

The Colfax Chronicle

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WHEN SHOULD GIRLS MARRY?

A grandmother has undertaken to answer the question in the headline in a magazine article. Having had experience, she thinks she knows what she is talking about. It is her opinion that no girl should marry before she is 25 years old. There never has been and never can be any fixed rule for the mating of human beings. Ages ago parents were the sole arbiters of the marital destinies of their daughters. They gave in wedlock when and where and to whom they pleased, and the daughters had nothing to do with the bargain. The matter is one in which there is pretty nearly independence of thought and action on the part of American girls. Parents may try as they will to shape their daughters' love affairs to conform to their own ideas, but it is a rare case in which they succeed—and even then success on the part of the parents is not a guarantee of the girl's happiness. It has been estimated that a woman's chances of marriage begin to diminish at the twenty-fourth year and decline rapidly to the thirtieth year, when they have almost disappeared. The period of greatest expectation is from 19 to 23. It is between these periods that the majority of women must make up their minds, and they do it from the dictates of the heart oftener than from any other consideration.

The frequent assertion that the soils of the United States are wearing out is not conceded by Prof. Milton Whitney, chief of the bureau of soils, United States department of agriculture. He has prepared a bulletin in which statistics of yield since 1867 are carefully compared, and in which he arrives at the following conclusion: "We are producing more crops per acre than formerly. This is undoubtedly due to better and more intelligent cultivation, more and better systems of rotation of crops and in later years to the intelligent use of fertilizers through measures of control in the hands of every individual farmer." Much that has been said on the subject of exhaustion of the soil was alarming and even disheartening. That Prof. Whitney sees no reason for a pessimistic view is reassuring.

The bureau of statistics at Washington reports an enormous increase in building operations throughout the country. This is another sure indication of the revival of business activity in every direction. When financial stress is felt the work of building is one of the first to feel the effects. The Washington statement shows that the value of building permits issued in 100 of the largest cities in the United States for the year ended July 1, 1909, was \$20,000,000 in excess of that for the same period in 1906, when building was at high tide. There have been noticeable gains in other directions, but building the movement appears to be a veritable boom, owing to the demand for increased accommodations.

Dr. Stiles, chief government zoologist, has just given advice in a department bulletin for the treatment and eradication of the "book worm" or "lazy" disease so prevalent among the poor whites of the southern states. The disease produces an anaemic condition and an utter disinclination for labor. Judging from the latter symptom, it would seem that the "lazy worm" does not restrict its activities to sections south of Mason and Dixon's line. It is hardly less majestic to rise up and assert that it has incubated in the municipal blood, in view of the exasperating delays in various movements planned for Philadelphia.

The sultan of Morocco's picturesque idea of locking the rebellious El Rhogi in a steel cage, strapped to the back of a swaying camel and marched, circus style, through the streets in a free parade, shows an oriental kind of humor hard for the western mind to appreciate. So is his humorous idea of punishment with boiling pitch in it. Somebody ought to remind him that this is sultans' bad day.

It requires some figuring to see how a New York woman could hire out for domestic service at \$18 a month while herself keeping a servant at \$22 a month. The answer is that she was lifting jewelry and the like from places where she was employed. After robbing 39 women this kitchen itinerant has gone to a reformatory for three years.

Germany grows about nine times as big a potato crop as the United States, although this country is much more than nine times as big as Germany. And some pessimists talk as if America were already near the limit of its possible food production.

The department of agriculture is now attacking the character of cats as rat-catchers. Their long standing as back-fence soloists, however, is still unquestioned by the department.

Spoiled Boys

Many Are Not Taught to Work

By ROBERT A. WOODS



DIVERSITY is the prosperity of the great," says Emerson. The "first American" will stand forever as the witness to the truth that life is something more and other than what one can receive through it.

Most children of the well-to-do and many children of the poor are to-day brought up to have what they want rather than what they need. The standard of life to them seems to be to possess rather than to create.

Public school education, resting back on the tradition established when every child had his active powers put to the stretch continually on the farm, devotes practically the whole of its attention to eliciting in the child a wide variety of cultural wants, insistent demands for the good things of life, dreams of what he is to have and to be, but gives very little of that constructive discipline of will and imagination which develops in the young person the capacity and the eagerness to make, of his own exclusive initiative, the objects of his desire, or their equivalent.

