what Irvin S. Cobb thinks about:

Glory Vs. Undernourishment.

SANTA MONICA, CALIF.—Because their dictators are piling up armaments and building up armies at a rate unprecedented, the German people must, it appears, go on rations, cutting down their daily consumption of foodstuffs and fats, with the prospect of still more stringent restrictions.

But their overlords—a reasonably well-nourished lot, to judge by their photographs — keep right on preaching that such compulsory undernourishment is all for the greater glory of the vaterland.

Irvin S. Cobb

I know of but one historic parallel to match this. It is to be found in Mother Goose, where it is poetically set forth:

There was a piper had a cow
And he had naught to give her
So he pulled out his pipes and played her a tune
And bade the cow consider.

• • •

Signs of Disapproval.

ONCE, in Montana, I heard two cowboys talking about the father of the sweetheart of one of them.

"I've got a kind of a sneaking idea that Millie's paw don't care deeply for me," said the lover.

"What makes you think so—something he said?"

"No, because he don't never say nothing to me, just sniffs. But the other night I snuck over there to see Millie, and, as I was coming away, I happened to look back and the old man was shoveling my tracks out of the front yard."

The archbishop of Canterbury is likely to wake up any morning and find the British public shoveling his tracks out of the front yards.

• • •

International "Messifications."

JUST about the time the contesting groups in Spain lose the twenty or thirty confusing names the correspondents have hung on them and resolve themselves into the army that's going to take Madrid not later than 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon and the army that's going to keep Madrid until the cows come home, a fresh complication breaks out in China. General Chang gets into a mixup with General Chiang, possibly on the ground that he's a typographical error, and the red forces of the north get all twisted up with the white army of the north and the pink army of the north by northeast and so on and so forth, until the special writers run out of colors.

Just one clear point stands out of the messification. When the dust clears away some small brown brothers wearing the Japanese uniform will be found sitting on top of the heap. China's poison is Nippon's meat, every pop.

• • •

Rationalizing the Calendar.

THE plan to adopt a rational calendar is finding favor in administration circles at Washington, as in European countries.

Every time this proposition — which is so sensible and seemingly unattainable—bobs up, I think of the little story of the venerable Alabama pessimist who dropped into the general store just in time to hear the proprietor reading aloud from the newspaper that the project for thirteen months of twenty-eight days each had been laid for consideration before the League of Nations.

"I'm ag'in' it," declared the aged one. "It'd be jest my luck for that extry month to come in the winter time and ketch me short of fodder."

IRVIN S. COBB.

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Keeping Up With Science

By Science Service

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Breakfast the Event for Which People Are Mostly on Time

Studies in Punctuality Made in a College

BREAKFAST is an attraction to which the average person is most often on time. To band and choir rehearsals he is late about half the time. Business appointments are met punctually about three-fourths of the time.

These are not guesses or estimates. They are based on stop-watch measures made secretly of the students at Ripon college by Dr. George J. Dudycha and the few members of the faculty, sworn to secrecy, whom he took into his confidence. The stop was kept hidden. Notes were made in code. In general, the peculiar behavior of a man who insisted on making notes at breakfast, at football games or entertainments as well as at class was dismissed without comment and with little notice by the students.

Not only do the different situations call for a more or less strict adherence to punctuality, but they also call for a greater or less amount of promptness or lateness, Dr. Dudycha found.

Earliest of Entertainments

The crowd gets together earliest at entertainments (where the best seats are at a premium?). They come fairly early to breakfast and vespers. They manage to get there just on time for an eight o'clock class or a business appointment. They are generally slightly late to extra-curricular activities.

Nevertheless, despite all this variation in punctuality for specific situations, a significant association was found between an individual's promptness, or lack of it, on the different occasions. There really is a general trait of punctuality or of tardiness, Dr. Dudycha concludes in his report to the Archives of Psychology. The laggard may not be late on all occasions, he may show up early for breakfast quite often, but still in general it may be said that he is chronically tardy.

The punctual student is likely to be more intelligent than the ten o'clock scholar. The less neurotic students and those who are more self-sufficient tend to be more punctual.

