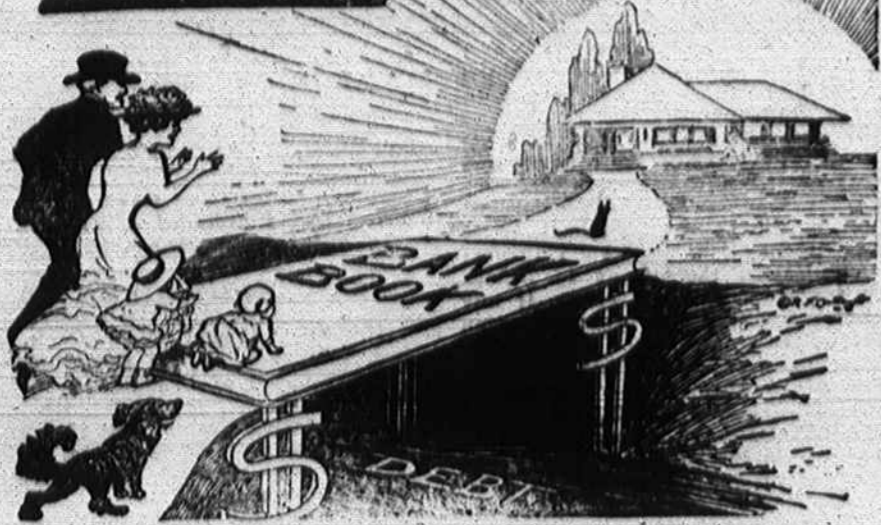


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**NYE WAS 'WAY OFF**

How Humorists Were "Stung" in  
Business Venture.

Anecdote James Whitcomb Riley Used  
to Tell, Dealing With the Wiles  
of the Publisher—All They  
Got Was a Feed.

Among the many comical stories told of James Whitcomb Riley's experiences with Nye was the history of a book called "Nye and Riley's Railway Guide," which gave them a broad personal and legal experience with publishers. From their first tour in 1898 their fancy ran riot with the idea of a comic railway guide for just such poor, ill-fated travelers as they themselves proved to be, for the man, as they wrote in the introduction, "who erroneously gets into a car which is sidetracked and swept out and scrubbed by people who take in cars to scrub and laundry."

"Nye and I," Riley used to say, "thought a little book made from our readings might perhaps stanch a long-felt public want. In fact, we grew enthusiastic as our eyes swept the prospect. Nye, indeed, thought there was money in it. I remember that, in his optimism, he wrote: 'Let us make some money, be gosh, and put it in our inside pocket. It feels bully.' Riley always chuckled reminiscently at this point in the story.

"Well, we went to Chicago to look for a publisher, and there we found one Ketchum & Skinnem who had a sign on the door, 'Drop MSS. Here.' We dropped ours and went away feeling pretty good."

Riley then told of a long wait, during which they wondered whether the manuscript would be accepted; then how glad they were to find the book on sale at the news stands, and finally how they paid a visit to the publishers to inquire timidly into the matter of royalties. The door was locked. Some months later, in response to their letters, came an invitation to a banquet given by the publishers in their honor. Hopefully they presented themselves. "As we filed in to dinner Nye whispered to me, 'Think they'll hand us checks with the cigars?' Well, when the cigars were passed at length the publisher at the head of the table pushed back his chair, put his finger tips on the cloth, beamed on us, and said:

"Gentlemen and publishers, we have met to do honor to our two illustrious humorists tonight in an unusual way. We appreciate their humor, especially that which has made our book so successful. And in token of our appreciation we now present to them one hundred shares apiece in our great company. Ahem—I believe that is all!"

"It was all. Nye and I hoped at first for the best, but neither of us secretly could find any market for our shares and the company never paid any dividends before it went out of business."—Harper's Magazine.

**His Fortunate Investment.**

Sosthene Gallais, former wholesale oyster and ice cream dealer, who entered into business in St. Louis as a scissor grinder, and who accumulated a fortune estimated by his family at \$3,000,000, through investment, several years ago, of \$30,000 in Oklahoma land, on which oil later was found, died recently at his home in Tulsa, Okla.

Gallais' rise to riches is one of the most interesting of the many oil romances in Oklahoma. His original investment had lain dormant for years and he did not know that oil had been discovered on his land until he received his first royalty. Since then his wealth had increased by leaps and bounds until it enabled him to become the largest individual property owner in Tulsa, caused him to erect a 10-story office building there as a monument to the city near which he found his wealth and carried him into affluence.

**The Kaiserin's Baggage.**

The Kaiserin seems to have been more fortunate than some queens in the matter of luggage in her flight to Holland, since her luggage, though described as rather shabby, was apparently plentiful. As a rule escaping queens have been badly provided. When Charles X and his entourage were turned out of France one who went down to see them remarked that they had nothing in the way of "furnishings," though they had money. Louis Philippe and his queen crossing the channel as Mr. and Mrs. Smith, were ill-provided, and there is the case of the ex-Empress Eugenie, whose message to a friend when she reached England was "Come to me; I have nothing—not even a handkerchief!"

