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A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year. By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written only for The Washington Herald.

MR. JACK O' LANTERN. When Mr. Jack O' Lantern comes a-grinning and a-strutting.

Bryan and Hobson are to stump Ohio in favor of prohibition, and the odds are against them both escaping unscathed.

Let us hope that every precaution is being taken against the carrying out of any plot to dynamite the Panama Canal.

Berlin is now accusing the allies of atrocities against the Turks. It would be interesting to know just what the Berlin idea of atrocities is.

Is the government's proposed blockade of fuel intended for Villa, through the co-operation of the railroads, strictly according to international law?

"Sweeping inquiry into fatal fire" announces a contemporary in giving the story of the Pittsburgh box factory disaster. Well, that's where most inquiries of that kind are swept, when you come to think of it.

Announcement that Hans Schmidt has filed a petition for a new trial will surprise a great many persons who had imagined that he had long since paid the penalty for the murder of a young woman in New York in September, 1913.

If the Democratic floor leader of the House of Representatives really intends to oppose one of the most important of his party's legislative measures he ought to add to his announcement a request that a new floor leader be chosen.

A Chicago scientist announces that in the last twenty-five years the average length of man's life has been increased ten years. And if it is true that woman is only as old as she looks a great many more than ten years must have been added to her life.

A New Yorker, 78 years old who married a young woman of 28, refused to tell reporters whether he had won his bride by a want advertisement or whether he had settled \$300,000 on her. Possibly readers of the newspapers can figure it out for themselves.

That mob of Philadelphia rowdies who attacked a gathering of women suffragists with Roman candles and buckets of water had no intention, of course, of aiding the suffrage cause, but without a doubt their cowardly demonstration won a whole lot of "votes for women."

It is announced that Gen. Funston has once again been given unlimited authority to protect American lives and American property on the Mexican border. In the old days he could have cut the wires and gone ahead, but the state of perfection reached by the wireless telegraph and telephone robs the situation of its hopeful aspect.

The rejection by the people of California of Gov. Hiram W. Johnson's pet measure to make all State officials nonpartisan indicates that it is quite possible for the Progressive leaders to progress too rapidly to suit the people. Possibly the voters could not figure out just how legislation was going to accomplish the governor's object.

"I am a member of the New York Yacht Club, the Metropolitan Club, the Clover Valley Rod and Gun Club, and the Riding Club," testified a former financier, defendant in a suit to collect \$24,000 on a judgment. "My wife pays my dues in these clubs. I have no monthly house charges, but if I did my wife would pay them. My wife gives me spending money. I do not pay my living expenses and I contract no monthly bills." The trouble is the wife will probably draw the line at paying the judgment.

An 18-year-old New Jersey youth saved up his pennies and bought a revolver with which he shot and killed his employer, whom he calls a "tyrant." "As soon as he got acquainted with me," said the boy, "he began kicking and cuffing me. On one occasion after I had been working most of the night, he came to my room and told me to get up. I was not feeling well and did not answer the call. He threw a glass of cold water in my face, pulled my hair and jerked me by the arms. On October 15 he stamped on my foot because the oven was not hot enough. I told him then, 'all right, your turn is coming and you will suffer as much as I have.'" Of course the youth is guilty of murder in the first degree, and if the jury that tries him does its sworn duty it will prescribe the death penalty. But the chances are that public opinion, for which the victim of the slayer's pistol is responsible, will determine the youth's fate.

Piracy and Conspiracy.

Intimations coming from New York of a danger that the chief conspirators in the gigantic plot hatched in this country with the object of destroying factories and vessels sailing from United States ports may escape justice are unworthy of credence. To believe that any such machinery exists is to believe that all of the vast machinery of the government for the detection of crime and the capture of criminals is worthless and that those in control of it, as well as their subordinates, are worse than inefficient. A great deal more evidence must be produced before any one is convinced that such is the case.

The government, it is true, is confronted with a formidable task in tracing the plot from bottom to top and securing evidence against the principals as well as their agents; but the Department of Justice and the Secret Service appear to be aroused at last to a realization of the fact that secret enemies of the United States are organized and established within its borders, that they have for months been carrying on a warfare against us with bomb and torch, and that they are equipped and wherever they believe the ends they seek demand it. The authorities in the past have been disposed to make light of or attribute to causes other than the true one, a long series of fires and explosions in factories, on merchant vessels, on our warships and military reservations and even in the Capitol at Washington.

But disclosures of the past few days in New York and New Jersey have warned them that the time for deceiving themselves and the public is past. The government is face to face with incontrovertible proof that Germany's warfare against her enemies has been brought to our peaceful shores, that America and Americans are being made the victims of murder and arson for the purpose of weakening Germany's foes. It is a situation calling for stern measures, sparing no guilty person. The Prussian military system put a woman to death for an offense insignificant in comparison with the crimes which its agents or sympathizers have committed on the soil of a nation at peace with the world. The government at Washington faces a crisis no less threatening than that brought about by Germany's methods of submarine warfare. Unless it acts swiftly and decisively in protecting its neutrality and its institutions, in obliterating the whole nest of conspirators, the system of warfare which the British navy smashed on the high seas will obtain a foothold in our own country, the work of the submarine will be transferred to the ports of America.

