CHILDREN'S CORNER

OH, MY, ISN'T HE JUST THE DARLING, MY BOLD SOJER BOY

Nathaniel Davis Ayer, Jr., Enlists, Even Though It Breaks Mamma's Heart, but Decides to Wait for Next Regiment.

Nathaniel Davis Ayer, Jr., enlisted and started to war against his mother's wishes. The parting was sad, but through the tears came the words of a brave fighting man: "Mamma, I know it breaks your heart to see me go, and it breaks mine, too, but what would the world think of me if I were to let the glory of England be trampled in the dust while I stayed home with Nana?"

"Nana" is the nurse and she cried too, but a "sojer" man must be hard as nails and not let a woman's sobs affect him.

Nathaniel Davis Ayer, Jr., chose England as a country fit to fight for simply because he didn't happen to be in another land. With his mamma, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. McFadden, of Glenside, and papa, who is Nat D. Ayer, a composer, and "Nana" he went to London, where "papa" was to do some work.

Papa doesn't spell his name out in full—he is just plain Nat D.—and the little Highlander wouldn't have gone to such lengths in describing himself had not the recruiting officer said it was absolutely necessary to give the full name in case the applicant chanced to be wounded in battle.

NATHANIEL DAVIS AYER, JR.

As he was about to join his regiment for the front, the "sojer's" papa took him aside and said:

"Son, I fear it is my duty to tell you that you are saying goodbye to your parents for the last time. When you are wounded and left to die there on the cold battlefield, and when night comes and there are no lights, no dinner, and no mamma or 'Nana' to say 'night' to you, only the black darkness and the cruel winds——"

But that was all. Father's advice was interrupted by:

"Daddy, they don't need me yet, and I think I'll stay here until the next regiment goes."

Nathaniel Davis Ayer, Jr., is almost as much as seven years old.

STUNG!

A fly buzzed all about
To find a passage out;
Then on the window sill
A minute stood quite still.

I thought he was asleep
And caught him just to keep;
He looked so fine a fellow
With rings of black and yellow.

He scolded dreadfully
And stuck a pin in me.
I dropped him pretty quick;
My hand was awful sick.

BEFORE THE SANDMAN COMES

ONCE upon a time, the leaves of the silver poplar were green both top and bottom just like the leaves of all other trees and the poplar tree was a nice proper tree just like all other trees.

Then something happened. Something usually does you know when things are entirely too nice and proper.

One day, when the poplar leaves were playing with the breezes, one little breeze said, "Oh, you should see the trees in other countries as we do. Sometimes the leaves are gray, sometimes pale green and some are brighter colors."

"Wouldn't that be queer?" said one of the leaves.

"I think I'd like it," said another. "I'm tired of being plain green like all other leaves."

And though the breeze laughed at them, they wouldn't play because they kept thinking all the time about their color.

And the more they thought, the worse it seemed to be green, just plain green, all their lives.

"Isn't it horrid to be just a plain green leaf?" said one. "I'm so tired of being green," said another, till finally they forgot that the sky was blue and the sun golden—all they could remember was their common green color.

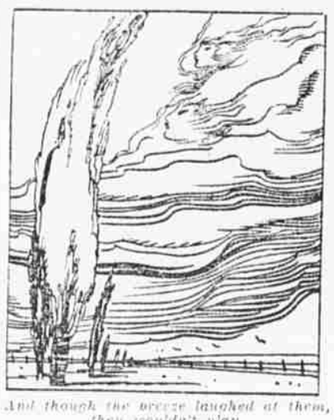
At last the fairies who lived in the tree got tired of their complaining, and the fairy queen said: "If you really wish to change your color you may do so, but remember—you can never change back to the beautiful green color you now are."

The leaves all laughed and declared they never, never, never wanted to be green again, so the fairy painters set to work with their magic paint and soon the leaves were grayish green on top and silver underneath.

When all was done and the paints carefully put away the leaves shook themselves dry and began to look around.

"Aren't we beautiful!" they exclaimed as they primped and preened in the sunshine.

"Now that you like your color," said the breezes, "come and play with us again."



And though the breeze laughed at them, they wouldn't play.

"Oh, no," said the leaves loftily, "we don't care to play with you any more. We like to have you come and see us, for you turn and twist us so we can see all our pretty colors, but we couldn't just common play any more, we are too fine for that!"

So the breezes came and stayed a little while and swayed and twisted the leaves so that the silver linings glistened in the sunshine—then they went and played and frolicked in the oaks and maples with the leaves who were not so dressed up.

And ever since then, the poplar leaves have been green and silver, but the leaves are so stiff and vain that the fairies and breezes play in the old green trees.

Tomorrow—A Butterfly Dandy.

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COURSE OF FALL LECTURES ARRANGED IN VIEW OF WAR

Part of Schedule for Commercial Museum Deals With Europe.

