

THE COMMONWEALTH.

A Reliable Local Newspaper.

OUR MOTTO: "BE JUST AND FEAR NOT."

J. L. GILLESPIE, Editor and Publisher.

VOL. XVII—NO. 52.

GREENWOOD, LEFLORE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1914.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.50 PER YEAR.

GIVING OF ADVICE.

Nine times out of ten we are satisfied in our own minds doubtless that the advice we give others is offered for their good and that we have no intention of interfering in the management of their affairs. In just the same way also those of us who unconsciously make it a practice to follow up a person, as it were, and call to his attention trifling faults and careless habits, and the like, believe in our hearts that we are doing him service. That the reverse is generally the case, however, can be easily proven by consulting our own feelings when we are taken to task by others who claim to display only a friendly interest in our welfare. There are some qualities about human nature that make us all alike however widely different our positions in life may be. It does not make very much difference whether we are rich or poor, prominent or little known in worldly affairs, when it comes to the fundamental, underlying principles of our natures we are all cast in the same general mold, even if the finished products vary in details. Such being the case, it follows naturally that individual experience should teach us to be more considerate of the feelings of others than we sometimes are. However, it so happens that we are not always willing to learn correctly the lesson that is offered, but read into it a different meaning and one that is more convenient for our purposes. Without intending to do so we make the mistake of applying one rule to the conduct of others and another to our own conduct and think that we are entirely fair in our dealings. We resent anyone else's interference in our personal conduct, for example, but we fail to see why anyone else should resent what seems to us an entirely legitimate interest in their welfare.

An Iowa professor is telling farmers' institutes that the high cost of living is due to the drift to the cities. He ought to tell that to the city men whom he wishes to divert to the farms, says the New York Times. He can't shock the farmers by telling them why their prices are high. If the drift to the cities raises the cost of their products the farmers will not be kept from the cities. According to the professor, in 1890 90 per cent. of the population were farmers, against 33 per cent. now. But what does that prove? We have more bushels apiece now than then, for the simple reason that one man now can raise more than a dozen could then. In 1890 farmers did not plow and harvest by power machines 24 hours a day. They were willing to, but what was impossible for man and beast a hundred years ago is easy now by the machinery which could not exist without the drift to the cities. Man does not live by eating alone. If 90 per cent. of the population were sent back to the farms, how should we be clothed or housed, or how could we and our goods be transported on the railways? The professor's figures may be right, but his deduction will stand checking up.

The late "Stephen Adams" made a good thing out of his songs, but his profits have often been eclipsed. "Queen of My Heart" brought its composer \$40,000 (\$200,000) in one year, says the London Chronicle. "Her Golden Hair Was Hanging Down Her Back" earned \$20,000 in a very few months, and "Hush, the Bogy Man" was almost as successful. "The Man That Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo" and "The Rowdy-Rowdy Boys" swept like a tornado over the world and brought in tens of thousands of pounds in royalties. Sir Arthur Sullivan drew over \$10,000 in royalties from "The Lost Chord." "In Old Madrid" rewarded composer and publisher to the tune of \$15,000, and "My Pretty Jane" is said to have yielded a revenue of \$2,000 a line.

A petition signed by 220,072 French women, asking that the number of establishments for the sale of alcoholic spirits be limited, has been presented to the chambers of deputies by Joseph Reinach, one of the ablest politicians in France, and five other deputies. The women are warring not against the sale of wine and beer, but that of distilled liquors, of which the consumption increases rapidly, although such spirits are heavily taxed.

In spite of the fact that 100 college graduates were found in the Dishwashers' union in San Francisco there are those who maintain that our educational system is defective.

An eastern paper has raised the question: "How many buckwheat cakes can a man eat with impunity?" As for us, we prefer to eat them with maple syrup or honey.

Women have grown one inch taller in the last 100 years, says a scientist. There's one recommendation for crowded cars.

Still, the modern novels are not harmful to those who do not read them.

The hen follows the cow over the moon.

Still it must be admitted that the weather man has done very well.

The Kaiser has put a ban on the tango. Still he can't take the go out of it.

