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with any foreign nation which attempts to form a large aerarial fleet. The poor British taxpayer! Last week another great man of war, Lord "Bobo," was asking time to equip and support a home army of 1,000,000 men. Now he is asked to equip and support a vast fleet of aerodromes. Next week he may be peremptorily called on to triple the strength of the home coast defenses. How is the unhappy man to save anything at all for his food and clothes? His country has palpably gone war-mad: it talks, eats and sleeps battle, murder and sudden death. Its patron saint is no longer St. George, but rather some legendary Richmond P. Hobson.

CONTRACTING "TO TOTALLY ABSTAIN"

Does a business contract "to totally abstain" from intoxicants admit of the slipping in of a few harmless drinks now and then? There seems to be some judicial authority for believing so. We are indebted to the New York World for a recital of the facts in the interesting case of Clark vs. West, upon which the Court of Appeals has just handed down an opinion. West engaged Clark to write law-books for him, guaranteeing him \$2 a page for his work, come what might. Further, seemingly as an incentive to Mr. Clark to overcome certain foibles of his, it was mutually agreed that "if said first party [Clark] abstains from the use of intoxicating liquor, he shall be paid an additional \$4 per page." Clark himself, as part of his contract, specifically agreed "to totally abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors during the continuance of the contract." For the split infinitive, which was Clark's or West's or their lawyer's, The Times-Dispatch feels no responsibility. Solecism, doubtless, has no bearing on the validity of a contract.

When the day of reckoning came, West paid over the guaranteed \$2 a page, but declined to pay the additional \$4 a page, affirming that Clark "did not totally abstain." Clark candidly admitted that he had taken "an occasional drink," but argued that his very self-restrained use of the corn "did not prevent or interfere with the due and full performance" of the contract. Prompted by that same expert knowledge which had secured his engagement as a law-book writer, he brought suit for the \$4 bonus. The defendant demurred; a Supreme Court justice overruled the demurrer; the appellate division reversed the justice; the Court of Appeals has now reversed the appellate division, and the case will go for trial.

Mr. Clark has thus, on two occasions, got court sanction for his theory that total abstinence as a contract stipulation does not mean total abstinence, but only sufficient abstinence to admit of the due and full performance of the other terms of the contract. The Court of Appeals decision declares that this was "not a contract to write books in order that the plaintiff shall keep sober, but a contract containing a stipulation that he shall keep sober in order that he may write satisfactory books." Yet the intoxicant clause of the contract was not made conditional upon the vague point of the "satisfactoriness" of the books, but upon the specific and express stipulation that Clark should "totally abstain." If Clark had totally abstained, he would have earned his additional \$4, no matter how unsatisfactory his books had been. Nor is the lay mind, at least, convinced by the plaintiff's argument that the defendant, if he meant to withhold the \$4, should have held Clark's innocent tipping as abrogating the contract, and ordered him to discontinue writing. For surely there were, in effect, two contracts here, one promising \$2 a page for all work, whether done in sobriety or intoxication, the other promising \$6 a page for work done in complete abstinence during the life of the agreement. How could West claim that Clark had broken the contract when he had distinctly guaranteed him a minimum rate, with the implied privilege of getting drunk, and had expressly made the earning of the bonus rate optional with his employer?

Altogether, if Clark is permitted to collect from West, he may consider himself in luck. Apart from the knotty legal aspects of the case, it would hardly seem that a man who cannot keep sober for \$4 a page deserves any special consideration from society. The form of the plaintiff's argument, too, is insidious and dangerous. It verges perilously close on the ancient and a disgusting conundrum. When is a man drunk? The answer to the question "Are we a beef-eating nation?" is given in the fact that with a population of 100,000,000 of beef in a year, Armour \$270,000,000 and others \$350,000,000, bringing the total to \$720,000,000 worth of beef.

