

SLANG AND JARGON.

ORIGIN OF WORDS THAT BECAME A PART OF OUR LANGUAGE.

Some Are Ephemeral, but Others Retain Their Popularity—Various Callings Contribute to This Word-making—Some Well Known Examples.

Slang.—A new word that has no just reason for existence; a popular but unauthorized word, phrase or mode of expression; the jargon of some particular calling or class in society.—Webster.

In other words, anything in the way of word or expression not in the dictionary is "slang." When by reason of long continued popularity and general usage it is deemed worthy of a place in the textbook and authority of the language, it ceases to be "slang."

It is from the jargon of particular callings or classes in society that the English language is slowly but steadily enriched. The slang phrase first becomes dignified with the term idiom, and then it creeps into the new dictionary.

Not all slang is destined to this apothecosis. Much of it is ephemeral. A great deal of it is meaningless, silly or weak and dies in its childhood. Actor folk are given to the invention of new phrases more or less expressive, but short lived. "The ghost walks" is one of the few instances of the jargon of stageland.

The theatrical term of "makeup" is now in general use as descriptive of anything striking in personal adornment, referring to the clothing and not to a disguise or enhancement of the features as originally. Song and dance men, acrobats, serio comics, sketch teams and the lower order of theatrical folk indulge in slang that renders their conversation almost unintelligible. For instance, some knockout artist was struck by the similarity of the words pardon and pudding, and to his bright mind the transition to "tipioca" was not difficult, but there is no probability that the expression "Beg your tipioca" will supplant "I beg your pardon" in the language of the polite world.

The song and dance man may be excused in summer days of bankruptcy in calling the man with money, willing to spend it for refreshment, an "angel," and this expression may in time creep into the language, but for the present the ancient term of "sucker" will suffice.

Circus slang was the forerunner of the jargon of the variety stage, and in the good days when the "gasit city of tents" was planted upon every village green the circus folk had a language almost their own. The roots of their vernacular were the various parts of the tent and equipment of the show. The boss of the show was called the "main guy," and this expression has to a certain extent survived the decline of the circus, and the "main guy" is frequently heard of in workshops.

The great cattle ranges of the west have given the world the term "round-up." It originally referred to the annual gathering together of the cattle of various owners that they might be separated for shipment. Today in the business world it indicates an inquiry into the affairs of a firm or corporation and has really the significance of stock taking.

Thieves have a gibberish so extensive as to almost constitute a language. It is only understood among themselves and by policemen, who are forced to acquire the knowledge of its meaning. Many of the terms that have been in use for years are really corruptions of the Hebrew and had their origin among the "fences" or depots for the reception of stolen goods in London. This jargon, while continued for years, has never obtained outside of the police and criminal classes.

"Lost his grip" is a terse, pathetic, almost tragic term, conjuring up as it does the story of wasted ambition, blasted hopes, ruin and despair, in all probability originated among lodge people. A man who had "lost his grip" was temporarily in a dilemma.

From the mining camps of the far west came "struck it rich," which now applies to any human success; "up the flume," signifying failure; "hard pan," which means a solid paying basis; "petered out," which suggests a gradual decline and final suspension of resources; "grabstruck," for assistance given a new business enterprise on condition of a share in perspective or possible profits. Bonanza has been a good English word for 30 years, and the Century dictionary accepted it along with such words as "boom," meaning to manufacture support and enthusiasm, and "sneak," meaning to confess and betray companions.

From the railroad yards came "switched," with the meaning of diverted; "sidetracked," for temporary failure and suspension, the result of outside interference; "ditched," as expressing ruin and collapse, and "wide open" came from the locomotive, which referred to the throttle and the extreme of speed. Now it means in full swing, reckless and regardless of interference. "Out of sight" is an anachronism, as it means plainly in sight, and it is growing more and more in favor every day as a synonym for the superlative in appearance, accomplishment or performance. It was the balloon soaring toward the sky that was first declared out of sight, and then came the adaptation of this new form of expressing altitude and exemption from competition. For instance, when Assemblyman Joseph Cahill appears with his fearfully and wonderfully plaided trousers, which are held to have drowned the roar of the surf at Manhattan Beach, his admiring constituents cry out: "Get onto Cahill's pants! They are out of sight!"