Just now, for self-inflated importance, the peacock is not in it with the hen.

The old problem of Ann's age does not seem to have anything on the income tax.

Still, how can the farmers be expected to raise a crop with all these lectures to attend?

Prices of hogs are down, but the connection between hogs and pork seems to have been lost.

Statistics show that it cost \$106 more a year to live in 1912 than in 1896. But it was worth it.

Australia reports so many eggs that there is no means of storing them. Why not ship them over here?

In its search for a reliable egg container, the bureau of animal industries should not overlook the weasel.

Twenty days for winking at girls is a New York remedy for flirts that might be adopted with profit in almost any city.

Women's fashions now call for a shape like a pear. Nevertheless most women will continue to be peaches.

One advantage of canned opera is that after the record is bought it does not have an attack of temperament and refuse to sing.

Kissing may be unhealthful, but it does not necessarily follow that the sickliest looking girls have endured the most osculation.

It would seem as though there were enough amateur Hamlets in the country to make the boycott against cold storage eggs a success.

Instructions as to the proper care of pets will be fully appreciated by husbands who have to wait until the poodle has had its bath.

The scientific gentleman who claims that aviation proves the earth doesn't move probably holds on to a rope every time he jumps.

Just why women want a job on the police force is not clear, unless it is because they are bound to boss, and there is nobody at home to boss.

According to the postal authorities, 44 per cent. of the first-class mail is misdirected. But that 44 per cent. never includes a letter with a bill in it.

The amount of brass disclosed in the mineral production of the United States in 1912 broke all records. This has always been a great country for brass.

French woman declares that American girls are neither good wives, sweethearts nor mothers. Yet for looks you must hand our girls the big bouquet.

One of the country's most famous bareback riders and tumblers has died at the age of eighty-six and there lies another interesting recipe for longevity.

London reports the invention of a glass that will defy the suffragettes. It should become popular among those who wish to live in glass houses and throw stones.

Every nation approves of disarmament in the interest of world peace, but each with delightful modesty stands back to give the others precedence in beginning.

Those who neglected to get rich by raising Belgian hares or growing ginseng still have an opportunity to make a possible million or two by going in to fox farming now.

The young man who enjoyed a well earned reputation as a good scout among the palm garden gladiators last summer is looking for a bargain in a second hand overcoat.

Health officials in Washington accuse a pet goat of causing an epidemic of diphtheria by scattering germs. There is nothing like getting the right goat to blame things on.

Statistics having shown that 90 per cent. of all work is now done by machinery, now some ardent reformer please organize a movement for the uplift of downtrodden machines?

Philadelphia claims the distinction of having a woman who has been a housekeeper in one home sixty-three years. And still they circulate quips about difficulty of keeping maids.

Scientists who can produce live frogs scientifically may reduce the high cost of living. But anyone who tries to produce flies will be liable to indictment as committing a nuisance.

Philadelphia's celebration over the old woman who has been a housekeeper in the same family for 63 years will be regarded with envy in various establishments that boast of 66 in one year.

A REST CURE.

"Ocean travel is the best rest cure," is the dictum of a traveler who has just made his twenty-ninth crossing in seven years. His record is an unusual one, even for these days, when business may take man across the Atlantic several times in a year. It is safe to say that if he did not enjoy the voyage he would find a way to make the mails or the cable serve his purpose more often, says the Providence Journal. His example is worth following by any traveler who has the time and the money. Provided one is not among the unfortunate victims of seasickness, there is no better relief for a wearied body or unstrung nerves than a sea voyage. A long draught of the pure fresh air is a veritable elixir of life. The freedom from responsibility, the isolation from the ordinary affairs of life, can be obtained here as nowhere else. The floating hotels have done their best to make the sea just like the land, but they have not succeeded. Besides, there are plenty of ships that are not floating hotels. It would be idle to deny, however, that the increased comfort of ocean travel has had much to do with its popularity. Devoted lovers of the sea may be pardoned for preferring the steamship of today to that of 50 years ago. The better ventilation below decks is a boon that the most seasoned traveler appreciates. It is gratifying, also, to have good food, spacious decks and comfortable public rooms.

