

OUR OWN CORNER

The Wonderful Electric Elephant.

BY FRANCES TREGO MONTGOMERY. ILLUSTRATED BY C. M. COOLIDGE. (Copyright, 1903, by the Sealed Publishing Company, New-York and Chicago.)



Prize No. 1. A sterling silver badge for the best four-line stanza on April, written by a little man or a little woman. Prize No. 2. A sterling silver badge for the best pen and ink sketch of a bird. Prize No. 3. A sterling silver badge for the best original puzzle. All work must reach this office by Wednesday, April 20.

PRIZE CIRCUS STORY. John D. Pearson, twelve years old, Box No. 127, Whitehall, Washington County, N. Y., wins the prize for the best story of an experience at a circus. Here is his story: "I was sitting on the steps in front of a store when the advance guard of a circus came along. My friend said to me, 'Say mister, don't you want somebody to peddle these cards?'"

TOO ADVANCED. "Oh, Mr. Johns," exclaimed young Charlie Smithson, "I heard you talking to father about plants, and I do so want to talk to you, for, you know, I'm very interested in botany. I like all kinds of plants and flowers, as, of course, you do, too, Mr. Johns; but what varieties of plants are you particularly interested in?"

THE PRIZE BIRD STORY. The best bird story was sent in by Lawrence Plinke, of No. 66 Central-ave., Englewood, N. J. It is as follows: "WHAT HAPPENED DOWN BY THE POND. With a goodly to-morrow, I found the fence and the pretty singing of the birds. But I must tell you about the experience of all. I heard the birds sing there on a fine morning, and I saw a bird with a white back and a big dog started to eat the berries under a tree."

DROPPED WORD STORY. The Little Man or Little Woman who sends in the prettiest story made by filling in the blanks left in the story given below will receive a sterling silver badge. All stories should reach the office by April 20. "So he ———— on his ———— on the ———— for a ———— on his ———— on the ———— not where by ———— on his ———— on the ———— across ———— and he ———— so ———— with ———— and ———— that ———— have ———— on the ———— as ———— as his ———— could ———— him ———— he ———— as ———— the ———— Oh, ———— quickly ———— came ———— down ———— and ———— a ———— of ———— her ———— and ———— her ———— and ———— him ———— go ———— I ———— it."

CHAPTER XIX. FOX'S DIARY. After leaving the land of the Tartars, Ione writes busily in her diary. "For," she said, "when we sit by our fireside at home we will enjoy reading it." Entry No. 1.—The Chinese have a queer superstition about having eyes painted on the bows of their boats so that they can see where they are going. No arguing can convince them that painted eyes cannot see, for they always end the argument by saying, "Boat must have eye. No have eye, no can see, no can go." The little boats have small eyes and the large ones large eyes.

Entry No. 2.—We passed thousands and thousands of boats of all kinds, shapes and colors, from the little fishboats with bat shaped sails to the large, wide spreading sails of the Chinese junks; even the barges have boats in which they live and sail from town to town begging for food and clothing. There are also pirate boats, with pirates who rob and murder any belated wayfarer they dare attack. When caught they are beheaded and their boats broken in two and left on the shore to show where the deed was committed, as a warning to other pirates to keep their hands off what does not belong to them. There are also boats filled with lepers, the people of all others to be the most pitied, for they are shunned by friends and foes and not even a beggar or pirate will go near them. And last, but not least by any means, are the family houseboats that crowd all the streams, rivers, and canals in China, for fully one-half of the population live in them.

One of the queerest sights is to see little boys with tiny barrels strapped to their backs to keep them from drowning should they fall overboard and be unable to swim; but the little girls go around without any. A girl is not considered of much account in China, and a girl baby can be bought for from one cent up to \$1. A great many are sold to the missionaries for from 15 cents to 25 cents apiece. Another funny looking raft is the goose or duck boat upon which the fowls are raised for the market. Sometimes these boats have as many as a thousand geese or ducks on them at one time.

Entry No. 3.—One of the most interesting things we saw to-day was the men and women making

Entry No. 13.—Though half the population live on the water, they seldom bathe. Entry No. 14.—The most repulsive looking beggars are the blind men, who beg for alms by shouting their wailing cry. Entry No. 15.—In China the men do the fine dressing and wear the best clothes, and the women wear the coarsest. Entry No. 16.—They wear white when they go into mourning. When their mourning is half over they send a long, silk robe beautifully embroidered. They also wear strings of beads around their necks. The men wear long stockings and the women wear socks. Entry No. 17.—They wear white when they go into mourning. When their mourning is half over they send a long, silk robe beautifully embroidered. They also wear strings of beads around their necks. The men wear long stockings and the women wear socks.

Things to Think About.

Duane R. Averson, eight years old, of No. 131 West Seventy-first-st., New-York City, has been chosen as the prize winner of last week's puzzle competition. The book offered for the best solution of to-day's "Things to Think About" will give our little men and women a chance to show their dramatic ability, for it is a collection of beautiful little plays.