This defect is characteristic of the higher education as well. The young college graduate, in spite of all his long educational course, has a serious time himself, and gives others a serious time, when he at last undertakes positively to serve the god of things as they are. His intellectual pabulum has always been predigested for him. He has held the reins in his hands and he has thought that he was driving, but his careful preceptors have never really let him run the risk.

The general tendency to luxury, the crowding into the easy, sensational ways of politics and financial speculation—the gambling impulse which is so strong in American life—the desire to get a great deal and do as little as possible—is largely to be traced to the defective environment in which our young people are placed.

Lincoln and every creative spirit, has had that one indispensable sort of education, the learning to make something out of nothing, and to make it so that under the hard tests of the world it would stand in its inherent worth. Nobody is educated who has not learned this; everybody is educated who has.

Robert A. Woods.

Engaged Girls Keep Men Friends

By BETTY VINCENT

Why will so many girls who are engaged to be married insist that they cannot give up the attentions of their men acquaintances?

Girls, this is all wrong. You have absolutely no right to permit your former male acquaintances to call upon you after you have announced your engagement. Of course, exceptions might be made in the case of an old and intimate friend, but under such circumstances it would be best to receive him only when your fiance or a member of your family is also present.

The main point, however, is that a girl does not really care for her fiance properly or she would not desire the comradeship of other men. When a woman is really in love as she should be with the man she intends to marry, other men do not interest her.

If a girl who is engaged to marry insists that it is a sacrifice to give up the other men she knows, it is a pretty safe indication that she does not know her own heart; that she really does not love the man she has said she would marry enough to become his wife.

For, what does a girl like this imagine her future will be? If she cannot exist without other men around her while she is engaged, what will she do when she is married? The idea is wrong, girls. Either give up your men friends or give up your fiance. It is neither fair to yourself nor to him to attempt to keep them both.

Perhaps the greatest foe of Christianity—greatest because of its respectability—is what we may term false culture. Now, true culture is not in any sense antagonistic to Christianity, nor is Christianity in any sense antagonistic to true culture. Indeed, Christianity is the mother of the world's best culture. Yet there is a false culture, vain and arrogant, which is one of Christianity's deadliest foes. We see it well illustrated in the experience of Paul at Athens. The haughty and arrogant philosophers of that cultured city, imagining in their egotism and pride of intellect that they had all the truth of the universe, said in a condescending manner, "Let us turn aside now and see what this babbling will say." Those epicureans and stoics have perished forever, but that babbling at whom they sneered has overturned and transformed the world by the teaching of the practical truth which he held. And so there is a false culture in this age of ours which sets itself against the simple faith of the human heart and which sneers at the preacher of God's gospel, who, like Paul, has learned from his own experience what truth is and what it will do.

Some time ago I noticed an article telling how cattle suffer in cars. Why not look after the men who build the roads to haul the cattle on? One company compels 12 men to sleep in an old box car with two thin blankets and an old gunnysack for a mattress. We have no stoves to dry our wet clothes when it rains. No soap or towels are furnished to wipe our faces on. And the board for which we pay \$3.75 a week is not fit to give a dog. One dollar is kept out of our wages by the boarding contractor for office fees before starting to work and if we get 10 cents a day increase from the company the board is raised 25 cents a week, with no change in the food. We get old potatoes so sour in the morning that no one can eat them. When the skins are on they are not so bad. Liver and heart and sausage are the meat bill of fare. Men are compelled to leave every day in account of the board furnished.

Thirty-three cents a day is allowed by the contractor to feed the men. A good cook is let go the week he runs over 33 cents a day.

Laborers Treated Like So Many Cattle

By JAMES BOYLE

The department of agriculture is now attacking the character of cats as rat-catchers. Their long standing as back-fence soloists, however, is still unquestioned by the department.

Paul a Prisoner—The Voyage

Sunday School Lesson for Oct. 31, 1909
Specially Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—Acts 27:1-38. Memory verses 23-24.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."—Psa. 37:5.

TIME.—Summer and autumn of A. D. 69 or 70.

PLACE.—On the Mediterranean sea, on the way to Rome.

Suggestion and Practical Thought. The voyage of life illustrated by Paul's voyage toward Rome.