The race track has given us "cinch," as meaning something settled beyond all doubt or peradventure. A cinch is a middle girl, tightened by the Spanish method of a complicated knot that will hold some untied. Hence cinch, or sure thing, cinched, or all settled beforehand, can't lose. Sabote?—Exchange.

Married Schoolteachers.

Married women can still be appointed to positions in the Milwaukee public schools. At the meeting of the executive committee of the school board Aug. 3 the movement was defeated which attempted to discourage matrimony on the part of the teachers of the Milwaukee public schools, in that it proposed the retirement from the force of teachers of all married women who had husbands upon whom they could depend for support and the nonemployment in the future of married women as teachers.

Notice. PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That there will be a meeting of the stockholders of The Miles City Canal and Irrigation Company, at the office of said company in the director's room of the First National Bank of Miles City, Montana, on the 8th day of December, 1894.

Said meeting is called for the purpose of changing the name of this corporation from "The Miles City Canal and Irrigation Company" to "Miles City Canal and Irrigation Company."

Said meeting is called for the further purpose of extending the term of existence of the said corporation to the period of forty years from the time of the organization of the Miles City Canal and Irrigation Company.

Said meeting is called for the further purpose of extending the term of existence of the said corporation to the period of forty years from the time of the organization of the Miles City Canal and Irrigation Company.

A full meeting of all the stockholders of said corporation is earnestly requested at the time and place hereinbefore named.

Registration Notice. Notice is hereby given that the time for the registration of the names of the qualified electors in Registration District No. 1 prior to the general election to be held on the 6th day of November, 1894, in the County of Custer, State of Montana, will commence on Tuesday, October 26th, 1894, at 10 o'clock p. m., and that the undersigned as Registrar Agent of said District No. 1 will sit for the registration of duly qualified electors in the following named precincts on the dates designated.

Notice to Creditors. Estate of Daniel Boyle, deceased. Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, administrator of the estate of Daniel Boyle, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit the same with the necessary vouchers, within four months after the first publication of this notice to the said administrator at the office of C. H. Lord, Miles City, Montana, the same being the place for the transaction of the business of said estate in the county of Custer.

Notice of Publication. U. S. LAND OFFICE. Miles City, Mont., October 13, 1894. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before Register and Receiver U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Montana, on Monday, November 29, 1894, at 11 o'clock a. m., viz:

Who made D. L. E. No. 29 for the SE 1/4 and SE 1/4, N 1/2, E 1/2, and N 1/2, E 1/2, NE 1/4, Sec. 14, Twp. 7 S., Range 4 E. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz:

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Summons.

In the District Court of the Seventh Judicial District of the state of Montana, in and for the county of Custer. Nina Turner, plaintiff vs. Willis Turner, defendant. The state of Montana sends greeting to the above named defendant.

Given under my hand and the seal of the district court of the seventh judicial district of the state of Montana, in and for the county of Custer, this 22nd day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four.

[First publication Oct. 1, 1894.] Notice for Publication. U. S. LAND OFFICE. Miles City, Ont., Oct. 1, 1894.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and that said proof will be made before the Register and Receiver U. S. L. O. at Miles City, Mont., on Thursday, November 1, 1894, at 11 o'clock a. m., viz:

A Racking Cough. Cured by Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Mrs. P. D. HALL, 217 Genessee St., Lockport, N. Y., says: "Over thirty years ago, I remember hearing my father describe the wonderful curative effects of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. During a recent attack of a catarrh, soreness of the lungs, accompanied by an aggravating cough, I used various remedies and prescriptions. While some of these medicines partially alleviated the coughing during the day, none of them afforded me any relief from that spasmodic action of the lungs which would seize me the moment I attempted to lie down at night. After ten or twelve such nights, I was

