No Wild Corn

Corn, the most important single crop raised in America, source of more wealth than all our mines, is a plant of wholly unknown origin. Familiar as a member of our own family, it is yet forever an orphan and a stranger, says Successful Farming. In this it is unlike practically all of our other farm crops—certainly unlike all our other grains. Scientists have found wild wheat in the Caucasus and Asia Minor, wild rye on the Asiatic steppes, wild oats in northern Africa. All of these can qualify as "surviving ancestors" of their cultivated kin-grains. But no man has ever seen a wild stalk of corn, or any wild plant that might have, by some process of breding or natural evolution, been changed into corn.

Origin of Postal System

The complicated postal organization had its origin in the system of private messengers employed by ancient rulers. Each messenger was given a fixed station where he should always be in readiness to receive a message and carry it to the next post. The Emperor Diocletian was apparently the first to establish such a post open to the use of private persons.

Confessions Ignored

In American murder trials a confession to a crime by a person who has died or disappeared is inadmissible as evidence, even when made to responsible parties and appearing to be true, says a writer in Collier's Weekly. It is completely ignored because the confessor is not available for examination and observation.

Museum for Lace

A museum, devoted entirely to a display of lace, is a feature in Halas, picturesque Hungarian city. Exhibits of the museum are built around Halas lace, made for hundreds of years by the descendants of the original settlers who came to the neighborhood from Turkey.

Symbol of Medicine

In Greek religion the winged staff with two snakes winding about it was carried by a herald, especially by Hermes, herald of the gods. His patronage of doctors made the caduceus an appropriate symbol of medicine. It is thus used by the Medical Corps, U. S. A.

The "Buckaroo"

The word "Buckaroo" is a western or southwestern term for "cowboy" or "broncho-buster," and is derived from the Spanish word "vaquero." There are a number of variations in spelling, "buckaree," "buckeroo," "buccaroo," etc.

Famous Caves in Europe

The names of some of the famous caves in Europe are: Fingal's cave, Scotland; Eye of Dionysius, Syracuse, Sicily; Grotto of Antiparos, Greece; Peak cavern, Derbyshire, England; Gailenruth, Germany; St. Michael's cave, Gibraltar.

Space Between R. R. Rails

A space is left between railroad rails in order to allow for changes in the lengths of the rails, due to extremes of cold in winter and of heat in summer. This is what is known as expansion opening.

Island of Aruba

The island of Aruba is in the Dutch colony of Curacao, situated twenty miles from the mainland of Venezuela. It has an area of sixty-nine square miles and a population of more than 5,000.

Smile on the Lips

If the sky is cloudy, manufacture a little sunshine of your own to start the day with. Begin with a smile on your lips and a song in your heart, and there is no fear but that the day will go well.

Early Etchings

Etchings originated in the Fifteenth century, reached a popular height in the Seventeenth century, declined in the Eighteenth century and enjoyed a return to favor in the Nineteenth century.

6,000-Year-Old Metals "Pure"

A study of numerous metal objects, some of which were 6,000 years old, has shown that despite the crude metallurgical methods of ancient times, remarkably pure metals were produced.

Shanghai Model City of the East

Shanghai, the chief seaport of China, 14 miles from the mouth of the Yangtze river, is the model city of the East. It is in the latitude of Jacksonville, Fla.

England's First Postmark

What is probably the first commemorative postmark used in Great Britain was dated September 19, 1862, with the inscription in a circle.

Obstinacy of the Good

The world is held back from true progress not so much by the badness of bad men as by the obstinacy of good men who have stopped growing.

Slave Imports Large

One hundred years ago some 150,000 Africans were annually imported into Brazil as slaves, and perhaps as many into Cuba.

Use of Ceremony

To dispense with ceremony is the most delicate mode of conferring a compliment.

City Has High Spots

Elevations in Los Angeles city limits range from sea level to 2,785 feet.

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AT THE MOVIES NEXT WEEK

"SHOW BOAT" . . . .

There's a rousing urge in the call, "Here comes the 'Show Boat'." For several years "Show Boat," has been the basis for a series of national broadcasts. Now the 1936 Universal screen version is coming to the New Lyceum Theatre on Monday and Tuesday, October 19 and 20.

You will hear the marvelous songs created by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II. But there is a great deal more than music to hold you spellbound in "Show Boat." There is the romance and quickening throb that Edna Ferber created in her novel. There is the human drama that Oscar Hammerstein wove into the play. There is the magic of the actors who portrayed the characters on the stage, and who now make them live in the film.

Irene Dunne is glorious in the romantic singing role of Magnolia. Allan Jones s the dashing Revenal who wins her heart with his handsome appearance and his appealing voice. Charles Winninger, who was Captain Andy in the stage play, and the Show Boat captain on the radio for more than three years, is the genial skipper in the motion picture. Helen Wesley gives the hardbitten Parthy stern reality as the captain's wife.

Then there is Paul Robeson, the magnificent baritone who looks like a bronze statue and sings like "all God's chillun" in Heaven. Wait until you hear him do "Old Man River" and "Ah Still Suits Me," with a chorus of 200 voices chanting in waves of beating sound that sweep and flow on a river of rhythm. A cast of 3500 people gives the picture stirring vitality.