1. The Voyage on a Peaceful Sea. From Caesarea to Crete.—Vs. 1-13. The ships. After it was determined to send Paul to Rome under military escort, the first thing was to find a ship. There was probably very little direct commerce between Caesarea and Rome, and hence they embarked in a trading vessel which coasted northward along the shores of Palestine to Sidon and around the eastern point of Cyprus, past Cilicia and Tarsus, and part of Pamphylia to Myra in Lycia, near the southwest angle of Asia Minor.

The second ship was a large Egyptian merchantman loaded with grain from Alexandria.

The ship's company included Paul and other prisoners, Luke, who writes the account (note the "we" in the story); Aristarchus, an old friend of Paul who was one of the committee that accompanied Paul to Jerusalem with the collection for the poor (Acts 20:4); Capt. Julius, with a guard of soldiers from the Augustan band, besides we know not how many other passengers, and the crew.

The Peaceful Voyage.—They sailed westward. It took them several days to reach the port Cnidus on a peninsula at the extreme southwest point of Asia Minor, although the distance is only 130 miles.

The sailing was still difficult, and they put into a harbor called Fair Havens on the southern coast of Crete. Here they waited for pleasant weather. But it was late in the season, and rough, stormy weather must be expected to prevail. Paul advised them to remain at Fair Havens till spring opened.

Paul's advice was good, but it is not strange that experienced seamen should not regard very highly the opinion of a scholarly landsman.

2. Storm Tossed on a Wintry Sea.—Vs. 14-26. "There arose against it" (v. 14), the ship, "a tempestuous wind," typhonic, tempestuous, like a whirlwind; a hurricane, a typhoon, a cyclone.

15. "When the ship was caught." A very strong expression, implying that the wind seized hold of the ship, as it were, and whirled her out of her course. "We let her drive," R. V., "we gave way to it, and were driven" before the wind.

18. "The next day they," the sailors, "lightened the ship." The imperfect denotes that they began to lighten the ship, set about it by throwing out some of the cargo, not the precious wheat which was thrown overboard later (v. 38).

19. "Cast out with our own hands," that is, of the passengers as well as of the crew, "the tackling," "the furniture of the ship, its fittings and equipment, anything movable lying on the deck, upon which the passengers could lay their hands, such as tables, beds, chests, and the like."

20. "When neither sun nor stars appeared." We have to remember that before the invention of the compass the sun and stars were the only guides of sailors who were out of sight of land. "All hope was then," at last, henceforth, "taken away."

The Vision of Cheer.—Now Paul comes to the front, the only one in the whole ship who could bring a message of hope. The reason for his assurance follows. An angel came to him with a message from God, as Jesus had appeared to his disciples in the tempest-tossed boat on the Sea of Galilee.

The message was that he would be saved because he (v. 24) "must be brought before Caesar," as God had promised him before (Acts 23:11). Paul's safety was as sure as God's promise. The promise had been obscured before this, but it had shone out again through rifts in the clouds. "God hath given thee all them that sail with thee." Doubtless Paul prayed earnestly for the safety of those who were in the ship with him; and their lives were granted in answer to his prayers. The good man is never selfish even in his prayers.

The Port to Which We Should Sail.—A statesman declares that "The first requisite of one who would have a successful life, as of the pilot of a ship, is a knowledge of its goal. No helmsman however skilled in handling a wheel or experienced in seamanship would be trusted to guide a vessel unless he knew and could specify in which direction it should go. A knowledge of the goal of nations is the first essential of statesmanship," and also of manhood and womanhood.

The Riches of Christ.

The great apostle, appreciating the riches of Christ, said they were his "treasure." Appreciating his own infirmities, he said that he held the treasure in an "earthen vessel," yet he dared in that earthen vessel to carry the treasure of the Gospel over all the world. We may not be brilliant; we may not be men of genius; we may have manifold infirmities; the very best we may have may be an earthen vessel, but let us fill that with the treasure of the Gospel.—Rev. Henry Clay Trumbull.

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Real Estate Bargains

The undersigned has a number of desirable town lots for sale in Colfax, Verda and other fast growing towns. Also some splendid woodlands, good for farming purposes—both river and hill lands—will be sold on advantageous terms. Some first-class farms for sale on the best of terms—river bottom lands or hill lands—on which the most liberal arrangements can be made for part cash, balance on time. Parties having timber for sale should place it with me, as I am constantly in receipt of inquiries for timber of all kinds.

