

NYE ON ETIQUETTE

WIS VAST EXPERIENCE ENABLES HIM TO GIVE HIGH TONED ADVICE.

Estelle McGee Writes That She Is So Unhappy and Insomnia Puts In a Bid For a Souvenir—A Few Words to a Would Be Poetess.

[Copyright, 1935, by Edgar W. Nye.] Reginald Kersox, West Liberty, N. Y., writes: "Is it necessary for a poet to remove his hat in a public elevator upon the entrance of a lady?"

No, it is not necessary, and you will have to use your own judgment about it, but other nations do not feel about bowing and removing the hat on entering a parlor car and bowing on entering or leaving a public dining room. Probably inside of 200 years we will be doing so too. There's nothing lost by being truly polite, but it must be born in you. If you only do what is "necessary" in that line, and politeness is not in your heart, your vulgarity is sure to burst forth when it is not "necessary" to conceal it.

Mandie, Massachusetts Avenue, Washington.—Yes, you will find some trouble in getting a high salary as a teacher of physical culture unless you come highly recommended. I would be glad to help get up a class for you if I saw any encouragement, but my nearest neighbor is a widower, 69 years old, who does not care for physical culture, and my team is so busy stacking now that we could not run around much.

J. I. C., Janesville, Wis., writes: "I called last evening on a young lady friend at an hour set by her, but found her out. What must I do?"

You were fortunate in finding her out thus early. Some men wait 20 years after they are married, and even then don't find her out. You should go right on with your business if you have one and not get so excited. She will bitterly regret her foolishness before 80 years have passed over her head, or my judgment in such matters is of little value.

Estelle McGee, Janesville, Wis., as if in answer to the above, writes as follows: "I am sure, dear Mr. Nye, that you will laugh at me when I write to you that I am in deep trouble from an estrangement which has come between me and the man I love. I was possibly very thoughtless and asked him to come and call on a certain evening, and then I went away and left him to visit mamma. Tell me, please, what to do, and I will do it. Oh, I am so unhappy!"

The advice of this department is that you put a blue mark around this paragraph and mail the paper to him. Then stand by the postoffice door until you see that he gets it. Common Wisconsin sense will tell you what to do when you see him, and may you be happy, Estelle, is the wish of one who is writing these lines in ink and perspiration with his suspenders wilted and drooping on the floor.

Insomnia, Flint, Mich., writes: "We have a dear little son named for you, and my wife read in her paper last June that you are very generous to people



who name colts and things for you. Will you send us something in the way of a souvenir, and also tell us what to do for lives?"

You are misled regarding my generosity by some one who did not know me. Twenty years ago I earned for myself the sobriquet of "The Mean Man From Maine." You should have named your little son Russell Sage, Insomnia. That would be a melodious name, and Russ might lean the little chap the ferule of his umbrella to cut his eyeteeth on. I cannot. I have no umbrella. You should whitewash the hives in June or earlier. Half past 12 at night is a good time to treat hives, while the bees are at rest. Should you get stung, put a quid of warm, humid fire cut tobacco on the place at the earliest possible moment.

Marguerite, Hollywood, Canada, writes as follows: "I am very unhappy indeed, and the course of true love is not running at all smoothly. The gentleman to whom I am engaged, though a model of goodness, colors his mustache and chews tobacco. What should I do? Is there an antidote for tobacco?"

You might be happy with such a one perhaps if you would be patient and use stimulants whenever you see him coming. Show him this paper also. There is no thoroughly sure antidote for tobacco, but a man can overcome the use of hair dye on his mustache. But can a man with a dyed mustache have a pure heart? I doubt it very much. You must be sure of this, Marguerite, or your life will be a perfect—well, one cannot be too careful in such a case.

Flossie, East Perth Amboy, N. J.—Your penmanship is very good, and the poem you send shows merit. Still you are too young to write on scientific subjects, evidently, especially in verse. Wait a few years, Flossie, till you have seen more of the world and then send me a few verses of your best poetry. At present it is not quite bad enough to be funny nor good enough to be heartily enjoyable. I will keep the poems you sent until Saturday, and if not called for then I shall stuff a strawberry bed with them.