Some important contributions to literature on the present war are expected to be made in the series of fall lectures scheduled by the Commercial Museum, 34th street below Spruce. The series will be started with a description of "The Picturesque Hudson," by Ernest A. Reed, of New York, October 3.

Wilfred Schoff, secretary of the museum, will be the first to speak on the lands in the war zone. He will lecture on "From Antwerp to Paris," October 4. On December 12 he will speak on "European Boundaries in Modern History." Charles R. Toothaker will be the speaker December 5 on "Denmark in the New World."

The rest of the schedule names the following speakers: Colonel Edwin A. Havers, on "The Mediterranean in History and Romance," October 17; Mr. Toothaker, on "Trinidad and Its Asphalt Lake," October 10; Mrs. Frank Wilde, of this city, "Cochin China and the Ruins of Cambodia," October 31; Mr. Schoff, on "The Rhine Land," November 7; Mrs. Harry C. Ostrander, New York, on "Mexico, the Egypt of the New World," November 14; W. L. Fisher, of the museum, "America's Gifts to the World," November 21; Rev. Henry R. Rose, of Newark, "With Longfellow in Evangeline Land," November 28, and James W. Erwin, of San Francisco, "From the Golden Gate to Puget Sound," December 19.

TANGO FOOT NEW MALADY

Cases of Modern Pedal Disorder Continually Reported Now.

Various persons have been learning of late that there are diversional as well as vocational maladies and that while with due discretion it is quite possible to avoid "housemaid's knee," "miner's elbow" and "writer's cramp," it may be the easiest thing in the world if one attempts to keep pace with modern social requirements, to achieve the "tango foot."

New cases of this ultra-modern pedal disorder are continually being reported, and as these things become fashionable, just as a few years ago every common "head cold" was sublimated by the victim into a case of the "grip," it is altogether probable that thousands of corns, bunions, stone bruises, fallen arches, ankle sprains and enlarged and rheumatic toe joints will be reported proudly as "tango foot." To such harmless and self-gratifying euphemisms is mankind led by human vanity and the craving for thoroughly "up-to-date" processes. Nevertheless, in spite of all the inevitable perversions, exaggerations and aimiable exaltations, there is a genuine and very definite pedal condition known as the "tango foot," and it is well that everynature.

It is, of course, produced by the conditions of modern dancing, not only the tango, but the maxixe and the hesitation waltz, and possibly in a moderate degree the one-step. But such a thing, naturally, cannot be regarded with complete respect unless it is equipped with an imposing descriptive vocabulary. Fortunately the Scientific American enlightens the world as to the exact nature of "tango foot." The awed dancer is hereby informed that his or her terpsichorean activities are quite likely to result in a constant strain on the tibialis anticus, the extensor proprius hallucis and the extensor longus digitorum, which produces a tenosynovitis in this muscle group, with particularly disastrous effects upon the tibialis anticus.

This seems portentous enough to frighten even the most stubborn of the tango maniacs, and yet its effect as a deterrent may be doubted. In spite of this gorgeous array of excellent words the popular cry for some time to come will probably be "On with the dance."

Not the Same Thing

"A great deal of what we call pleasure is largely imaginary," said the ready-made philosopher.

"I suppose so," replied the man who was working on his automobile.

"Now, wouldn't you like to be able to take a long ride without having to worry about speed limits or spark plugs or tires or anything at all?"

"I should say so!"

"Well, here's a street car ticket."—Washington Star.

WAR IS WRITING NEW GEOGRAPHY, WRITER ASSERTS

Peace, as Mapmaker, Will Alter Many National Frontiers—Some Possible Changes.

LONDON, Sept. 29.

Austin West, correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, in discussing possible changes of frontiers when the war is over, has the following to say under a Milan date line:

"As for likely changes in the map of the world at the end of the war, I think it probable that Great Britain will take over the German colonies, giving Spain and Portugal a share therein, as a reward for their neutrality.

"Russia will limit her demands to Galicia, at the same time settling guarantees for the entire independence of the four Balkan States. Since Russia has no interest in the Adriatic problem, and, moreover, cherishes a warm friendship with Italy, she will not offer opposition to an Italian protectorate over Albania. In addition there will be a rectification of Italy's northern frontiers on a national racial basis.

"I think France will resume possession of Alsace-Lorraine and the Palatinate, while Austria will remain a German State and form a part of the Germanic confederation.

"This will raise the question whether the German Emperor shall be merely King of Prussia or also King of Austria. It seems to me quite unlikely that the United States will intervene, and if Sweden should assert herself on behalf of Germany she would find her action neutralized by that of Norway and Denmark."

Hopper Recognized

"Even animals show their feeling," remarked De Wolf Hopper, the comedian, to a friend the other day. "Only yesterday an animal showed me gratitude. I was wandering along a stream in the country when I met a cow in great distress. Her calf was drowning. I plunged into the water and rescued the calf and the grateful cow licked my hand."