About half a mile from the City of Palmi, Province of Reggio Calabria, Italy, on a piece of fertile ground of 50 acres, and at an altitude of over 1,000 feet above and overlooking the sea, is situated a lasting memorial to the generosity of the American people. Here, near a beautiful group of splendid olive trees, had just been finished the American Red Cross Orphanage, a modern home for children orphaned by the earthquake of December, 1908. This institution, which is to be an agricultural school, is supported by an endowment of \$250,000, given for the purpose to Italy by the people of the United States through the American Red Cross, says the Red Cross Magazine. The Italian government has agreed to make the institution a station for modern agricultural implements, and when the boy residents have made sufficient progress in their studies they will aid in their own support by assisting nearby farmers until old enough to start out in life for themselves. Since the earthquake the boys who are now members of the home have been cared for privately in various ways.

Cigar boxes are a negligible quantity to the average smoker, but how many ever stopped to think of the number used each year or where they come from? Thirty million is the total supplied to the manufacturers of the seductive weed each year. The best boxes come from Cuba, and are known as Spanish cedar. After the war with Spain the supply of this wood was greatly diminished and its price raised, so that for a time cigar dealers were obliged to find a substitute for this kind of cedar. Various woods were tried, but trouble was found in selling these boxes, because connoisseurs insisted that a fine cigar was spoiled by putting it in any but a box made of Spanish cedar. This wood always retains the flavor of a good cigar. Indeed, some persons assert that it improves the flavor. The reason given is that it grows in the same localities.

A Chicago man wants prevention of abuse of the English language. But if he has his way and slang and bad grammar are banished from daily use, language will be correct. It is true, but the gain of its accuracy will be the loss of its picturesque quality. And, after all, murdering the king's English is a more harmless occupation than, say, killing time.

Sir Thomas Lipton says that his new vessel will astonish the world, when all is known about it. Which suggests that Sir Thomas' idea of employing none but unmarried men on the work was that he does not wish anyone to cheat him of the pleas ure of telling the world about it.

A Yale professor asked a Newark centenarian her rules for a long life. She replied that she had nothing to do with living so long. Probably she was as near right about it as are those persons who are so fond of telling how to do it.

A Detroit judge will attempt to force married couples to save money. That will be about as easy as making some married persons love each other.

The recent discovery of fifth-century cave dwellings in Manchuria indicates that some one tried to civilize the natives long ago.

We suppose St. Vitus is the patron saint of the tango dancers.

The man who is in love with himself never has a rival.

Talking about aviation, there are eggs.

King Alfonso is a cigarette fiend. Oh, well, there are no perfect men.

A newspaper headline says "eggs may reach \$1." A dozen or apiece?

Another army aviator killed! If we do, conquer the air we shall have paid dearly.

Aviators fly upside down, but when a motorist's car turns turtle he's in the soup.

"Year in Jail for Two Eggs," reads headline; still, that's not as bad as cold storage.

The newest reason for shortening the hunting season is to conserve our supply of hunters.

Some one asks whether there can be peace without force. That depends on how big the other fellow is.

A citizen of Breslau was locked up two weeks for staring at a cop. And it wasn't a lady cop, either.

Chicago clubwomen have branded the slit skirt hideous. Now let's hear the verdict of a few clubmen.

London complains that it has the worst telephone service in the world. That ought to make some folks feel better.

Beauty doctor tells women not to marry. Let the men do the worrying. Most of them don't care how they look anyway.

So it was a trombone that was first heard across the ocean. We had expected that the steam calliope would have the honor.

Insomnia is said by medical experts to be on the increase. Not at all difficult to understand, however, in view of the income tax.

The tango is said to produce "rolls of fat" on women who dance it. In the not distant future we seem to see the finish of the tango.

The pun is a poor thing, especially the pun on a proper name, but evidently the sporting pages couldn't exist in winter without it.

The denatured tango is really a harmless affair. But it still requires more agility than the average roue of experience can show.

We might swap the hens off for one of those sea turtles that lays 600 eggs, if it would not simply mean an addition to the cold storage plants.

