

# Abbeville Progress

J. W. O'BRYAN  
PHONE 248.

Joy riders would better take time than do time.

The more the fashions dare the harder the Willies stare.

One is sometimes tempted to think that there is too much weather.

There was a time when people objected to even the peek-a-boo waist.

One of the crying needs of the hour is a standardized slice of watermelon.

Valuable advice to those getting cubist haircuts: Take out an insurance policy.

Part of the trouble about the cabaret may come from calling a booze shop a cafe.

By flying over the Alps in an aeroplane one avoids paying tips at Alpine hostilities.

At last the aeroplane has been used for an elopement. But it would never do for a honeymoon.

Lots of men attain success without ever knowing the difference between an aura and a hiatus.

Some of those bargain bathing suits give the owner the decorative effect of a cubist Easter egg.

At some restaurants one can purchase French prunes that have an absurdly American accent.

Flies have become so scarce and cunning that it requires rare generalship to accomplish a swatting.

Still, this would be a good enough world if there were nothing more serious than slit skirts to worry about.

Leave the wearers of the slit skirt alone. Sooner or later they'll catch cold and come to an untimely end.

Another balloonist was killed in Seattle. Will they never learn that the only safe way to travel is in an aeroplane?

There is not one dance that looks better on the face of it than that "Boll Weevil Wiggle," the step with the kiss.

An Italian is now reported to have discovered perpetual motion. The nearest approach to it is the reported discoveries.

The man who married in secret for fear his son wouldn't let him must have great faith in the efficacy of early training.

There are few more awful sights in life than watching a man with false teeth that fit badly trying to eat green corn off the cob.

He is a shocking pessimist who remarks that many a June bride has knocked her knuckles on the wash board by this time.

You are right, Ethelinda. Many a man's chief objection to the styles in women's dresses this season is that they are not "more so."

A Pennsylvania baby was born under the auspices of five grandmothers and is reported to be doing as well as could be expected.

Last year's corn crop was 2,871,000,000 bushels. Think of the appalling by-product of corn cob pipes and husk mattresses that somebody will have to use!

The only thing a bull pup can not bang on to is a whirling auto tire. The dog that tried it was thrown into the branches of a maple tree 30 feet high.

If Charles Dickens would visit this country again he would no doubt be glad to discover that chewing tobacco had ceased to be a national pastime.

A St. Louis girl slept uninterrupted for six days after playing in a hard tennis match. Looks as if there was some good in the game, after all.

It seems to be getting quite the rage to fine the fair damselfers for wearing split skirts. If it keeps up the fad may become quite general, for \$25 is a comparatively cheap price for a good sensation.

However, it would be extremely gratifying if our esteemed and lovely fellow citizens would learn that the danger of getting off a car while facing to the rear is complicated and increased by the hobble skirt.

Does the average man delight in being shocked? He goes in droves to the bathing beaches where, as he has been duly warned, shocks await him.

A Boston judge decided that it is as natural for a dog to bark as to wag his tail, and that a court order against barking has about the same practical efficiency as the celebrated decree of Canute forbidding the tide to come in. The roosters throughout the land who have lately been served with injunctions will crow over this decision on natural rights.

The height of hard luck belongs to the man who died on the eve of his pardon from the penitentiary.

In a Chicago divorce suit a physician testified that idle men are likely to be more loving than busy ones. But then the compensating advantage is that the busy men make the women they love more of a satisfactory living. And while the sentimental expression of love is appreciated by every woman, the tangible evidence of it, in a good working support, wears better in the long run.

## Lincoln on the Rights of Labor



I AM glad a system of labor prevails under which laborers can strike when they want to—where they are not obliged to work under all circumstances; and are not tied down and obliged to labor whether you pay them for it or not. I like the system which lets a man "quit" when he wants to, and I wish it might prevail everywhere.

I do not believe in a law to prevent a man getting rich; that would do more harm than good. So, while we do not propose any war upon Capital, we do wish to allow the humblest an equal chance to get rich with everybody else.

I want every man to have a chance to better his condition; that is the true system.

I am not ashamed to confess that twenty-five years ago I was a hired laborer.

From a speech at New Haven, Conn., March 6, 1860.

## FIRST PARADE IN 1882

Knights of Labor of New York Inaugurated the March, as a Celebration of the Day, in the Eastern Metropolis That Year.

UNLIKE other holidays that are observed by the American people, Labor day did not have its beginning in the commemoration of any great event in the world's history and for that reason there is considerable doubt as to who was responsible for its birth.