"That wasn't gratitude," replied the friend. "The cow thought she had twins."—Troy Times.

MENUS A PROBLEM FOR COMMISSARIAT DURING WAR TIME

French Troopers Have Varied and Liberal Fare and Each Soldier Carries Emergency Ration.

PARIS, Sept. 30.

Every man in the French army carries with him one day's reserve rations, which may only be used in case of extreme urgency. They consist of 30 grammes (1⅛ ounces) of war biscuit, 30 grammes of preserved meat, 50 grammes of condensed soup, 36 grammes of coffee, 30 grammes of sugar. There is also a litre of brandy for every 16 men.

The food served out daily consists of 700 grammes of bread, 100 grammes of rice or haricot beans, 24 grammes of coffee, 32 grammes of sugar, bacon, salt, and 300 grammes of fresh meat or 200 grammes of preserved meat, with 50 grammes of puree de legumes to make soup.

Beyond this, whenever possible, provisions are bought on the spot by the officers in command, such as vegetables, various seasonings, and sometimes wine.

Revitualizing is carried out as far as possible by rail. The difficulty is that the regiments are continually changing their quarters, and thus the commissariat has difficulty in finding them. To simplify matters each day a special station is chosen for each army corps. The regimental transport goes every day to this station and receives two days' provisions, so that there is always an abundance of reserve supplies.

If the railway is not available supplies are provided by motor transport. If motor transport fails in a day or two the corps d'armee draws on its stocks of provisions, which are good for four days. The organization is based on a system of enormous depots at important railway centres. At each of them hundreds of thousands of rations of bread are baked every day and supplies of all kinds are accumulated.

Herds of cattle are driven some distance in the rear of each army corps and rested before slaughtering. The daily consumption of each army corps is 120 head of cattle, and the meat is carried to the front by Paris motor omnibuses. Since the beginning of the campaign the Commissariat Department has worked without a hitch.

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JEWS CELEBRATE DAY OF ATONEMENT THE WORLD OVER

Religious Holy Day Noted on European Battlefields as Well as in the Local Synagogues.

This is "Yom Kippur," the Day of Atonement also "Yom Hadin," the Day of Judgment. Hebrews, scattered in their exile throughout the world, today lay aside all their work and devote themselves to fasting and prayer, facing their God and pleading for another year of life and happiness. Even on the blood-stained battlefields of Europe the 400,000 Jewish soldiers engaged in the various armies of the belligerent countries will lay aside their weapons, by special permission of their commanders, and beneath the open sky, before hastily constructed altars of wood and stone, will offer prayer.

The observance of Yom Kippur began last night with the singing and prayer of Kol Nidre in all synagogues. Upon their return to the places of worship this morning the worshipers will remain there during the entire day, leaving only for a brief respite at noon. In the Orthodox synagogues many of the worshipers will remove their shoes as an expression of the thought that on this holy day no man may enter God's house rough shod.

Fasting is observed as an expression of self-denial and to aid the worshipers in fixing their thoughts upon things spiritual. The fast will be concluded at sundown, after the prayer of Nehilah, followed by the blasts of the "schofar" from the altar, which will announce officially the close of the day of atonement. The "schofar" or horn is blown accompanied by the prayers of the congregation. Soon after it resounds, the spirit of supplication and mediation vanishes and is superseded by rejoicing and congratulations in the confidence that God will undoubtedly grant the prayers of His children.

There were no sermons preached in any of the Orthodox synagogues, this not being the custom there. At Keneseth Israel, Rodath Shalom and Adath Jeshurun, reform sermons were preached by Rabbi Krauskopf, Rabbi Berkowitz and Rabbi Klein, respectively. At the Beth El Synagogue, Rabbi Samuel Friedman officiated. At the Beth Israel Synagogue, Rabbi Marvin Nathan preached, while at the Mikve Israel Synagogue the service was conducted by Rabbi Levi H. Elmaleh.

"CAPITALIZE YOURSELF"

President Mudge Tells Young Men How to be Worth More.

President Mudge, of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad, lately gave this advice to his employes:

"You can make yourself worth more, while a locomotive cannot. You can direct your own energies, while a locomotive must be directed by a driver.

"It rests with you to raise your own capitalization to $50,000, to $100,000, or even to $500,000. Therefore be careful about your food, treat your body decently, and, above all, feed your mind. You are working for a large corporation. In the nature of things it cannot know you very well personally, but it knows you by the work you turn out. It sets a real value on your work, higher than you think. Your value is measured by the quality and quantity of results you produce. Somebody knows your actual worth, appreciates your honest endeavors and has you in mind for better things. It is a business proposition. Each of us is capitalized."