Glass Wool Is Good Soil for Orchids

WASHINGTON — Hobby and professional interests are combined in a unique fashion by Dr. George W. Morey of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Dr. Morey is a physical chemist in the institution's geophysical laboratory, specializing in study of glass and glass-like compounds. As an avocation, he grows orchids.

Recently he has discovered that orchids can be grown to good advantage by rooting them in glass wool, a fluffy material made of matted threads of very fine spun glass, now widely used for a number of purposes, from house insulation to the weaving of fancy fabrics.

Uncle Phil Says:

That Little Difference

It is just the little difference between the good and the best that makes the difference between artists and the artisan.

Those who get up early in the morning think everybody else should; but those who get up very late don't usually move the world.

Always be glad that you don't have to utilize your friends.

Giving, Losing, Getting

Know how to give without hesitation, how to lose without regret, how to acquire without meanness.

If you can't agree with the tastes of the people, you are in for much lonesomeness.

Woman's vote may not have purified politics, but that wasn't what it was given to her for. She got it because she had the right to it.

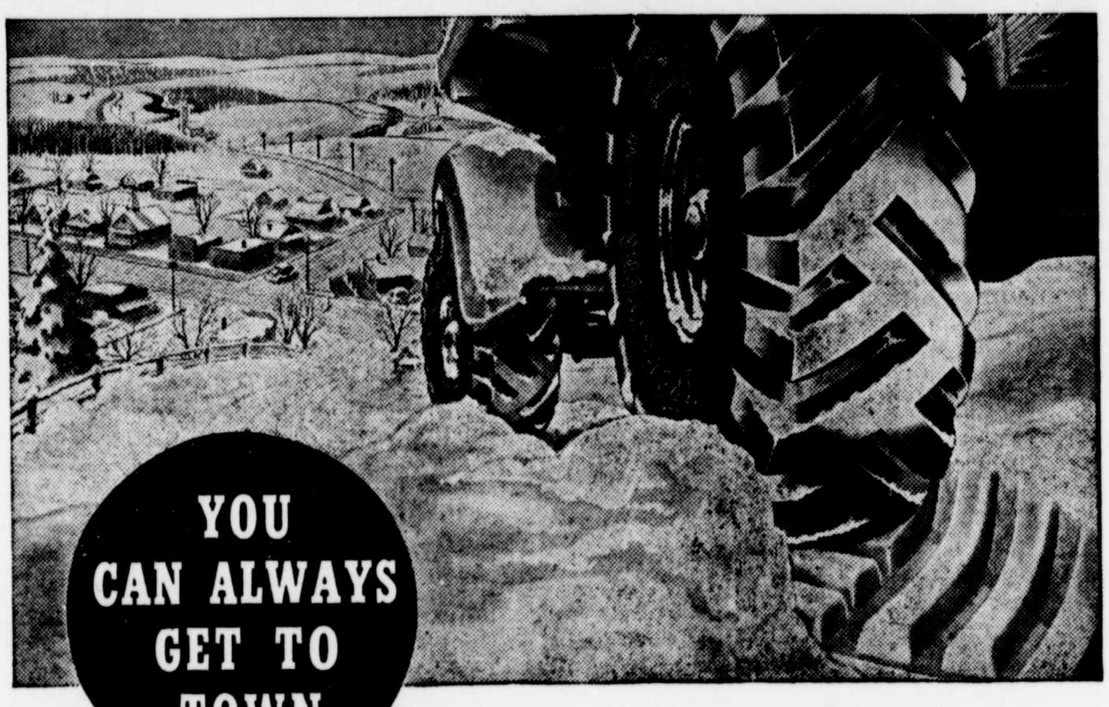
Hard knocks are good for a man; so he thinks, long years after he has ceased to smart from them.

Cheerfulness should be natural; but the cultivated kind is better than none.

Andersen's Fairy Tales

One hundred years ago there was published in Copenhagen a pamphlet, badly printed on poor paper and bound between thin blue paper covers. Its author and publisher were faint hearted about the enterprise. Thus did the first series of Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales appear.

Hans Andersen, as he is known in Denmark, was one of the founders of modern Danish. He introduced Danish language into Danish prose, and before his death Denmark credited his name with a national holiday in honor of his birth.



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