There are many who lay claim to being the originators of Labor's national holiday, and there have been many chronological tables produced in support of each one's claim. Authorities, however, are almost unanimously agreed that the celebration that has now become one of the national holidays was given its first impulse by the Knights of Labor in New York in 1882.

Those who took part in this first movement did not, they say, at that time dream that what to them was merely an outing for the toilers of the metropolis would in the not distant future assume world-wide proportions.

It is a coincidence that the men who laid the foundations for Labor



Along the Line of March.

day selected the first Monday in September. Why they did so they do not know except for the fact that at that time of the year most of the industrial institutions of the country are either about to resume operations or have done so, and with a year of steady work and good wages as the prospect the toilers felt more in a mood to jubilate.

The first celebration in New York took the form which has been the accepted one for years, namely, a parade of the union forces of the city. Following this another feature, speeches by leading labor organizers, was also found on the program.

Following the New York outing in 1882, the same organization, encouraged by the success of the first affair, held another one two years later. The wage-workers in other parts of the country started celebrations of the same kind.

In 1886 the American Federation of Labor went on record as favoring a day of this kind and instructed the delegates to work among their constituents and secure as early as possible legislative approval of it. This gave the movement its real start.

To Colorado belongs the credit of first putting the stamp of executive



Forming the Parade.

approval on Labor day. On March 15, 1887, the bill which had passed both houses unanimously received official sanction. Following closely after came New Jersey, on April 8 of the same year, while New York fell in line a month afterward.

The trade unionists of Pennsylvania observed the holiday some years before 1889, when the legislature of that state made it a legal holiday. The act of 1889 merely set the date as the first Monday in September in conformity with that of other states.

Every state in the Union except Arizona, Mississippi, North Dakota and Louisiana has adopted a law setting this day apart.

Good Work of Trade Unions.

By insurance and sick benefits the trade unions do a great concrete work for their members. National unions reported disbursements of \$7,829,151 in 1908, including \$5,164,385 for death of members; \$822,760 for temporary disability; \$684,755 for permanent disability; \$798,618 for superannuation and \$892,221 other miscellaneous benefits. Since its foundation, on November 15, 1881, the American Federation of Labor has increased in membership from 50,000 to 1,761,835 paid up and reported memberships of the directly affiliated local unions and international organizations.

Labor in High Place.

Never has there been a time when labor held such a high place as now. Education and free institutions are putting it where it belongs, namely, in a place where all men must give it due respect and honor and its proper share of the proceeds of its activities. It is the day of the people, for men who tell with their hands form the multitude of the people.



SERENO E. PAYNE

WHAT is the wittiest retort or the most humorous story you ever heard?

I have been asking this question of a list of public men more or less noted as wits and humorists. Perhaps the idea may stimulate some literary hack to make a much more complete compilation of American humor and supply a want long felt in these days, when readers are being overfed with the lurid, the morbid and the tragic. The memory of practically every member and ex-member of our various legislative bodies, federal, state and municipal, stores up some samples of original repartee which doubtless will be lost to posterity unless preserved in printer's ink, says John Elfreth Watkins in the Philadelphia Record.

In Washington the man who doubtless has the greatest fund of stories of brier repartee in debate on the floor of congress is Speaker Champ Clark. He recalls stinging retorts that have excited not only uproarious laughter, but threats of personal encounter.

The retort which he considers as perhaps the most effective was made by Senator James Hamilton Lewis when a member of the house. Lewis' opponent had been the aggressor and had been doing all of the vicious digging. Lewis, as usual, was all suavely. The speaker tells the story in this way:

"It was one of the finest bits of repartee I ever heard in the house. Lewis and Lemuel T. Quigg of New York were having a cut-and-thrust debate on the trusts, Lewis assailing and Quigg defending.

"At last Quigg made a particularly vicious lunge at Lewis, to which the latter, with the grace and politeness of Lord Chesterfield, replied: "Mr. Speaker, I do not wonder that the gentleman from New York defends the trusts, for it is written in a very old book that:

"The ass knoweth his owner and the ox his master's crib."

"That ended the debate very suddenly."

Speaker Clark gave me also the following sample of repartee, contributed not as one of the wittiest retorts he ever heard, but as that precipitating about the most ridiculous situation he ever witnessed in a legislative body:

"Toward the end of his term as speaker of the Missouri house of representatives Judge J. E. Alexander, now a member of the national house of representatives, was solicited for recognition by a large number of members standing in the aisle in front of the speaker's desk. At last the Hon. James T. Moon, a very brilliant member from LaCade county, yelled out:

"Mr. Speaker, I want to know if you recognize me?"