Common Sense, Omaha.—Yes, you did right in kicking your son-in-law across your self links for flirting with your wife. The fun du bicycle young man sometimes needs to be taught a valuable lesson in the sternest manner. It is bad enough to be compelled to support a son-in-law without submitting to his alienations of affections which do not belong to him. The statutes of Nebraska will not hold you responsible for bodily injury done in the above premises. Should he return and seek redress you can look him over and do as you think best. One of your old pages of

pantheons may not come amiss should be show a contrite heart. Pastor, Galena, Ills.—Yes, the book you speak of is by me. I dashed it off at the age of 17 years. You and I have the only two copies extant. Yours was the first edition and mine was the last one. I was afraid when I wrote it that it was going to be above the heads of the people. It was. What the people want is trashy literature. Since I found that out I have been more successful. What I wanted is a work that weighs 11 pounds



A MEAN INSULT.

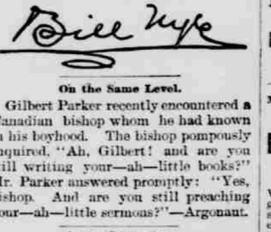
and that can be sold over the counter of a department store for 9 cents. Since I got in among the works of Thackeray and Cervantes and Moses on the bargain counter among the boys' pants, and slightly soiled lawn mowers, and corset covers, and molasses, and wooden butter stamps, and organdie remnants, my books sell well, and we keep a good deal more help at home than we did when I wrote on science and sold my books personally.

Bartholomew Bowersox, Topeka.—Yes, you may be able to arrange a match for October with the boxer you refer to, and this column will give you every possible encouragement. You should train down a little, however, in the meantime, if your photograph is correct, and be careful about your diet. I am sorry to learn that your mother is opposed to pugilism and that she spansks you violently whenever she learns that you have arranged a match.

Police Commissioner, Ticktown, N. C.—Yes, you do right in enforcing the stock law and shooting at people who are on the streets after 9 o'clock p. m. without a permit. Persons carrying concealed squirrel rifles over eight feet in length are liable under the statute, and you did right in killing these you saw. Moonshine whiskey sold on the place without license and on Sunday should be turned over to the authorities. Remarks made by policemen while under the influence of liquor will have to be sworn to in the presence of two witnesses. Property taken from the person of prisoners should be returned after awhile.

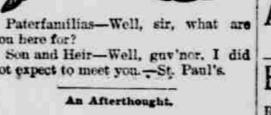
Tray Beyend, Erin Prairie, Wis.—In entering a public place the lady should precede the gentleman, but in going down the aisle of the church of course the usher would precede you very properly. If you found the lady who was a stranger in your pew, you did wrong in glaring at her and making her get up to give you the corner of the pew. It is barely possible that the usher, thinking you had gone for the summer, as you had not been to service for some weeks, had seated the lady in your pew. This often happens. One of the nearest insults I ever received was under similar circumstances, and the pew owner was a woman, so that a personal encounter was rather to be avoided than otherwise. It discouraged me so to know that an innocent taxpayer in Christ's church, as I think it was called, should be humiliated and insulted by a woman old enough to be his mother, that I have been a little timid about going to church without an escort ever since.

Bill Nye On the Same Level. Gilbert Parker recently encountered a Canadian bishop whom he had known in his boyhood. The bishop pompously inquired, "Ah, Gilbert! and are you still writing your—ah—little books?" Mr. Parker answered promptly: "Yes, bishop. And are you still preaching your—ah—little sermons?"—Argonaut.



At the Stage Door. Paterfamilias—Well, sir, what are you here for? Son and Heir—Well, gov'ner, I did not expect to meet you.—St. Paul's.

An Afterthought. "So, sir, you went to that disgusting ballet?" "Yes, darling, I—" "You ought to be ashamed of yourself. But did you see anything that could be a good design for a bathing suit?"—Life.



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Gilded Youth—I say, do you get your milk out of a beastly cow?—Pick Me Up.

Looked Only at Beauty. "Gracions, Smedley, who's been pulling your whiskers out?"

"My baby did it."

"Heavens, man, you're disfiguring yourself that way!"

"Yes, I know, but you see it keeps baby quiet."—Chicago Record.

Changed. Wife (one day after marriage)—No, dear, don't give me any money. I might lose it.

Same wife one year after marriage: "I took a £5 note from your pocket-book last night, John."—Pick Me Up.

Won't Happen When Bloomers Are Worn. "Women ought to wear bloomers all the time."

"I thought you detested them."

"I did, but today I stepped on a woman's skirt, and she looked at me."

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