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OFFICIAL COUNTY AND CITY PROCEEDINGS

Who has heard of H. C. Bell, president of the Minnesota State High School Football association? We did not know there was such a gentleman ourselves, but of course we plead ignorance on a considerable scale with regard to state high school football matters. Well, anyway, Mr. Bell says the Faribault-Bemidji football contest today is not a state championship affair in any way, merely a game between two good teams. He states "it would be unfair to the many good teams of the state whose records would entitle them to contend for championship honors." Very well. What do Mr. Bell's duties call for as president of the Minnesota State High School Football association? Wouldn't it have been a good idea for him to have arranged some kind of schedule so that at the end of the season it would be possible to know who are the champions of the state? They are not all "best teams," to be sure, there can only be one "best team." Instead of having a schedule arranged so that each team knew when and where they should play the experience of Bemidji anyway has been that of hunting for teams to play with. After being refused games with some teams early in the season these teams are making claims for the championship notwithstanding their refusal to play earlier in the season.

It might not be out of the way to humbly suggest to Mr. Bell that next season a schedule be arranged so that at the end of the playing the teams will know where they stand. Bemidji would have been glad to accommodate any of the "so-called" championship teams with a game had it been possible to get one.

RECRUITING ON THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Of course the recruits that are being gathered into the United States army have to congregate somewhere, and maybe there is nothing significant about it at all, yet the fact remains that the Mexican border is the scene of considerable activity right now. The famous second division, known as the "Indian Heads" in the big fighting in France, are being strengthened at the rate of 250 new soldiers a day, at Camp Travis, Texas. Major General P. C. Harris, the adjutant general of the army, says that the second division will be recruited up to 11,000 men.

No one can suspect that the present administration is entertaining a war-like disposition toward Mexico, which has of late been making substantial improvement in its internal affairs, while at the same time evidencing a spirit towards the United States that is not being criticized at Washington. Some of the "elder observers" in the newspaper fraternity at the capital interpret the activity on the Mexican border due to the fact that the present administration does not desire to leave itself in a position so that the republicans will be able to say that they could not meet any unpleasant condition with Mexico, because of inadequate military forces at the border.

OVERHEARD BY EXCHANGE EDITOR

When the American dollar comes into its own again a lot of persons will wish they had more of them.—St. Cloud Times.

If President-elect Harding gets up another league, the two of them can play off a world's series.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

Antoinette Donnelly is out with a book, "How to Reduce." The lady who cuts the restaurant pie must have read it.—Ex.

Even the Duluth Herald seems to be satisfied with the result, even though not contented.—Northern News.

There is nothing quite so effective as the first month's bill to extract sweetness from the honeymoon.—Ex.

A man in Ohio was shot at by mistake for a pheasant. He must have had his lodge regalia on.—Exchange.

TURKEY HELPED BY GERMANS

Jute Bags, Designed to Block Suez Canal, Are Now Being Put to Peaceful Use.

It is always a pleasure to acknowledge a debt of gratitude to one's foes. The German occupation has left many a nightmare in this poor land; but some benefits as well. One of these has recently come to light. Hundreds of poor are peddling on the streets of Constantinople jute bags, with handles, which are very convenient for carrying home rice or onions or bread or patanj (egg-plant) or any other purchase. For six or seven cents, one can have a good strong bag.

The story of these is interesting. During the early days of the war, when the campaign against Egypt was undertaken, the plan was conceived of driving the British back to the Suez canal, filling up the canal with the sands of the desert, and walking over, into the new Promised Land, and thus "delivering" Egypt from the yoke of tyranny. To facilitate this project, the Germans sent into this country millions of jute bags, which were to be filled with sand and piled into the canal in a hurry when the conquering invaders reached its banks.

When the American committee for relief in the near East sent out its shipments of supplies for the starving of this country, and no warehouses

could be had for love or money at Constantinople, the fine large German warehouses at Derindje, on the gulf of Nicomedia, were requisitioned for this humanitarian purpose, and granted to the relief committee. In these were found about one million of these German bags. For a long time they were left alone; but recently some enterprising firm has got hold of them, cut each one in two so as to make it of convenient size, stitched up the ends, put handles on—and the population of Constantinople thanks the Germans for their unintentional gift! And the Suez canal is still open for traffic.—From the Orient, Constantinople.

Poliu to Keep His "Kepl."

Some months ago stalwarts of the old French army were grieved to learn that the kepi was to go the way of the red trousers, its place being taken by a steel helmet for parade occasions and a soft bonnet for uniform. The decree was always unpopular, since the kepi, in addition to being comfortable and smart, is immemorially associated with the glory of French arms.

Now, however, the minister of war answers a deputy in the Journal officiel by stating that a return to the kepi is actually under consideration. It is good news, and already in many garrisons sons-officers are allowed to wear it as a part of their walking-out kit.—London Times.

COULDN'T HAVE FIRST OPTION

As Girl Remarked, That Was a Matter in Which "Business" Didn't Cut Much Figure.

There was no sentiment about Herbert Jones. He met the girl he wished to marry; and he proposed like this: "Mary Dugh, will you be my life partner? I am a business man. If you are agreeable, I will draw up a marriage contract, we'll both sign, before witnesses, and then we can carry on with the world's work."