Jane Adams, Dr. Cornelia De Bay and Mrs. Emmons Blaine, whose terms on the Chicago School board have just expired, have not been reappointed. Captain Jacques Adbert Pinetou de Chambrun has been appointed French military attaché to the United States and Mexico in succession to Major Fournier. Dr. Elizabeth Athman, of Gethelheim, is the first woman to be elected teacher in a public school in the city of New York. She entered upon her duties at the beginning of the present school season in Manhattan.

It is announced from Washington that Hayti's "paper" blockade of her ports will not be recognized here. Hayti will have to provide herself with a few billion dollars worth of Dreadnaughts before she can corral much recognition from this country. The United States fleet burned up \$26,289 tons of coal during the fiscal year 1918, which is, of course, another fine argument for the big navy program.

Frank H. Hitchcock gets the postal portfolio, which is one of the reasons why there will be no Democratic postmaster for four years and three months more. What with the affairs of Mme. Steinheil and the exploits of Mr. and Mrs. de Sagan, Paris is at no loss for social chit-chat these days. The Union City neighborhood seems to have challenged the Kentucky night rider district for its title of the Balkans of America.

True to her habits of industry and progress, Virginia has already started to raise the finest crop of turkeys for 1912 that the world has ever seen. Look for the silver lining. Suppose fashion had decreed a Merry Widow derby.

Borrowed Jingles

INSPIRATIONS: Maud Muller, as she stalked the hay beneath the trees. For and poets have paved the way. And parodies. —Louisville Courier-Journal.

And Paul Revere, sings when he rodes So fast and hard, Has been the theme for many an ode By every bard. —New York Mail.

And Hawaii, don't forget This gift of note; For he will not be helped, you bet, The oiling pot. —Nashville Tennessean.

And Ben Adhem, too, by jinks, Has many times Helped out the gazabo who thinks He's writing rhymes. —The Commoner.

And Poe's poor raven must have been All-fired tough, For it has helped a hundred bards— And my own straws. —Yonkers Statesman.

But oh, for Mary and her lamb, Most laurels strew; Oft were our muse not worth a whoop Save for these two. —Waterhouse's Paper.

Put the boy on the burning deck, In with the heat That has at various times helped out The Houston Post. —Houston Post.

The Psalm of Life, and versicles such As Mary's Lamb, Have never helped us half so much As O. Khayyam. —Cleveland Leader.

But all these women and these men For us are flat. We get our cue from Casey when He swines his hat. —Florida Herald-Transcript.

THE CHOKERS: Othello has just smothered Desdemona. "And yet," he cried, "she was never incoherently incoherent." Heretofore he considered it an accident. —New York Sun.

Low Price Per Square Foot: "And you complained of the cost of your wife's new hat?" "Yes, answered the philosopher man, "but that was before I saw how big it was." —Washington Star.

Correct: "Wealth doesn't bring true happiness," quoted the Wise Guy, "it would be satisfied with a good imitation." Added the Simple Mug. —Philadelphia Record.

O, Yes, Yes: "What kind of ships do we encounter on the voyage of life," asked the proponent of silly questions. "Hardships," promptly answered the pessimistic person. —Chicago News.

Oleomargarine: Aunt Miranda (at her city niece's wedding): "I remember, Miss, on that butter plate?" "Cynical Uncle—Looks to me like 'For Butter or Worse.'" —Harvard Lampoon.

Tradition: "I wouldn't do for politics, I guess," said the pretentious. "I'd simply vote the way papa votes." "That's remarked an observer. "You wouldn't differ so much from most men." —Louisville Courier-Journal.

FROM THE PARAGRAPHS: TOM JOHNSON has refused to accept any of the many loans proffered him by the Federal Reserve Bank, and has accomplished with a \$4,000 loan forty years ago. —Houston Post.

Rockefeller is willing to give credit for the organization of the trust to those who are content with the dividends. —St. Louis Dispatch.

John D. may not be the father of the Standard Oil Company, but he is a very near and dear relative. —Milwaukee Journal.

