserly and covetous of some prized possession. It may be physical strength, it may be beauty, it may be intellectual power or accomplishment. We are so apt to make the possession of these things an end in itself and to forget the more important fact that they have been given to us for a purpose.—Exchange.

High Schools' Beginning

The term high school came into use between 1820 and 1850, when in place of or by the side of schools called academies, which were maintained by endowment or at private expense, schools of a corresponding grade were established at public expense. Such institutions were variously designated at first. In Philadelphia the Central high school yet retains its original name. The term high school came into use in Boston when in 1821 English high school was established as complementary to the Latin school. During the period of Horace Mann's secretaryship of the Massachusetts board of education (1837-48) a system of high schools was instituted. This example was followed by other educational leaders. From the middle of the Nineteenth century the movement in the establishment of high schools became general.

Let the Heart Rule

Sincerity is the very foundation stone of true friendliness. It is also a human trait that is hard to counterfeit, as the sincere friendly impulse comes from the soul of a man and not from the circulating mind. Think kindly and friendly thoughts. If you have a heart and a soul, why be ashamed of them? Bring them into the shop, the office and your daily life. The hand may be cunning, and the head may contain the brain that can conceive the most brilliant thoughts, but every good and worthy impulse comes from the heart. Strengthen your faith in men; think kindly of them, believe that they are your friends, and in the long run they will be.—Exchange.

Women "Made Good"

In the spring of 1862 M. F. E. Spinner, treasurer of the United States, prevailed upon Secretary Chase to permit him to appoint a woman to cut and trim United States currency. This work was then being done with shears in the hands of men. He appointed Miss Jennie Douglas, and, as he afterward expressed it, "her first day's work settled the matter in her and in woman's favor." On October 9, 1862, the following woman employees were appointed: Miss Fannie L. Halstead, Miss Annie York, Miss Belle S. Tracy, Miss Elizabeth Stoner, Miss Mary Burk[illegible] They were the first women for whom congress regularly made an appropriation.

Land With a History

Denmark is the little old great-great-grandfather of the nations. He can yarn by the hour of a past as no one else his size. He will tell you of the old pirate days in 1167 when Copenhagen was founded to protect the land from the Wendish pirates, if that is the kind of story you wish to hear as you sit in one of that city's beautiful restaurants, or he will narrate the story of Hamlet, as if he had heard the Royal Dane cry from the ground about the castle of Kronberg close by. It is the oldest existing kingdom of Europe.

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Str. Express ..... 6.45 p. m.
Wednesday and Saturdays.
Str. Express ..... 8.30 a. m.
Str. Annapolis ..... 11.30 a. m.
Str. Express ..... 2.00 p. m.
Sundays.
Str. Express ..... 8.30 a. m.
Str. Express ..... 2.00 p. m.

Steamers Leave Tolchester
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Str. Annapolis ..... 8.00 a. m.
Str. Express ..... 10.45 a. m.
Str. Express ..... 4.15 p. m.
Str. Annapolis ..... 7.30 p. m.
Str. Express ..... 8.50 p. m.
Wednesday
Str. Annapolis ..... 8.00 a. m.
Str. Express ..... 10.45 a. m.
Str. Annapolis ..... 4.15 p. m.
Str. Express ..... 7.30 p. m.
Saturdays
Str. Annapolis ..... 8.00 a. m.
Str. Express ..... 10.45 a. m.
Str. Express ..... 7.30 p. m.
Sundays
Str. Express ..... 10.45 a. m.
Str. Annapolis ..... 3.00 p. m.
Strs. Express and Annapolis ..... 7.30 p. m.

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