It's a great handicap for a young man whose salary is \$25 a week to get married in a church surrounded with a large flock of automobiles.

Synthetic milk may be equal in food value to the ordinary kind, but the old-fashioned consumer prefers old-fashioned milk from a sympathetic cow.

The ruling of the St. Louis street railway companies against permitting dogs on their cars will doubtless elicit a grunt of approval from the end seat.

The mysterious disappearance of a dog that taught himself how to dance the tango may be explained on the theory that he later recovered his conscience.

A western newspaper is telling its readers how to look at pictures. Not a bad idea, when there is some doubt as to whether a painted cow is a cow or something else.

Out in California women dominate on grand juries. Defendants probably look carefully to their ties and see that their hair is neatly brushed before entering the jury room.

Though disclaiming a particle of prejudice against her, somehow or other we always feel that a chemical blonde deserves to marry the kind of man who dyes his mustache.

A prominent girls' college has adopted the monocle fad. This will raise grave doubts in the mind of many as to the advantages of the higher education for women.

The mills of the gods grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small. A plumber in to be tried by a jury of women in California. His acquittal would hardly be a safe bet.

Scientists rummaging in ancient Egyptian tombs have found bodies of persons who suffered from appendicitis; presumably the turkey trot followed, and then the downfall.

Skin-tight suits for men have been decreed. Fashion, not content with having made femininity like a walking stick, now seems determined to evolve man into an animated frankfurter.

A new island has been found in the North Atlantic, but since it will be only about "three feet out of water" at low spring tide, colonization projects will have to be held in abeyance.

A woman who was arrested for flashing gowns explained that she did it because she could not afford them herself and it made her wretched to think that they would be worn by other women. A French or German scientist ought to be able to list her trouble as some kind of a disease.

OUR RUN-AWAY LANGUAGE.

The ordinarily intelligent man has a sort of visiting acquaintance with, say, 7,000 words. He is on familiar speaking terms with, say, 3,000 of these. The man of some pretension as an educated person probably speaks 5,000 words, writes 2,000 more, knows in all from 10,000 to 15,000. The scholar—if he is a very thorough-going student—may meet without embarrassment any one of some 30,000 words of the language. Yet the latest of the big dictionaries contains 450,000 terms and its publishers state that they have examined and rejected 60,000 terms in addition. Meanwhile every science, every art, every human activity is busily padding the common speech with newly invented words and phrases. Literally, the language is running away with us. Pencilful as it may seem, this development doubtless means that the time is coming when language, taken as the means whereby to express thought, will be divided into the language that is spoken, a sort of shorthand of dialect, and that which is written, a far more technical and exact species of learning than we now know. In a clumsy sort of way, the slang phrase is already approximating this symbolism of speech. As the language itself becomes cluttered with words, thought will hunt its simpler mediums fitter for a busy existence.

It is an American habit to save as much time as possible and an attractive way is to do two things at once. It is becoming customary to utilize the lunch hour for some other purpose than mere eating. For example, frequently the Utica chamber of commerce has invited the business men to a luncheon, during the course of which some one made an address on an interesting and important subject, says the Utica Press. Those in attendance lost no time from their business and had the benefit and pleasure incident both to eating and listening. The University of New York is the first educational institution to put this into regular daily practice. At the noon hour while the students are at luncheon it is proposed to have them listen to a lecture on current topics, which is designed to keep them in touch with what is going on in this and other countries and thus to give them very valuable and practical instruction. They will be talked to about whatever questions and problems are interesting the public. It will not at all interfere with their enjoyment of the luncheon, and they are sure to get a good deal of valuable information meanwhile.

The plan for the \$100,000,000 international city, designed by Hendrik Christian Anderson, an American sculptor living in Rome, is being accorded an encouraging hearing. American diplomats have been directed by the state department to aid Mr. Anderson in advertising his plan, says the Engineering Record. Many organizations devoted to the promotion of peace or philanthropy have volunteered their support. The designer is not desirous of having the world city built on speculation, believing that the nations will co-operate spontaneously when their attention is called to the plan. Possible sites have been studied on the New Jersey coast, the Dutch coast near The Hague, the Riviera near Cannes, Tervuren near Brussels, Lake Neuchatel near Bern, St. Germain-Laye near Paris, the Marmora coast near Constantinople and the Mediterranean coast near Rome.