You will be captivated by Helen Morgan's memorable sonsg; pleased by the clever dancing of Queenie Smith and Sammy White. You will see 48 beauties in a dozen different sparkling numbers that show the development of American dances, from their early beginning to the modern steps of today.

You'll find music and singing and laughter; romance and thrills and drama in this screen hit.

Ladies and gentlemen: Here comes the "Show Boat."

"DODSWORTH" . . . .

Sinclair Lewis' unsentimental chronicle of a sentimental hero, "Dodsworth," which first captivated a vast audience as a best-selling novel and then as a play that ran for almost two years, has now been made accessible to a still vaster audience as a film.

Reunited in the Samuel Goldwyn screen production, which comes to the New Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday and Thursday, October 21 and 22, are several important participants of the dramatic version. Walter Huston is again Sam Dodsworth and Sidney Howard, who dramatized the Lewis book is once more the author of the screen play. The distinguished Mme. Maria Ouspenskaya again plays the proud, old Baroness Von Obersdorf and Gregory Gaye is seen again as her young son, Kurt, who makes love to Dodsworth's romantic wife. This time, however, Ruth Chatterton plays Mrs. Dodsworth, while others prominently cast are Paul Lukas, Mary Astor and David Niven.

Howard came to this assignment a veteran in the art of screen writing. Four years ago he joined Hollywood's literary tribesmen and remained for some time. Then, returning to the drama, he contributed "Alien Corn," "Yellow Jack," "The Late Christopher Bean," "Paths of Glory" and "Dodsworth." During this period the persistent film executives found him as persistently unresponsive to their overtures.

Now "Dodsworth" returns him doubly to the fold, reviving as it does his association with Samuel Goldwyn. It was for this producer that Howard transcribed "Arrowsmith," an earlier Lewis book to the screen and penned numerous other photoplays, among them Goldywn's first talking picture, "Bulldog Drummond."

It is true that while the essence of the novel "Dodsworth" was present in the play, little of Mr. Lewis' original fiction remained. In his film transcription Howard has leaned more heavily upon the book.

No longer confined to the telling of an immense story in three acts and fourteen scenes, the playwright spread his wings in the scenario and permitted himself the indulgence of a few aerial maneuvers.

The scenes in the stage play, Howard felt, lost much of the color, richness and variety of the book's European setting. And in this the picture gains over anything that could be done on any stage. The chief task in preparing "Dodsworth" for the screen was the task of linking the dramatic episodes with the Dodsworths' wanderings in Europe. It was not feastible, even with the cinematic method of direction employed for the stage play, to present interludes of getting on and off trains and boats without delaying the progress of the story, although much would have been gained by them.

On the screen such scenes are not only of value, but, thanks to processing and similar mechanical facilities, have been easily accomplished.

Howard has developed in the motion picture production many a new contribution of his own in addition to what he has drawn from the book and from his play, and the composite structure is reported to be a fuller and more vivid narration of "Dodsworth" than either the books or the play has given us.

"Dodsworth" was directed by William Wyler for release through United Artists.

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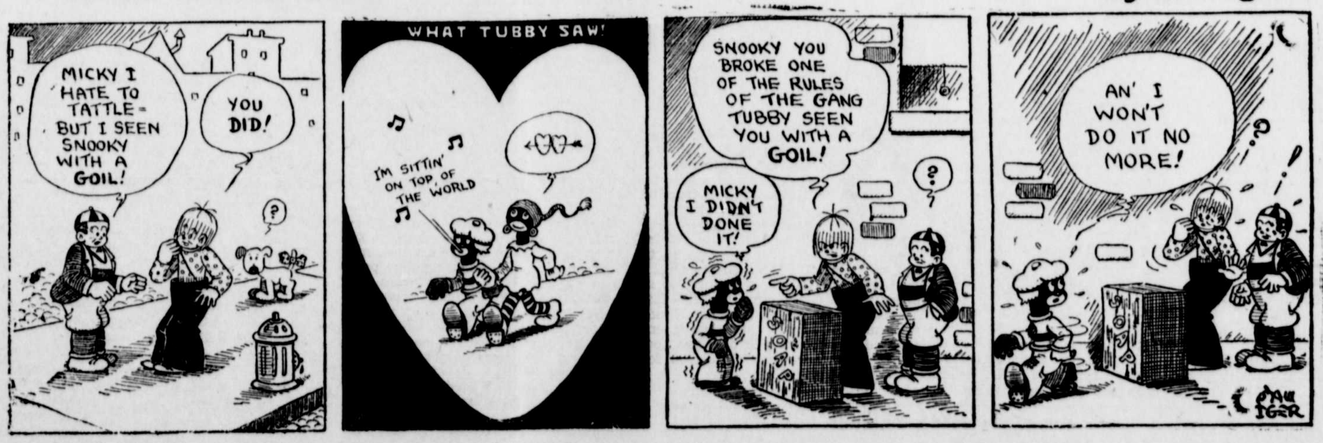
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