"The Devil" will be presented in Houston today. A large audience will witness both performances. Most likely the Aggs have heard much and know very little about the devil business. —Houston Post.

The Courts of Europe

By La Marquise de Fontenay

Did Russia Know of Austria's Move? RAND DUKE MICHAEL'S arrival at Vienna for the purpose of conveying the congratulations and good wishes of the Emperor and Empress to the occasion of the latter's celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of his accession to the throne bears out what I have already written in these letters—namely, that Russia has been open ally along to Austria's intention to annex Herzegovina and Bosnia; that no objections have come from St. Petersburg, and that, long regarded as inevitable, and the only course which recognized the incorporation of the provinces in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Grand Duke Michael is the bearer of the Czar's reply to the autograph letter which he received from Emperor Joseph, in which the latter announced the intention of the two provinces, and it naturally follows that the reply is a pleasant one. It gives satisfaction to the venerable ruler of the dual empire, since otherwise the Grand Duke would not have been charged with the conveying of the congratulations to the old Emperor on the occasion of the diamond jubilee of his reign. The grand duke is being received with the highest honors, and his stay there as the guest of the Austrian court will go far to set at rest the rumors which have prevailed that both Serbia and Montenegro can count upon the assistance of the Russian government in the event of a rupture of the relations of Austria. All illusions upon the subject of Belgrade and Cetinje seem to have disappeared. The Russian attitude on this account, the Serb and Montenegrin have turned their faces in the direction of Constantinople, and are anxious to make a treaty of alliance with Turkey against Austria. Another feature in connection with the Russian attitude at Prince Alexander of Serbia's coronation as King Peter, who only three months ago took up his residence at St. Petersburg, is the order of the Imperial Pages, from which all the officers of the staff and the members of the guard are to be drawn. The Russian army suddenly left the Muscovite capital and returned to Belgrade, expressing surprise at the Russian attitude. As a result of the coronation, representatives of whom he was interviewed in Germany on his homeward journey. As a result of the coronation, it is thought that he should stay two years at St. Petersburg. It looks as if he had either been ordered to leave, or else that the Russian government had been so disappointed by the Czar's refusal to accept the Russian attitude that it had insisted on the prince's taking his departure from the banks of the Neva.

Captain David Beatty, King Edward's new naval aide-de-camp, who is descending to the rank of rear admiral, is the list of captains to be promoted to the rank of rear admiral within the next twelve months, possibly before the end of the year. The list includes the British navy, with the exception, of course, of the Prince of Wales; for the Prince, who married the only daughter of the late Lord Northcliffe, of Chicago, will not celebrate his thirty-ninth birthday until well on in the year. The list also includes the names of the King and Queen, whose next-door neighbors they are, and the names of the King and Queen, whose next-door neighbors they are, and the names of the King and Queen, whose next-door neighbors they are.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL: When a dentist in China is extracting a tooth for a patron an assistant pounds on a gong to drown out the cries of the patient. A lemon tree in Sicily may bear up to 2,000 lemons a year. Last year's crop was valued at 6,000,000,000 lemons. Of these 2,000,000 were used to make citrate of lime. There was ice 61 inches thick on the Thames in England in 1841, and in 1851 the ice was 61 inches thick on the Thames to support coaches which were driven across it.

Count Casimir Leyden, formerly Japanese minister plenipotentiary in Japan, is addressing an extraordinary meeting of the press, widely published, to the effect that the author of the now famous letter in the London Telegraph was his only sister's husband, the Right Hon. Sir Rowland Blennerhasset. The interview is admitted by the London Telegraph and by the Department of Foreign Affairs to have been compiled by "an intimate English friend of the Kaiser." It is not in the least years kept track of the literary activities of his brother-in-law, yet he has not been able to give a solemn assurance that Sir Rowland has never had the honor of being personally presented to him, and that he has never had an intimate friend. The Emperor has never met him.