Nearly in Despair, and had about decided to sit up all night in my easy chair, and procure what sleep I could in that way. It then occurred to me that I had a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I took a spoonful of this preparation in a little water, and was able to lie down without coughing. In a few moments, I fell asleep, and awoke in the morning greatly refreshed and feeling much better. I took a teaspoonful of the Pectoral every night for a week, then gradually decreased the dose, and in two weeks my cough was cured."

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POSTOFFICE REGULATIONS. MAILS CLOSE. Eastern, 8:00 p. m. Western, 6:00 p. m. Hooketts, Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 p. m. Tongue River, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:30 a. m. Badie, Saturdays, 8:00 a. m. Ericson, Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00 p. m. Blatchford Special, Mondays and Fridays, 8:00 p. m. Office opens on arrival of eastern mail, at or before 7:00 a. m. Money order offices, 4:00 p. m. Registry closes, 6:00 p. m. Sundays—Office open from 12 to 1 p. m. E. S. BERMAN, P. M.

Northern Pacific Time Table. LEAVE MILES CITY GOING WEST. No. 1 Pacific Mail, 6:30 p. m. No. 22 Express Freight, 11:30 p. m. No. 25 Way Freight, 10:00 a. m. LEAVE MILES CITY GOING EAST. No. 2 Atlantic Mail, 1:45 a. m. No. 24 Express Freight, 11:30 p. m. No. 26 Way Freight, 9:15 a. m.

Official Directory. STATE. Governor, J. S. Hartman, Helena. Secretary, J. E. Beckwith, Helena. Auditor, Andrew B. Cook, Helena. Treasurer, J. M. McLaughlin, Helena. Superintendent of Schools, P. H. Leslie, Helena. Chief Justice, W. J. Pemberton, Helena. Clerk Supreme Court, R. W. Harwood, Billings. Associate Justices, W. H. McWhitt, Butte. FEDERAL. Surveyor General, J. S. M. Neill, Helena. U. S. Marshal, Wm. McDermott, Butte. Collector, A. V. Luman, Helena. Register, U. S. L. O., C. S. Wright, Miles City. Receiver, U. S. L. O., G. Ramsay, Miles City. U. S. Attorney, P. H. Leslie, Helena. U. S. Commissioner, E. M. Kreidler, Miles City. Weather Observer, H. B. Boynton, Miles City. DISTRICT. Judge Seventh Judicial District, Hon. Geo. R. Milburn, Miles City. Official Stenographer, Fred W. Kreidler, Miles City. COUNTY. State Senator, R. Swift, Etahala. State Representatives, J. R. McKay, Miles City. Sheriff, J. L. Hoffman, Miles City. Treasurer, J. Hawkins, Miles City. Clerk and Recorder, A. H. Swerdiger, Miles City. U. S. Attorney, C. H. Lord, Miles City. Assessor, Geo. E. Newman, Miles City. Surveyor, Chas. Sexton, Miles City. Acting Coroner, John Gibb, Miles City. Supt of Schools, Mrs. J. E. Light, Miles City. Public Adm., Henry Nave, Miles City. Commissioners, J. W. Watson, Miles City. T. E. Hammond, Forsyth TOWNSHIP. Justices, John Gibb, Miles City. Constable, S. Symons, Miles City. CITY. Mayor, Jopp Ryan, Miles City. City Attorney, C. E. Middleton, Miles City. Clerk, S. Gordon, Miles City. Treasurer, G. W. Alberton, Miles City. Chief of Police, F. R. Jackson, Miles City. Police Magistrate, John Gibb, Miles City. ALDERMEN. First Ward—H. W. McIntire, C. S. Whittney, second Ward—Chas. O'Neal, W. H. Hellard.

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