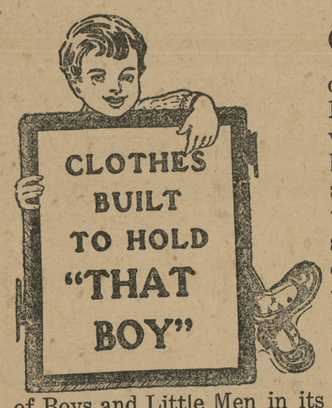
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SCOTCH COLLIE IN COURT

With Assistance of Child Friends Dog Comes Out of Difficulty With Flying Colors.

A Scotch collie dog was acquitted in police court recently of the charge of being "fierce and vicious," says a Jackson, Mich., dispatch to the New York World. The complaint, which was directed against the owner, John De Landers, but meant far more to the dog's welfare than to John's, was signed by T. P. Murphy, a street car motorman. Mr. Murphy resides at 310 Bush street and Mr. De Landers at 307 Bush street.

Each of them owns a dog, and recently the two animals participated in a chewing match on Mr. Murphy's front porch. The latter's little girl tried to pass them at the time they were "scrapping" and the Scotch collie snarled and snapped at her, perhaps thinking she was bent on stopping the fight.

Mr. Murphy testified that while the dog did not bite the child and he could not say the canine had ever bitten any one, still he contended the Scotch collie had a disposition to be barking and stirring up a row.

"He is a regular fight promoter and a nuisance in the neighborhood," said the complainant to the judge.

The defendant had brought into court a raft of children who have been in the habit of playing with the dog, and they declared the dog was all right. Then came the dog's turn, and he took the stand in his own defense, jumped up into the witness chair, wagged his tail, blinked his eyes and extended his tongue and shook himself joyously as Judge Dahlem talked to him and asked him if it were true that he was ever naughty.

"He never bites, just plays," remarked one of the children while patting him on the back.

The judge concluded the dog was not vicious or dangerous and returned a verdict of not guilty.

SHY AT ALL INNOVATIONS

Humanity Slow to Recognize Even the Things of Life That Are the Best.

Few good things get a hearty welcome when they knock at the door. Human nature shies at innovation, and can be persuaded to adopt it only after pioneers have worn the blush of newness off and stood firm until ridicule has crawled back into its hole.

We hope that the young men who are wearing what the haberdashers call "sport shirts" will prove worthy pioneers, proof against laughter, strong in the face of irrational prejudice. For, by their services, mankind may escape the tyranny of the hard boiled collar. The day may come when the morning wrestling with buttons and buttonholes which hate each other like sin will be like the memory of a boyhood nightmare. That sawmill effect which collars occasionally get and the clammy strangling that goes with humid days will go down in the books as evils conquered. All because a few courageous young men in every community place the good of their fellows above the sensitiveness of their souls.—Toledo Blade.

Even on the Mountain Top.

Smith lived in a neighborhood where there were many pianos, phonographs, barky dogs and sweet children, and, finding that sleep was impossible, he began to look around for a quiet retreat. Finally he found it on the top of a mountain, and great was his happiness.

One day, however, he appeared in town looking extremely sad, and his friends quickly questioned him as to the cause.

"It's no use, boys," he responded in a dejected voice. "It is simply a waste of time to fight the inevitable."

"Yesterday a young man came up on the mountain," explained Smith, "and pitched a tent near my bungalow. This morning he told me that he was going to spend the summer there learning to play the violin."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Pudding Sure Sign of Battle.

A British soldier who wears the ribbon of South Africa, was asked while on leave at home recently, whether the soldiers knew for long beforehand when they are going to be called upon to deliver an assault.

"Well, they don't exactly tell us, but we always know," he replied, adding, rather grimly, "you see, if a number of army chaplains suddenly turn up, we can always guess that something good and hard is going to be asked of us shortly. If they serve us with pudding for dinner before we go into the trenches, why, then we know for certain!"

Not Needed.

Professor Munsterberg has invented an apparatus which indicates whether a party engaged in conversation is telling the truth. In the case of some people we know the contrivance is not needed to show that they are lying.—New Orleans States.

Antiseptic Vaccine.

A Great British physician, Sir Almroth Wright has invented an antiseptic vaccine. By inoculation, it is hoped, a soldier before going into battle may be made proof against the infection of wounds.

Good Excuse.

"John, what possessed you to buy this chow-chow dog?"

"I don't know, Maria, unless I was pickled."

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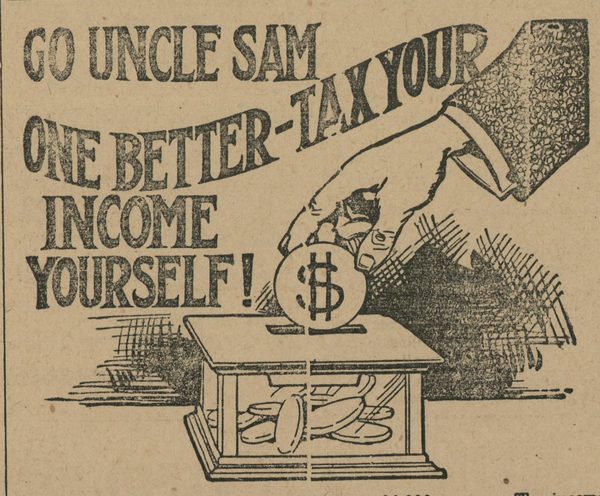
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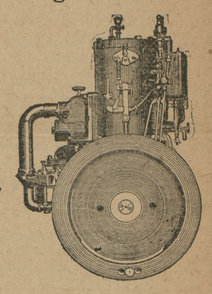
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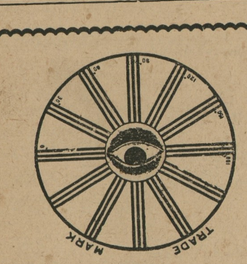
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