Let Love Rule said one of the Irish who would enter the Royal University of Ireland, visitor of Queen's College, Cork, a royal Commissioner of National Education, Ireland, and chief of the old Cumberland family of Blennerhasset, which has been settled in Ireland ever since the reign of Elizabeth. The family of Sir Thomas Blennerhasset managed to secure a considerable portion of the lands of the Earl of Desmond.

The Irish county with which the Blennerhassetts are more particularly identified is that of Kerry, where Sir Rowland, whose baronetcy was created just a hundred years ago, owns about 10,000 acres to-day. He has a son of the name of the member of the Indian civil service, who will succeed to his honors and estates, and a daughter, who is the widow of Baron Raphael Bringer, the baron's mother being an American. The English mail steamer, the "Highway," was built 20 years ago while on his way to Europe, brought this country to the very brink of war with the United States. (Copyright, 1918, by the Brentwood Company.)

STATE PRESS: An Obvious Deduction. Analysis of the vote in Virginia in show that the operation of the suffrage laws of the new Constitution has been almost as disqualifying to the whites as on the old Constitution. It can be assumed that the Democratic and Republican vote represents with approximate accuracy the effect of these laws upon the two races respectively. The Democratic vote in 1913 is 62,122 less than that of the Republican vote, and the obvious deduction from these figures is that the whites have suffered as much from the temporary intelligence qualification and the permanent disfranchisement as the negroes; or to combat this deduction it would be necessary to assume that the Republicans had secured a white vote every negro disfranchised, which is palpably untrue.

Getting Nobby About Noise. "Norfolk has run amok on a campaign for noiselessness. Not content with an ordinance which forbids every conceivable noise that essentially distinguishes the country, the Norfolk Landmark is publishing an editorial advising noiseless street cars." —Roanoke Times.

An Explosion Imminent. The strenuous Teddy's tendency toward air-craft building is once more demonstrated when he is reported to have been a candidate during the last election I would have carried Georgia and broken the Solid South, had it not been for a little help with Mr. Taft at the little end of the horn.

A Presidential Warlock. President-elect Taft takes an exceedingly high and honorable view of the circumstances which led to his nomination and election to the presidential office. He can't possibly be blamed for the fact that he was elected, and he is proud of the fact that he was elected. He is proud of the fact that he was elected, and he is proud of the fact that he was elected.

The Accommodating Oyster. It is an old thought that of all the crops planted, that of oysters is the only one that grows in the water. It is an old thought that of all the crops planted, that of oysters is the only one that grows in the water. It is an old thought that of all the crops planted, that of oysters is the only one that grows in the water.

Sister Woman

LET ME HELP YOU

My Mission is to make sick women well, and to help you, your daughter, your sister, your mother, or any other friend of a fifty-cent box of Balm of Gilead. It is a mission to help you, your daughter, your sister, your mother, or any other friend of a fifty-cent box of Balm of Gilead. It is a mission to help you, your daughter, your sister, your mother, or any other friend of a fifty-cent box of Balm of Gilead.

Truffles of an inferior quality are found in the mountains of Europe. They are found in the mountains of Europe. They are found in the mountains of Europe. They are found in the mountains of Europe.

Extirpation of Fur Seals. News leaking into the United States from Alaska, that the fur seal herd in the Bering Sea, and the fur seal herd in the Bering Sea, and the fur seal herd in the Bering Sea, and the fur seal herd in the Bering Sea.

"Saving Up" for Dinner. "Yes," said Gustibus, "I find it very hard to get anything in the restaurants that appeals to my appetite. In fact, there is only one place where I can eat with any relish, and that is at home. I always save up at lunch for the dinner table. I know well be set for me at night."

Value of Efforts. Very rash was that young O. S. U. professor who openly announced the other day that he had a strong aversion to the popular "rat." "No woman who wears a rat shall ever become my wife," were his exact words. As if he were a woman, the professor makes nonsense, but no one seems to notice it. On this principle George du Maurier might be called "Georgedum." —Kansas City Journal.