"Speaker Alexander, a very grave and dignified gentleman, responded: "It does seem to me that I have seen that ugly mug somewhere before."

The immortal wit of the late Senator Jonathan Dolliver is considered by Senator LaFollette to be productive of the very best repartee heard on the floor of the senate.

"The quickest flash of wit that I recall," said he, "came after Senator Warren of Wyoming had delivered a speech in behalf of protection. All members of the senate knew that Senator Warren owned sheep ranches in his native state and his earnest appeal had already tickled the fancy of the listeners.

"Senator Dolliver followed him and had begun a discussion of the tariff changes when Senator Warren, anxious to join in the sentiment, remarked:

"I quite agree with the senator on that point. Like himself, I am an agriculturist and—"

"You," remarked Dolliver, simply, "are the greatest shepherd since Abraham."

"Even senatorial dignity could not withstand this."

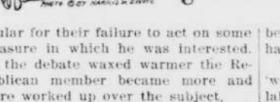
Representative Fitzgerald of New York, chairman of the appropriations committee of the house, said that one of the most effective shafts of repartee which he ever heard was hurled some years ago by a southerner, whose name he does not now recall.

"A hot debate was on," said Mr. Fitzgerald, "and a member of the Republican party began by assailing congress generally; and Democrats in par-

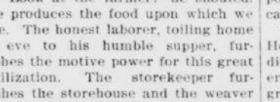
# THE WITTIEST THING I EVER HEARD



REP. J. FITZGERALD



SENATOR PENROSE



SENATOR CLARK

ticular for their failure to act on some measure in which he was interested. As the debate waxed warmer the Republican member became more and more worked up over the subject.

"Finally he charged members of congress generally with idleness. "Look at the farmer!" he shouted. "He produces the food upon which we live. The honest laborer, toiling home at eve to his humble supper, furnishes the motive power for this great civilization. The storekeeper furnishes the cloth that goes within the storehouse. All these do their share. Why should we in congress delay? What are we producing?"

"Instantly the southerner was on his feet, courteously requesting recognition. After gaining permission to speak he turned to the excited Republican and said:

"I will enlighten the gentleman if he so desires."

"I do," said the Republican. "Then," said the southerner, "I will tell the gentleman on the other side of the chamber that congress produces more talk per capita than any organization in the world."

Sereno E. Payne, ranking minority member of the ways and means committee, recalls this as the quickest retort he ever heard in congress.

"Many years ago Representative Springer of Illinois was debating on the floor of the house. During the course of his speech he made several remarks of a rather variant nature without apparently realizing the blunder that he was making. After he had talked about ten minutes Tom Reed arose and interrupted him.

"The gentleman from Illinois," said Reed, "has made three distinct statements of a contradictory nature. I would like to remark that any one of the three could be used to disprove the others."

"Springer, taken aback, thanked Reed, who sat down. He delivered rather a flowery effort, in which he expressed his satisfaction at having been brought to book by Reed.

"Then he concluded: "And I will say, Mr. Speaker, in words that have been used before, I would rather be right than be president."

"Reed did not arise, but smiled sardonically. "No danger of your being either," he yelled across the aisle.

Senator Boise Penrose of Pennsylvania, who has himself been the hero of many debates, also regards Tom Reed as his beau ideal of the man with the lightning retort.

"One of Reed's sharpest shafts was flung during the debate on the Wilson tariff," said Senator Penrose. "The argument had been bitter and the fight against the measure had been determined. When the bill finally passed the house a group of Wilson's friends, among them William Jennings Bryan, picked him up on their shoulders and carried him about the chamber.

"Tom Reed had been watching the proceeding in a saturnal sort of way. When Wilson and his triumphant bearers reached the center doors of the chamber Reed lifted up his raucous voice and shouted:

"You may carry him out now, while you have the chance. The people of the United States will carry him out next November."

"And it turned out to be as Reed had prophesied."

"What clings to my mind as one of the most amusing incidents ever witnessed in debate," said Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, "grew out of not exactly a retort, but a speech that was delivered by the late Senator Robert Taylor of Tennessee. In this address the senator, using his pose of preternatural solemnity, announced that he had listened in a state bordering on stupefaction to the splendid tributes which had been paid to various American industries.

"Then he turned toward Senator Heyburn of Idaho, whose speech in

behalf of a duty on cattle and hogs had been lengthy and earnest. "But chiefly," said Senator Taylor, "was I impressed by the orotund syllables which issued from the esophagus of the senator from Idaho as in accents of Homeric rhythm he poured forth his defense of the American hog."