The Volturro is now a dangerous derelict, and is being sought by an admiralty cruiser, bent on destruction. Abandoned vessels have often floated for many months, waterlogged, but carried far by winds and currents, says the London Chronicle. There was the Fanny E. Wolston, deserted on October 15, 1891, which (as the board of trade records) traveled about 4,000 miles before it was last reported in December 1892. And the W. L. White was a derelict from 1858, when it was near New York, till it ran ashore on the Hebrides a year later. Forty vessels saw it, but could not sink it.

A Pennsylvania man wants his young woman clerks to promise not to get married within three years. Just how much would you bank on the word of a young woman to stay single after the right man happened along?

It costs 40 per cent. more to rear a child now than it did in 1903. The trouble is that those who started to rear a child in 1903 haven't finished the job yet.

According to the latest theory, the evolution of man began with his stomach; however, that's no reason why it should end there.

Still, we suppose it is better to be a statesman out of a job than never to have been a statesman at all.

It doesn't seem exactly fair to put eleven farmers on a jury to try a horse doctor for his life.

Carranza sounds like the name of a new cigar.

Why not bait those new-fangled cat traps with rats?

The worst about winter is the long wait for bareball.

Of course you have bought a blanket for your horse for cold weather.

The Danish court says the tango is all right. Maybe it looks different in Danish.

This looping the loop in an aeroplane is attractive only so long as it is successful.

A London physician declares that tight lacing is very dangerous for men. It ought to be.

All men are gamblers, says a Milwaukee preacher, but few are justified in wearing a halo.

That excessive talking is a dangerous disease is a theory advanced by a Russian scientist.

Opportunity knocks, yes. But you can't play the role of opportunity by continually knocking.

A London doctor says that women are growing taller. And financially men are getting shorter.

The news that our exports of stewed prunes are increasing will be received with joy in the boarding houses.

Agility developed in dancing the tango should cut down the number of pedestrians run down by automobiles.

Eating onions every day may be a perfectly good way to prolong life, and an even better way to spite one's heirs.

Football has been reformed until it is tolerably humane, but the football stories in the magazines continue to mutilate art.

There can be no doubt that the bloodiest battle of the Mexican revolution was a famous victory for some body or other.

If that "roast" consisting of beans, cheese and bread crumbs is called the Boston roast, why the cheese and the bread crumbs?

Possibly the cautious man who carries an umbrella all the time never is rained on, but he misses a lot of healthful excitement.

A little boy who was asked to name the seven modern wonders of the world included the tango. Whither are we drifting?

"A girl in a Milwaukee school of music strikes a perfect high G." Still, almost any girl can do that when a mouse is in sight.

A London wedding was postponed because the bride-to-be caught the measles. Love may laugh at lock-smiths, but measles—that's different again.

A law is proposed in California to forfeit to the state the automobile when its driver violates the speed laws. But would the mortgage go with it?

It still seems to be but imperfectly understood that a naked light and escaping gas always connect with promptness and dispatch.

While he is simplifying the nautical vocabulary, why doesn't Secretary of the Navy Daniels make the quarter deck the 25-cent deck?

A robbery in a sleeping car is unusual because every one knows there is little left after the porters get through with the passengers.

A Pennsylvania archeologist has discovered that the slit skirt was in vogue in the year 2300 B. C. After all, Dame Fashion of today is not so up-to-date.

Government experts are engaged in taking the pucker out of the beam-moon. Say, a persimmon without any pucker would be a little like a kiss—highly denatured.

A French scientist has discovered a new and deadly bacillus whose speciality seems to be wedding guests. It is not announced whether or not he has copyrighted it as his exclusive possession.

A Boston woman with a broken back was told by her doctor that for her to laugh meant instant death. Certainly the death of any person with a broken back who could laugh would be a notable loss to humanity.