100,000,000 Eggs in a Season. According to the scientific authorities, the average female oyster deposits at least 100,000,000 eggs during a single spawning season, and it is said to be no uncommon occurrence for an individual oyster to have 100,000,000 or even 60,000,000. Her credit!

The End of the Primrose Path. Stanford White lies in his grave, to which he has been taken by a disease that made even his own family reluctant to have his name mentioned. Harry Kendall Thaw is in an insane asylum, and the only chance he has of getting out is to go to the electric chair as a murderer. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw is in a sanatorium, a physical and moral wreck, living on the charity of her friends.

A Dimple Maker. Find a child with dimples and chubby arms and legs and you find a healthy child. Find one with drawn face and poor, thin body and you see one that needs Scott's Emulsion. Your doctor will tell you so. Nothing helps these thin, pale children like Scott's Emulsion. It contains the very element of fat they need. It supplies them with a perfect and quickly digested nourishment. It brings dimples and rounded limbs.

Progress. "Yes," said Mrs. Marjorie, "my boy is doing first-rate in school. I sent him to one of them alternative schools, and his teacher says he's doing fine. He's a first-class boy, but it may be that he's a bit of a genius." "The fathered calf," promptly responded a little girl. —Blutson Gazette.



MRS. HARRIET M. RICHARDS, Box 3290 Joliet, Illinois.

When Dawson reached town the other day he was suddenly seized with a terrible toothache, and he repaired at once to a dentist. His investigation showed that the tooth was in such a condition that the only way to extract it comfortably was to put the sufferer under the influence of ether. Dawson, however, threw himself back in the chair and the tube was applied. He did not succumb any too readily, but in the course of the operation he was seized with a terrible toothache, and he repaired at once to a dentist. His investigation showed that the tooth was in such a condition that the only way to extract it comfortably was to put the sufferer under the influence of ether.

On the first page of the Sun Sunday morning, at the top of the sixth column, was a dispatch from Helena, Mont., announcing the discovery of a pure gold nugget, 80 per cent pure, worth \$20,000. The nugget was found in a trap, and its weight was 1.5 ounces. Its color was a bright yellow, and its shape was that of a small, irregular lump. It was found in a trap, and its weight was 1.5 ounces. Its color was a bright yellow, and its shape was that of a small, irregular lump.

American and English newspapers have a way of mangling the name of the Sultan of Turkey. Often he is called simply "Abdul"—nothing more. Sometimes it is "Abdul-Hamid," or "Abdul-Hamid." The proper way to write the name, according to the London Chronicle, is "Abdul-Hamid, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire." The proper way to write the name, according to the London Chronicle, is "Abdul-Hamid, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire."

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The moral of the tale is the old, old one—as old as humanity itself—and yet one that never grows old, since in every generation there are those who will not learn it—until too late. The lesson of it all is plain and clear before us every day. But it needs ever to be reiterated and enforced upon the minds of the young, and to be taken to heart by young and old alike. It is a lesson that is sufficiently effective to justify the public.—Roanoke Times.

Who Is Wise to Situation? Now that both parties have published their list of contributors, who can say that the situation is not a bit more meaningless than the published list of campaign contributors? There is no one who can say that the list as published from the Republican party committee that Standard Oil was a contributor, but who can doubt it? It would require no expert mathematician to judge that the list is sufficiently effective to justify the public.—Roanoke Times.

Supplies the Highly Prized Dairy in England. To the English sportsmen the game may be big or little. This is of no consequence, provided that it affords the opportunity for the young, rich and poor, can indulge in it without running into any danger. It is an invigorating and healthful exercise, and can be made very profitable. The best truffles come from France and are consequently more expensive than those from Italy and Spain. The price the Parisian does for this truffle delicacy, and moreover, truffles are only to be had for eight days. Consequently those exported to England are generally tinned. Some few