Mr. Mudge began his career of "capitalization" when, at the age of 16, he entered the employ of the track department of the Santa Fe Railway in Kansas. Trackman, station agent, telegraph operator, road master, general superintendent, general manager, vice president and president are the milestones on the road Mr. Mudge has traveled to the presidency of a transportation system of 8000 miles. The Rock Island chief was recently elected president of the American Railway Association, an organization of the executives of the leading railways of North America.

DAM IS 204 FEET HIGH

Built fo rthe Purpose of Power and Flood Prevention.

What is said to be the highest dam in Europe has just been completed across the River Bober, near Hirschberg. It is 204 feet high, 164 feet wide at the base and 24 feet at the top, with a curved plan, concave to downstream, of a radius of 820 feet, says the Engineering Record. It contains about 9,000,000 cubic feet of stone masonary and cement.

There are a spillway 280 feet wide and two outfalls at the base four feet 11 inches in diameter. The dam was erected for the double object of flood prevention and power. The powerhouse is provided with four turbine-driven generating sets, each developing 1500 horsepower as a minimum. The cost was $1,418,270.

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THE BLASTS OF "SCHOFAR" PROCLAIM END OF FAST

The conclusion of the Day of Atonement will be announced at sundown today by the blowing of "schofar" from the altar. This will be the last rite performed in the long series of prayers which mark the observance of the holiest day in the Hebrew year.

BURNING CANDLE SETS JEWISH HOME AFIRE

Five Children Rescued From the Blaze by the Frantic Father.

Five children were rescued from their burning home, 227 Montrose street, early this morning, when a fire was started by a candle burning in observance of the Jewish feast days. The father received a deep gash in his wrist smashing a window, and other injuries when he jumped from the second floor window.

The blaze was in the home of Jacob Fineberg. He and his wife and five children occupy the second floor. The third floor was occupied by his son-in-law, Israel Greenberg, and the latter's wife. Morris Kaplan, 216 Montrose street, discovered the fire on the first floor.

Kaplan aroused the inmates of the house by pounding on the door. Fineberg tried to escape by the stairway, but finding his way blocked by smoke and flame ran to the second-story front window and smashed the window with his fist. The glass cut into his wrist, severing an artery.

Morris Geventer, 236 Montrose street, came along just as Fineberg was about to drop his children from the window. Climbing a rain spout to the coping of the adjoining house, Geventer took the children fro mFineberg.

By this time the smoke coming from the first floor was so dense that Fineberg, his wife and the two remaining children were driven from the front window. The children and their mother were assisted to the roof of a shed in the rear by Fineberg, who then became excited and, running to the front second-story window, jumped out. He was taken to the Pennsylvania Hospital in the automobile of Fire Chief Murphy.

Firemen found the entire first floor of the dwelling in flames when they arrived, but managed to prevent the spread of the fire to the upper floors. The candle, left burning on the table in celebration of the Hebrew holidays, had burned down and ignited the cloth.

WOODEN BRIDGES LAST LONG

Bridges built of timber, and particularly those of the Howe truss type, have shown a remarkable longevity especially where they are covered from the weather. A casein point is a bridge over Little River, near Springfield, Mass., which was recently torn down. It was built in 1835 and was only recently removed for reconstruction because of decay in some of the woodwork.

PLANTS SEEK OUT PREY

Seem to Have a Sense to Feel Distant Objects.

That plants have a sense which enables them to feel objects at a distance is demonstrated by S. Leonard Bastin in the Scientific American. He cites the sundew, which extends a leaf toward a fly until the sticky tentacles on the leaf have captured the insect.

The dodder, on germinating, sends up a long thread, which works through the grass till near a clover plant or a milkweed, when it grows rapidly straight for its victim, around which it climbs, sucking its sustenance from the sap of its support.

The sweetpea sends its tendrils deliberately toward sticks or other objects that will act as a support.

Darwin called attention to the cleverness of the root-tips of plans in seeking out nourishment, and said they seemed to show as much intelligence as was to be seen in the lower animals.

TREE FURNISHES BUTTER

United States Consul at Sierra Leone Tells of Wonder.

Mr. Yerby, the United States Consul at Sierra Leone, tells of a wonderful tropical tree called the Shea or butter tree. It furnishes the natives not only with nuts, which they highly prize, but with butter which may become an article of commerce of importance, since it is already exported to Europe, where it is used in making artificial butter.

This tree produces a nut covered with a soft pulp, which is in turn covered with a smooth skin, easily removable when the nut ripens. This pulp is sweet and wholesome. About 60 per cent. of the nut is butter which is edible. The tree begins to bear when it is 15 years old, and reaches its full capacity in 25 years. Barring jungle fires, a butter plantation is a profitable investment. Chocolate manufacturers could easily absorb the product. Candles and soap con also be made of it. Trees that can produce butter, soap and candles are worth cultivating.

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