80. A bargain in 522 acres of pine woods land, about five miles southeast of Montgomery, close to railroad, the whole to be sold at the low figure of \$3 per acre. This land lies in two tracts, 301 and 221 acres respectively, and either of the tracts will be sold at \$3.25 per acre. Either of the tracts will be divided and sold at \$3.50 per acre cash, or on time at \$4 per acre, half cash, balance 1 and 2 years.

81. Forty acres, in four miles of Colfax, on Cold Branch, splendid never-failing cool drinking water, good for poultry or stock farm, 25 acres good level hill land, and about 15 acres in the bottom, only \$200 on easy terms.

82. Two hundred acres, good for poultry or stock farm, in three miles of Colfax, 110 acres in the hills, and about 90 acres in the bottom, will be sold in lots to suit purchasers, of one, two or more 40-acre tracts, at \$5.00 per acre, on easy terms, part cash, balance one and two years.

83. Desirable new house in town of Colfax, five rooms and commodious galleries, ceiled and nicely painted and finished, situated on 5 lots, 51x125 feet each, barn, woodshed and necessary outhouses, two tanks and underground cistern, situated in desirable portion of the town, will be sold for \$2700.

84. Desirable hill farm, 155 acres, 9 miles east of Colfax, 50 acres fenced, good well and spring branch, house with two rooms and gallery, two cotton houses and corn crib, 75 peach, apple and pear trees, price \$800, half cash, balance one year.

85. Desirable hill farm, 80 acres, 10 miles east of Colfax, 35 acres in cultivation, 21 acres hill land and about 14 acres splendid creek bottom, 2-room house with gallery, kitchen, smokehouse, double crib, barn, cotton house and syrup house, 3 good wells, 4 acres stubble cane, 100 assorted fruit trees and vineyard, price \$450, half cash, balance 1 and 2 years.

86. 240 acres, a desirable home, creek and hammock farm, 40 acres in cultivation, 160 acres black land, 80 acres hammock, in extreme northwest corner of Grant parish, in 12 miles of Winnfield, good 3-room house with gallery, kitchen and outhouses, 100 young fruit trees, fine well of water, splendid stock range, fine white oak, ash, gum hickory and walnut timber, all for \$2000, half cash, balance in 12 months.

87. 800 acres, fine cattle ranch and farm, S. Hopper & Son mill site at Stay, 440 acres inclosed with 2 plank and 3 wires, 30 acres in cultivation, good farm house, store building and other improvements, fine 4-inch pipe deep well supplying abundance of good water, and running creeks near by make it an ideal place for stock. Only \$3,150, one-third cash, balance 1 and 2 years. This is a fine investment, and I would be glad to arrange with several citizens to secure the proposition as a speculation.

88. 40 acres, some pine, oak, hickory and cypress, about 14 miles northeast of Colfax, will be sold for \$225 cash, or \$250 on time, \$100 cash, balance 1 and 2 years.

Also other properties for sale. Let me know what you want and I will get it for you. No sale no charge, and parties listing houses or lands with me will have no charges to pay unless property is sold.

H. G. GOODWYN

REAL ESTATE COLFAX, LA.

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The Louisiana & Arkansas Railway announces the inauguration of Double Daily Passenger Service between Minden and Alexandria and Jena, effective October 10. Trains 1-101 and 2-102 run on about the same schedule as heretofore, leaving Minden 11:25 a. m., arriving at Winnfield 2:50 p. m., Alexandria 5:00 p. m., and Jena 4:45 p. m., and leaving Alexandria 7:00 a. m., Jena 7:05 a. m., Winnfield 9:04 a. m., arrive Minden 12:20 p. m.

New trains Nos. 3-103 and 4-104 leave Minden 6:55 a. m., arrive Winnfield 10:00 a. m., Alexandria 11:59 a. m., Jena 11:00 a. m. Leave Alexandria 1:45 p. m., Jena 2:00 p. m., arrive Winnfield 4:00 p. m., Minden 7:25 p. m.

All Main Line trains make connection at Packton with trains to and from Jena Branch.

W. B. Atkinson

Gen. Pass. Agent, Texarkana, Ark.