Five men are in custody in New York. They are not cranks or fanatics, but capable and efficient agents equipped for the deliberate carrying out of the desperate work entrusted to them and for which they were provided with unlimited financial resources. One of these men has confessed that he is an officer in the German army, sent here by an official agency on his mission of destruction. With his associates he is charged with conspiracy against the United States, and it is suggested that a charge of piracy is not improbable in some of the cases.

Helpful Work in the South.

Each year the report of Booker Washington, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of Alabama, reveals something practical accomplished for the benefit of the colored people of the South, aside from the actual work at the institute itself. In the past year special effort was put forth by the principal and his associates to induce the people to "plant something to eat," to diversify their crops. An extensive campaign was undertaken for this purpose, inspired of course by the effect of the war on the price of cotton, a crop upon which the majority of the small farmers had long been accustomed to depend for all their needs. The work of the institute in this direction has been the salvation of large numbers of toilers in the farming communities, though the report states modestly that "the gratitude of the white and black people for our efforts in this regard has been most emphatic." If some of our leading calamity howlers had followed the course of Booker Washington instead of going about predicting ruin for the South as the result of lower prices of cotton they would have served their people better.

Another important project undertaken by Tuskegee jointly with Hampton Institute was the establishing of a "national health week" for the purpose of teaching sanitation, bringing about better health conditions and reducing the death rate among the ten millions of colored population, which one year reached as high as 30 per 1,000. This is a movement deserving the support of the members of both races as promising mutual benefits.

These are only two of the many activities of the institute during the year, but they serve to illustrate the splendid work being done under the direction of the man who long ago earned recognition as a practical leader of his race.

Schiller Forgotten.

German apologists for the military commander who executed Miss Cavell must have forgotten their Schiller—"Against stupidity the gods themselves battle in vain."—New York World.

Health.

The other day when I called a friend on the telephone I got the wrong number. Instead of the cheerful, resolute voice I had expected to hear I was greeted with a doleful sound that seemed to come out of the depths of a most lugubrious consciousness, a voice that expressed an utterly dispirited attitude toward life. "Well, I feel sorry for that woman," I said to myself. "She must have a miserable time in her life."

Later, when I saw the friend I had tried to talk with and told her of the incident and all the difference between that voice and her own and all the difference in attitude that were suggested, she remarked: "I know that type very well. There are altogether too many women of that kind in the world. They gradually sink into a state of mental torpor that very easily leads into the dispirited and whining habit which shows so noticeably in their voices and is so very conspicuous on the telephone. Besides being a kind of sickness in itself it leads to many kinds of sickness. It is responsible for neurasthenia and all those nervous disorders that result from self-absorption and weak yielding to depression and to the petty trials of life. Often it is the direct outcome of idleness. If most of those women had something to do every day, something really hard, that made them energize they would be much better off. Some time it will be a discredit for women to take that tone, just as it is now for men to take it."

I was reminded of this comment this morning when I saw two women meeting, one rather sickly and depressed looking, the other obviously healthy. "Oh, you poor darling, how are you?" said the healthy woman, evidently taking on the tone of the other. The response was in kind, a long drawl: "Oh, I'm feeling perfectly wretched." Then the conversation proceeded, keeping the tone of weakness and desolation. The healthy woman thought she was doing the sympathetic thing. So she was. But she was giving the wrong kind of sympathy, the kind that did more harm than good.

There are mothers who treat their daughters in this way, unconsciously encouraging the weak and fatuous attitude toward life. The moment they hear a complaint of a pain or a wail of debility they encourage it and make the condition worse. Much of the ill-health in the world can be traced to this false solicitude. When once the habit of yielding to it is formed it is hard to develop those habits of vigor and enjoyment of living that do so much to maintain health.

What makes health? Why is it that some people are healthy and others who, apparently, take just as good care of themselves, are unhealthy? For all that the doctors tell us, the answer is still something of a mystery. There are, it is true, the obvious things to say, references, for example, to heredity and to irregular diet. The latter is the problem unsolved. I thought I found one clew a few months ago when I asked the most vigorous man of my acquaintance, the one who seems to take the greatest enjoyment out of mere living, if he could explain to me the reason for his health. "I think I know," he replied with a promptness that suggested he had already given the matter thought. "It's because I throw my chest out."

Then he went on to explain. "When I was a boy I was puny. They used to think I would die through the winter. Every winter I'd have a bad cough and people would come up and ask me in a doleful way how I was feeling today, emphasizing today. Well, I hated that and I hated being sickly. But I didn't see what I could do about it except drink cod liver oil, which I hated. I also hated cold weather. One day the first cold days I'd feel like staying in the house and I would often have stayed in if I hadn't been afraid of being treated by my elders like an invalid. Well, one day as I was walking along the street, shivering and chattering and fearing the cold and shrinking from it, it suddenly occurred to me that I ought to throw my chest out. So I did. I felt a little better; but I was still cold. The longer I kept my chest thrown out, however, the better I felt. Then the cold seemed to make a big effort to get me again; but I fought hard and I fought out. I began to run and took deep breaths. I felt like laughing. For the first time in my life I discovered that cold weather was enjoyable. I'd been treating it like a dog that I was afraid of. When the dog saw me running away, he got after me. When he found that I wasn't afraid he ran along with me and we had a good time together. Since that day I've been entirely different, and all on account of an accidental discovery."