DIAMONDS. 1. A third of log; to be able; a structure to inclose land; a place to land on; to inscribe; the close; a third of log. 2. A third of mat; title of address to a man; power; a feminine pronoun; a third of one; to be; a fourth of fast; a small birdlike animal; to plead; little folks in stories; a river in Germany; to gleam; a fourth of fast.

CENTRAL SYNCOPATIONS. Example: Syncope a furious and leave an invasion. Answer, ra-bid, raid. 1. Syncope a short ludicrous play and leave the visage. 2. Syncope to sew, lightly and leave to abate. 3. Syncope a facial feature and leave a winged insect. 4. Syncope an inscription and leave a thin piece of baked clay.

ZIGZAG. Each of the words described contain five letters, when they are rightly guessed and placed one below another, in the order here given, the zigzag, beginning at the upper left hand letter, will spell the title of the highest official in the United States. A portico; a frame of metal bars; rain and snow falling together; to cook by exposure to fire; an

DOUBLE ACROSTICS. A B L E E J A C K O L A N D J A M E S L E B A R A F E L E R T O A R D N E U R A L G I A

DROPPED VOWEL PUZZLE. One day my kitty, full of play, Ran in thro' the library door, She jumped upon my mamma's desk, And knocked the glue on the floor. Poor kitty dear, she was so scared, She moaned so piteously, I simply could not punish her. 'Twas an accident, you see, And what she did was not her fault. That had been fine and soft, Was so stuck up with horrid paste I had to chuck it off.

SENATOR DICK'S BOYS AND GIRLS. Senator Charles Dick, of Ohio, who succeeded Hanna in the United States Senate, has an interesting family. His five children range in age from seven to sixteen years and they are as up-to-date as any children in America. It is a joke of the Senator's to say "I have five youngsters—all boys." Two are girls, but they join in with boyish sports so much that the remark is apt. Although their father is a Senator and must spend much time in Washington, the children prefer living in Akron.

TEAM OF "BOILED EGGS." A football team of English lads goes by the name of Boiled Eggs, because, like the team, they are hard to beat.



CHILDREN OF GENERAL CHARLES DICK, THE NEW SENATOR FROM OHIO.

BRIGHT LAKEWOOD DAYS.

Out of Door Enjoyments—A Game with Liking Chessmen. Lakewood, N. J., April 9 (Special).—It has been a week of bright weather, warm almost to a point of sultriness in the afternoon. The lawn mower is again necessary. It is wonderful how rapidly the spring approaches in this mid-Southern climate after a few warm days. Travelling along the woodland paths and roads the visitor returns with a luxuriant growth of play moss and arbutus, and along the lake shore the different water plants are growing rapidly.

AT THE LAKEWOOD HOTEL.

Lakewood, N. J., April 9 (Special).—Coaching parties are popular diversions at Lakewood, now that pleasant weather has come. The Lakewood Hotel's new coach, the Lakewood, has been out with merry parties every day this week, winking the countryside with the shrill music of the bugle. Some amateur students had to catch one day, and they made a lively trip to town and return. Miss Evelyn Leo, of New-York, who handles the reins skillfully, drove the coach to Allaire on Saturday. Miss Leo is staying with her father and sister, Arnold Leo and Miss Beatrice Leo, at the Lakewood Hotel.

BIRD SURGERY.

An English writer on birds says: "A redshank, which was with other 'waders' in an aviary containing a pond, wounded itself on the top of the head. Unfortunately, the bird died, but on inspection it was found that it had plastered the wound over with mud. This example of a bird's instinct for self-preservation is very striking. I believe that for a bird to doctor its head is most unusual, although snipe and woodcock have been known to plaster their heads with mud. I have seen a snipe with its head plastered with clay, which became hard." (Cincinnati News.)

AT ATLANTIC CITY.

Need of Wider Boardwalk Pressing—Many Visitors. Atlantic City, April 9 (Special).—As the crowds of Easter Sunday were the greatest in the history of the resort, so are the crowds of Easter week great in the same proportion. The annual parade of fashion and beauty was a sight to be remembered. For days before the trains from New-York, Philadelphia and the South arrived in almost endless procession, and all crowded to the platform. The railroad figures indicated that about 120,000 persons arrived in the city to participate in the boardwalk pageant, and these, added to the already large number on the island, swelled the crowd to unparalleled proportions for the spring season. All of the beach front hotels were crowded to the limit, and every one of them turned away persons by the score and the hundred. In fact, the overflow was sufficient to fill all of the smaller hotels that had opened for the occasion.