Persons unfamiliar with the finer points of football naturally assume that a man who starts in as a full-back is reduced to a quarter-back or some smaller fragment by the wear and tear of the game before the end of the season.

A Wisconsin football fan was so overcome with joy when the home team won in a game that he died of apoplexy, brought on by too strenuous cheering. But this will not deter fans of any kind. To die for the home team's victory is to a fan a martyrdom to be honored. The more philosophical, if less enthusiastic, will conclude, however, that it is better to be less demonstrative and live longer to see more games.

FASHIONS AND COMFORT.

If it be urged that the present fashions in women's dress contribute to their comfort and ease of motion, then, observe the current writer, by all means let the women keep the modes they have, says the Indianapolis Star. It is impossible that the present bizarre types of dress, with their extreme cut, should persist, nor, indeed, is it believable that some of the daring designs in dress—more often described as worn in Paris or New York than seen on the streets of inland cities—are really comfortable for the wearer, although each style has that defense. But in the subsidence from the novelties of the slashed skirt it is conceivable there will come new types of feminine wear really more comfortable than any that have gone before, and altogether more artistic than the modes of two decades or even a decade ago. Beautiful dress, like all else that is beautiful, must answer the invariable tenets of abstract art, which are that, along with conveying a pleasure to the eye, the gown must be comfortable. No dress, however gorgeous its trimmings or its material, or however daring the conceit of its fashioning, is really pretty if it looks like an encasement rather than a habit. Therein lies the infinite superiority of the flowing robes of ancient Greece and Rome to the stiff garment of the medieval period, or Elizabethan times, the influence of which prevailed, in modifications, until the grandmothers of the present generation saw their hoops safely discarded after the Civil war.

The influence of a true character should never lack expression in some form. For instance, we heard the other day a great cause ridiculed and denounced in the presence of a man of positive convictions and who is always active for things that are right. But he was as silent as a tombstone during the deliberation of this ineffectual. Why was he so? One clear note from him would have silenced the assaulter. Not that his word would have done it, nor his utterance or arguments. His character would have done the work, says the Ohio State Journal. The influence of a clean, noble life set up against the adversary of good causes will always win a triumph. It may not provoke controversy or invite argument; that is a foolish course. The thing to do is to quietly but firmly dissent; to let the man know that his opinion is not approved; that he is fighting his own windmill. It is often a disquieting sight to see a clean, intelligent man smile in silence, while some moral desperado is attacking some sacred truth and utter not a word of dissent until the man turns away and disappears with an air of triumph. It makes one feel that the forces of evil are on the aggressive, while righteousness has retreated to cover and has abandoned the conflict.

A Lelpale scientist, Dr. Lobeck, has devised a new process of sterilizing milk, which leaves the properties and flavor unmodified. It consists of a more sudden heating than by pasteurization, to a temperature of 149 degrees Fahrenheit, followed by immediate cooling. The machine used in the process is easily cleaned and sterilized by operating it for ten minutes with very hot water instead of milk. It is a simple apparatus, and runs for hours without attention. The provision of an innocuous milk supply for great cities at a reasonable price offers one of the most important practical problems of the age. Sterilization is cheaper than application of the anti-tubercular test to the herds. Properly conducted it is highly efficacious, because it ensures the wholesomeness of the product up to the time of bottling, destroying germs that may have found their way into the fluid after the milking. Its economy is a highly important feature.

Mail by aeroplane has been added to the government service abroad in advance of the adoption of this method by the United States. For some little time a fortnightly delivery for South America has been in operation from Paris to Panillac, there to catch the steamer sailings. And now, the French capital has regular connection with Nice by biplane. In the readjustment of the service in the United States, it seems possible that arrangements for aerial transportation may be advantageous.

Somebody has discovered a way in which he can by giving chickens electrical treatment make them grow twice as fast as they do in the natural way. What a fine thing it would be, if electrical treatment had a similar effect upon one's salary.

You pay a caddy when you play golf, and you feed the kitty when you play poker, but otherwise there is no similarity between the games.

Another advantage about being married is that you have somebody to blame it on when things go wrong.

There is this advantage about being poor: Some people may think you are honest.