I liked the story, but I didn't agree that the discovery was accidental. In my opinion it resulted from the will to live that had been so strong in my friend as a boy. Throwing the chest out was an expression of that will. Here is where many people fail. They don't really throw their chest out. They don't show it proper appreciation. So they sink into an apathetic attitude toward life that is bound to lead to mental or physical weakness or to both.

How is one to cultivate the will to live? One way is by imitating the example of my healthy friend. Just as he took deep breaths, so you should throw out of the chest will help to open up the way. It can't be done without the assertion of mental vigor. It will lead to deeper breathing and to a more vigorous outlook. If that woman whose whining voice I heard on the telephone were to stand up straight and as yet largely unshouldered and look life straight in the face she would not be so easily tempted to whine. For the physical and mental attitude would make whining difficult. Before she could whine she would have to collapse again.

It is good for us now and then to consider the tone we take toward life and to find out whether it is like that woman's or not. For even while the physical tone may be clear enough the mental tone may be flabby. When we think that life is all wrong we would do well to take warning. What we need is to be toned up.

OUR COUNTRY. A History of the United States People. HODGKINSON. A RELIEF MEASURE. Published by a special arrangement with the President through The McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

READY, the year before, Mr. John Quincy Adams had informed Mr. Jefferson that there was a plan afoot in New England to nullify the embargo and defeat the laws, and that reason might be, and it was, at least an alliance, with England would follow.

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The Herald's Army and Navy Department. Latest and Most Complete News of Service and Personnel Published in Washington.

What will be the attitude of the National Guard toward the administration's plan to put the new militia law into effect at the meeting of the national militia board and the meeting of the executive committee of the National Guard Association, which will be held at Washington Friday.

MOVEMENTS OF VESSELS. Albatross ordered to sea; Balch sailed for New York; October 23. Boston arrived at New York; October 23.

OPHELIA'S SLATE. Ensign Valentine Wood, to Yeoman, Boston; Ensign E. B. Morrey, to Fulton.

Too Much for Advice. Perhaps Congress, with the strong support of the people, will decide to order large expenses in connection with the execution of national defense plans must be met before an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for a building and from \$2,500,000 to \$3,000,000 annually for expenses can be fairly demanded by Mr. Daniels' new Naval Advisory Board.

SAGE CASE ARGUED. Argument was begun before the United States Supreme Court yesterday in the case of the reservoir will be York vs. William Sage, arising out of the controversy over the method of assessing valuations of lands acquired by the city for reservoir purposes.

ARMY ORDERS. Each of the following officers of the aviation section of the Signal Corps will return to his present station at the Signal Corps Aviation School, San Diego, Cal., on Wednesday, October 27.

CHEAR UP! THE PROVED! ROOD BEER! HADN'T BEEN! ZETON! DWIG.

Doings of Society

President Wilson, his fiancée, Mrs. Norman Galt, and Miss Helen Woodrow Barnes occupied a box at the National Theatre last evening.

The bridesmaids were Miss Ruth Van Housen, Miss Edith Maddox, Miss Ethel Hazard and Miss Esther Hill. The latter two being cousins of the bride. They wore costumes of colonial style with pointed bodices and tiny festooned ruffles caught with roses and with touches of silver.

The Church of the Good Shepherd was entertained at a social yesterday afternoon at noon when Miss Marion Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott Goodrich, was married to Mr. Robert Israel.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. She wore a white satin gown trimmed with lace with a tulle overlay. Her train of brocaded satin was hung from the shoulders. She carried a bouquet of white roses.

Morning Smiles. "What do you think about the cause of gravitation?" "I don't know much about it. But I guess I'm for it."—Princeton Tiger.

DEFENDANT (in a loud voice): "Justice! Justice!" "Silence! Silence! The defendant will please remember that he is in a courtroom."—Penn State Froth.

"Does your boy take kindly to farm life, now that he has finished college?" "Oh, yes," replies Farmer Cobbles. "He says that after the strenuous four years he's been through it's a pleasure to loaf around home and watch the hired man at work."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

THE WEDDING OF MISS PRISCILLA MURPHY Bohlen daughter of Mrs. Woodville Bohlen of Philadelphia, and Mr. Walter B. Brooks, of Brookfield, in the Green Spring Valley, will take place December 7 at the home of the bride, Miss Mary Elizabeth Bohlen will be her sister's only attendant and Mr. Walter B. Brooks, Jr., of Baltimore, will be his brother's best man.

THE MARRIAGE OF MR. H. F. RUPP and Mrs. Elizabeth Willeke, both of the District of Columbia, took place at the parsonage of St. Peter's Catholic Church, Baltimore, Md., on Wednesday, October 27. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Boyd.

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