"The picture, coupled with Senator Heyburn's dignity, was so utterly ridiculous that it took the senate several minutes fully to recover its gravity."

"One of the quickest flashes of repartee which I have heard in a long time," said Senator William Alden Smith of Michigan, "occurred while Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania and Senator Simmons of North Carolina were recently debating the tariff in a desultory sort of way."

"Senator Simmons had announced with great earnestness that he was going to vote for free lumber. "Senator Penrose, with a courteous gesture, congratulated his opponent on his versatility."

"I did not grasp the senator's remark," said Senator Simmons. "I made the polite observation," explained Senator Penrose, "that the senator shows all of the earnestness in his argument for the removal of the duty on lumber that he showed at the last session, when he insisted the duty on lumber be retained. The senator is a man of talent."

"I think that the story told by Mr. Strickland Gillilan at the seventh annual dinner of the Indiana Society of Chicago is as good a one as I ever heard," said Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, the pure food champion, who is a raconteur of note. "The combination of the classical and the cockney is certainly enough to tickle anyone."

"A cockney was chosen for a prominent part in one of the historical pageants during the week when George last of England was jumped into the king row. The cockney had been selected, purely because of his figure, as the one to personate one of the ancient Roman invaders of the tripartite little island. He knew none of the Roman invaders by sight or by proxy. He had never heard of them. They did not move in his seat. Yet he was invested with a short, thin, sleeveless tunic, thinner fleshings, tin greaves, ditto helmet, sandals and a large spear. After walking about the streets of London some hours thus clad, this bally blighter was weary and footsore and ashamed. At last there came a chance to rest, while some hitch in the proceedings was unhitched. Just at that moment a blither wind blew from the channel and chilled his scantily clad form. He stood shivering in his finery when an old lady, literal minded and deeply interested in historical pageantry, approached him and said:

"Are you Appius Claudius?"

"No, bimby; I'm un'appy as 'ell!"

Getting the Habit.

Keeping oneself reasonably happy is a duty that ought not to be shirked. Science is telling us these days that to get out of the habit of enjoyment is to get depressed in vitality and vigor, to weaken in efficiency and to grow old before one's time. There is nothing like laughter—not empty-headed laughter, but the intelligent, wholesome, kindly-hearted kind—to keep people young and fresh, and fit for the business and the obligations of living. Of course, this is a prescription not easy to live up to always, but there is no reasonable excuse for not trying to do it. Sometimes it is just about as easy to be happy as to be miserable, if one makes up his mind to it, and there is no doubt at all as to which pays the best.

Why He's There.

Bacon—I never could understand why a fellow who goes into a show free should be called a deadhead.

Egbert—Why not?

"Because from the way he applauds everything he's the liveliest one in the audience."

No Time Wasted.

Imogene—We weren't in the hall two minutes before he kissed me!

Doris—Yum! Was it an event?

Imogene—My dear, he's an efficiency expert.—Judge.

Trout Eats From Hand.

Sunbeam, the pet speckled trout in the fish hatchery at Estes park, has just recovered from an indisposition caused by stomach trouble or rheumatism, and is again able to take his place as the only pet trout in captivity. The fish, now a three-year-old, and about eleven inches long, is as good an example of gentle and loving truthfulness as it is possible to find. Fed from the hand from the time he was hatched, he feels insulted now unless his food is given to him in that way.

Getting Tiresome.

The shopgirl stepped from the side door of the great department store and was surrounded by a group of highly-educated investigators armed with notebooks. She was not surprised, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. "Have you—" began the first in-

Rhythmical Criticism.

Prof. Brander Matthews was talking of certain past participles that have fallen into disuse, reports the Washington Star.

The past participle "gotten" has gone out in England, although it still lingers on with us. In England, gotten is almost as obsolete as "putten." In some parts of Cumberland the villagers still use gotten and putten; and a teacher once told me of a lesson on the past participle wherein she gave her pupils an exercise to write on the blackboard.

In the midst of the exercise an urchin began to laugh. She asked him why he was laughing, and he answered: "Jock's put putten where he should have putten put."

Severe Rheumatism.

Grove Hill, Ala.: Hunt's Lightning Oil cured my wife of a severe case of Rheumatism and my friend of toothache. I surely believe it is good for all you claim for it.—A. R. Stringer, 25 and 30c bottles. All dealers.—Adv.

Home Campaign.

"Is your daughter going away this summer?"

"No; she has started a flirtation with the leeman, and we think her chances for getting engaged to him are very good."

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"Does Blubbo keep his word?"

"I guess so. He never seems to give it."

"Back on the Job"

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