**Decoy of Mourning Wear.**

Nothing is more remarkable in our social life at this time than the rarity of conventional mourning, says London Daily Chronicle. There are millions of bereaved people in these islands, yet it is uncommon to encounter anybody who wears the "trappings and the suits of woe." We have found a juster way of showing respect for the dead than by changing the hue of our clothes. Only at the two extremes, east and west, will you now discover a woman wearing widow's "weeds."

**Crowns to the Discard.**

Dentist—What seems to be the trouble today? Your face is all swollen.  
Patient—Why some of my teeth have started a revolt and have picked on the crowns you put on my back teeth.

**GROWING SWEET POTATOES.**

An Easily Grown, Profitable Crop For  
South Carolina.

Clemson College.—There are few crops so well adapted to South Carolina conditions that can be grown with equal success and profit as can the sweet potato. This crop offers to the grower every advantage that is offered by other fields or truck crops, says Geo. P. Hoffman, Extension Service horticulturist.

Soil selection, preparation, fertilizing, careful fitting and planting, and cultivating are the essentials of success in the growing of a crop of sweet potatoes.

Soil: The sweet potato adapts itself to a great diversity of soils, but it delights in and thrives best on a well drained sandy or clay loam underlaid with a clay subsoil. But regardless of the apparent ideal physical condition of the soil, this crop must be rotated each year. Sweet potatoes may follow corn, cotton, small grain, and leguminous cover crops, and may be easily and effectively worked into any well balanced three-year rotation system.

Preparation of Soil: The soil may be thoroughly and deeply prepared by turning twice to a depth of 6 to 8 inches, followed by cross discing. Crooked and irregularly formed roots result from shallow preparation of the soil. Therefore, deep and thorough preparation is very essential in the growing of marketable potatoes.

Fertilizers: Both barnyard manure and commercial fertilizers are recommended, but the former must be judiciously used. Because of present shortage of potash the element of plant food most needed in excess in potato production, liberal applications of barnyard manure will be found to be very effective in helping to reduce this shortage and to correct the physical condition of the soil. The fertility and physical condition of the soil should determine the amount of the applications. Ordinarily, both commercial fertilizers and barnyard manures are applied in the drill, when the soil is being fitted for setting the plants, and, later, as a side dresser.

Fitting the Soil and Setting the Plants: Preparatory to setting the plants lay off rows 3 1/2 to 4 feet apart and apply the barnyard manure (8 to 10 tons per acre) or commercial fertilizer made of two-thirds 16% acid phosphate and one-third cottonseed meal applied in the drill at the rate of 400 to 600 pounds per acre, and thoroughly mix with the soil. The planting beds of medium height, depending upon drainage, should be thrown up and dragged down. The plants or vine-cuttings should be set 14 to 18 inches apart. The period for setting the plants is from May 1 to July 15th. To correct the packed condition of the soil brought about through the transplanting process, the water furrows should be harrowed or otherwise shallow cultivated immediately following the setting of the plants.

For late plantings, the one-leaf vine cuttings 8 to 10 inches long are more desirable than are the slips or "draws," this being especially true in the growing of seed stock.

Varieties: Nancey Hall, Porto Rico, and Triumph are the leading and most popular varieties grown in this State. Triumph is one of the earliest varieties, and should be planted when potatoes are grown for early market.

Cultivation: Frequent and shallow cultivation should be practiced until the vines have covered the ground, during which period the greatest of care must be exercised in the turning of the vines. At the first cultivation, which consists of a careful hoeing and siding with a broad furrow, a side dressing of a mixture of one-third cottonseed meal and two-thirds 16 per cent acid phosphate should be applied at the rate of 400 to 600 pounds per acre, and thoroughly mixed with the soil. The Orangeburg sweep or heel bow and shovel will be found to be very effective in cultivating this crop.

A Record of Profits: The following record of expenditures and returns on an acre of sweet potatoes in 1917-18 was furnished us by a grower in Richland County, South Carolina, the crop having been produced in 1917 and marketed during the late winter and early spring.

Expenditures.	
Rental value of land.....	\$ 8.00
Turning and harrowing twice.....	4.00
Bedding ground.....	1.50
Compost—10 loads at \$1.00.....	10.00
Spreading compost.....	1.50
Plants—10,000 at \$2.50.....	25.00
Setting plants.....	2.25
Hoeing three times.....	3.00
Plowing and turning vines.....	4.25
Cottonseed meal, 1/2 ton at \$48.....	24.00
Applying cottonseed meal.....	1.50
Harvesting and storing.....	12.00
<b>Total expenditures.....</b>	<b>\$ 97.00</b>
Returns.	
270 bushels No. 1 potatoes at \$1.60.....	\$ 432.00
30 bushels culls at \$0.50.....	15.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$ 447.00</b>
<b>Profit.....</b>	<b>\$ 350.00</b>

All deep cultivation should be done before the seed are put in. The benefits of shallow cultivation are:

1. It prevents formation of shallow crust on the surface.
2. It forms a dust mulch, which prevents loss of soil moisture.
3. It lets air into the soil.
4. It makes plant food available.
5. It destroys weeds and grass before they get a firm hold in the soil.

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savings account  
with us. \$1 makes  
the start.  
Four per cent in-  
terest makes it  
grow.

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ceries well prepared.

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