She gasped, but presently regained her composure.

"Fortunately," she said, "I've had a little business training myself, so we can discuss this proposed contract properly and dispassionately."

"I'm so glad to find you so sensible," he told her.

She smiled sweetly.

"I regret I can give you nothing better than second option," she said.

"What?" he exclaimed.

"I'm afraid I have to inform you I am already engaged—that is to say, the first option is already taken. But a first option does not necessarily mean a closed contract. If you don't want to take a chance on a second option, say so; if you do, I'll drop you a line if I find myself on the matrimonial market again."

"That's cold blooded," he complained.

"It's business," she averred.

"I'd rather have first option," he pleaded.

"A first option in such a case never has been and never will be secured by business methods," she replied.

DUXBURY HAS ALDEN HOUSE

Massachusetts Town Proud of Historic Abode That Dates Back to the Year 1653.

One of the most important of the old-time houses that are associated with the Pilgrims of the Mayflower is the Alden house at Duxbury, Mass., lately acquired by the Alden kindred of America.

The Aldens, John and Priscilla, with seven others of the Mayflower Pilgrims, went from Plymouth to settle in Duxbury in 1627, seven years after the landing of the Mayflower and three years before the founding of Boston. They built a house that stood on a knoll not far away from the existing one, and there their children were born.

The present house was built by the eldest son, Jonathan, in 1653, and has the remarkable record of having been in the possession of Aldens from that day to this.

A notable feature of the house is the existence of certain secret passages and hidden stairs whose location would never be suspected. The house dates back to the days of witchcraft and Indian wars; and notwithstanding the new freedom brought by the Pilgrims, there was no saying when opportunities for concealment and escape might come in handy.

Odd Mixtures in Bermuda.

Hamilton, largest town and capital of Bermuda, is a curious mixture of the quaint and the modern. Consulates jog elbows with the oldest and largest India rubber tree at Paria-ville, and tourist agencies hobnob with cathedrals of native limestone. Americans in thousands are all visible on the well-kept streets, and there are not a few English who have come to escape the rigors of a northern winter and wander, while suited, up Front street and down Queen and around to Reid. To an American, one of the strangest matters is the speech of some of the negroes of the island. One is quite startled with surprise when for the first time one hears a negro caddy sing out in tones of cockney London: "Keb, sir! 'Ere you are, sir," and to be assured by another negro that the view from the peak is "a little bit ori' right" is too much.

Japan's Famous Mountain.

Fuji is 12,365 feet in height, and only 200 years ago was an active volcano. There are still signs of fire in the jets of steam that spurt from parts of the cone, though one may now descend the crater with safety. All about the base are great boiling springs, hot enough to cook an egg in a minute. These are known as Otigoku, or "Great Hell." Whether the idea was taken from the Bible or not is not known. But Buddhism has plenty of hell of its own. Some 300,000 pilgrims ascend the cone every year; and this year, being a special one in sixty, according to the Japanese calendar, the number was much greater than usual.

Not Exciting.

"How was the movie?"

"Rather dull," said the faded patron.

"No thrill, eh?"

"Well, the heroine jumped from a train traveling 60 miles an hour to an airplane, was carried over a precipice in a motorcar, was left standing on the deck of a submarine when it submerged, but there wasn't anything you could really call exciting."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Complete Transformation.

"I understand one of your former waitresses is now a motion picture star?"

"That's so," said the proprietor of the Elite restaurant for ladies and gentlemen.

"Any change in her?"

"I should say so! She's changed her name, her hair and her disposition."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

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GREEN BOTTLE FLY
MENACE TO LIVE STOCK

Hog paralysis and limberneck in poultry seem to be related diseases and to be spread by the green bottle fly, known to science as *Lucilia caesar*, according to results of investigations recently announced by R. Adams Dutcher and Stanley Dean Wilkins of the Minnesota experiment station, University Farm, St. Paul. Mr. Dutcher and Mr. Wilkins, in attempting to trace the causes of limberneck in poultry were able to produce limberneck by feeding a cockerel on the larvae of green bottle flies which had fed on the head of a hog which had died of paralysis of the hind quarters. Moreover, they were able to produce paralysis of the hind quarters of guinea pigs by feeding them larvae from a chick which

showed limberneck symptoms. Numerous other attempts to produce limberneck symptoms by feeding spoiled canned vegetables, spoiled meats, the larvae of other flies, and so on, failed.

Suspicion, therefore, attaches to the green bottle fly as a pest which manufactures poisons, or at least transmits poisons, from hogs which have died of paralysis or chickens which have died of limberneck.

Until possible further investigations may refute this fly theory, the only safe thing for farmers and others to do in order to protect their live stock, and possibly even human health, is to burn or bury deeply all carrion. The theory is just another argument for most careful farm and home sanitation.

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THEY GOT THEIR BATHS.

(By United Press.)
Berlin (by mail).—A "Bathing Company, Limited," has been formed here by a small group. Since one can have hot water in Berlin dwellings only bi-monthly, this group rent-

ed a hotel room—the larger hotels have daily hot water—and took turns at the bath. The scheme aroused no suspicion, since the tenant was supposedly a Dutch merchant whose customers were calling on him. The packages they brought along contained towels, brushes, combs.

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