The crush on the boardwalk began early in the morning. The chill in the air marred the millinery display, but had no effect on the turnout. There was a blending of winter and spring costumes that was both interesting and picturesque. The rich furs of the winter appeared side by side with the latest creations of the modiste and milliner—brocades and velvets brushing lawns and challoes. The walk was well filled as early as 10 o'clock, and at 12 o'clock it was crowded almost to suffocation. The walls of humanity moved slowly up and down almost in lockstep, and the congestion was uncomfortable and almost dangerous. This crush has taught a lesson that the author of titles thought was held for the distant future. That is that the boardwalk must be enlarged as quickly as possible. When it was built a few years ago to the size of from 50 to 60 feet, it was believed that it would afford ample accommodation for the crowds of this generation, at least. It is now proposed, however, to extend it to a width of 100 feet from the old pier to the Casino. This cannot be done in time for the midsummer rush, but will be undertaken early in the fall.

At the annual meeting of the Atlantic City Horse Show Association at the Hotel Windsor on Wednesday night it was decided to hold the exhibition this year from July 19 to 23, inclusive. The officers elected for the year are: President, G. Jason Waters; vice-presidents, Charles Evans, Joseph H. Horton and Frederick Hensley; treasurer, Judge Allen B. Endicott; secretary, C. Winton Evans. The prize list this year will be the largest ever offered. The accommodations for this year's show will be far superior to those of the past. The Pennsylvania Railroad, which owns Inlet Park and considerable adjacent property, will construct a park of more than double the dimensions of the old one and will improve it in every way. The city has been asked to vacate a strip of land for this purpose, and the request will be granted. The improvements to the park will begin at once.

The plans for the semi-centennial celebration of the incorporation of the city have been almost perfected by the board of directors, and bids have been invited for the construction of a Court of Honor in Atlantic-ave., and for a memorial monument, to be erected in the City Park. Senator Quay of Pennsylvania, has leased the Lapoint cottage, at State and Pacific aves., and has taken up his residence there for the spring and summer. His health is poor, but he is on the boardwalk daily in a rolling chair, and on Easter he was greeted by many personal and political friends. The first "personally conducted" tour of visitors of the season arrived from Boston on Wednesday. It is composed of fifty men and women, all of whom stop at the Hotel Whitehall. The Pennsylvania Railroad has put in a siding in the heart of the cottage district of Chelsea for the accommodation of visitors travelling in private cars. The New-Yorkers at the hotels include: Altamont—L. M. Pharis, Mrs. E. A. Pharis, J. H. Geron, W. K. Steele, Mrs. G. E. Jones, Miss T. H. De Borzden, Miss E. C. Pulsifer, Miss Mason, Mrs. De Borzden, Miss M. A. Hodge, Miss J. H. Hodge,

ON THE PACIFIC SLOPE.

Blossom Festival at San José—Strike Threatens San Francisco.

San Francisco, April 8.—The ill feeling between the United Railroads and its men threatens to result in a strike. The company, which controls most of the street railroads of San Francisco, and which has 3,500 men on its payroll, declares that it will not yield to the demands of the streetcar men's union, as these demands would practically place the control of hiring men in the hands of the union. The company is now paying high wages, and it says that it has adhered to the agreement made with these arbitrators last May. The car men's union claims that the company is importing men and training them in order to serve as strike breakers. It asks that this training of "students" cease and that certain increases in wages be paid. The whole trouble lies in the fact that the company objects to the union and its constant interference with the rules of the company, while the leaders of the union have enrolled the great majority of the car men and control them absolutely.

In the Santa Clara Valley this week at Saratoga and in San José there has been great blossom festival, which is without counterpart in this country. The time is chosen when thousands of prune trees are in full bloom.

From the hills back of Saratoga one may look down upon miles of snowy prune blossoms brought out into relief by the delicate pink of peach blooms. In fact, the great valley resembles a huge checkerboard, as the orchards are mainly laid out in squares. The festival opened at Saratoga, and it was concluded Thursday at San José with a floral procession and evening exercises. Hundreds of tourists attended and were driven through miles of blossoming orchards. As the weather was perfect this festival, which resembles the cherry blossom festival in Japan, proved a great success.

Pillsbury, the chess champion, is here on a visit and played, blindfolded, twelve games of chess and four games of checkers against local experts. Of the chess games he won six and lost two. Three were drawn and one was continued. He lost three games of checkers and one was drawn. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the Chinese reformer, is here on his way to China by way of New-York and London. He is still full of enthusiasm over the prospect of overthrowing the present dynasty, despite his failure during the Boxer troubles. The filing of papers at Rodwood City giving to Mrs. Emma Hayward Rose, wife of W. Rose, of New-York City, one-half the estate of Alvin Hayward will prevent any contest of the voters with a blind man, who used to give voting machines a practical test. An election was held there this week, and nearly seven hundred votes were recorded. The result was known half an hour after the polls closed. One of the voters was a blind man, who used to give voting machines a practical test.

The Little country town of Santa Clara, five miles from San José, has the credit of being the first municipality west of the Missouri River to give voting machines a practical test. An election was held there this week, and nearly seven hundred votes were recorded. The result was known half an hour after the polls closed. One of the voters was a blind man, who used to give voting machines a practical test.