

The Watchman and Southron

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BE GENTLE WITH ELECTRICITY

Four boys, putting up aerial wires for a radio receiver, let them fall over a high-tension electric light wire, not thinking of the danger.

This is the second accident of the kind reported lately. It is a reminder of the extreme care that must always be taken in any kind of work of experimentation connected with electricity.

"I know about electricity," a five-year-old remarked proudly to his mother. "You have to be gentle with electricity. He had the main point. Be gentle with electricity, and it will be gentle with you."

BETTER BUSINESS

The woman who had only small slices of time in which to shop for a large family glanced with approval at a fresh piece of wool homespun lying on a counter.

"I know about electricity," a five-year-old remarked proudly to his mother. "You have to be gentle with electricity. He had the main point. Be gentle with electricity, and it will be gentle with you."

Now the saleswoman will have a piece brought from the stockroom without turning a hair. She gets up every little while and sells it out.

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UNRIPE FRUIT

Sunset Magazine tells of an investigator of the California Department of Agriculture who visited the Imperial Valley last summer and observed that most of the cantaloupes being shipped were hard, unripe and tasteless.

The investigator made a test. In the same refrigerator car he loaded crates of cantaloupes graded as unripe, just ripe and over-ripe, and then accompanied the car on its cross-country trip.

At the end of the journey he found the three grades in exactly the same condition as they were at the start. The unripe ones were unfit to eat. The ripe ones, unloaded and kept for two days in ordinary living temperature, were delicious.

valid for any other state, and applies likewise to local shipments for any city market. It late years the selling of fruits and vegetables in an unripe state has become an almost universal evil.

NO POWER TO INQUIRE

One of the most curious things connected with the coal strike is the way the government's hands are tied as regards official effort to study its causes.

It seems incredible that Congress should really possess no power to authorize such inquiries, as the court has held. Possibly the law is faulty. But if the power is lacking, it ought to be provided, if it takes an amendment to the constitution.

THE AMERICAN RACE

Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, of the Smithsonian Institute, addressing a body of scientists recently, called the American race the infant of the human family.

Mentally, however, there is an American race, as clearly marked to the psychologist as the Scandinavian or Greek or Chinese would be to the ethnologist.

The American possesses an unmistakable alertness, a nervous energy, an atmosphere of intelligence and independence which are peculiarly his own.

WOMEN IN POLITICS

Mary Garrett Hay, addressing the League of Women voters at Baltimore, frankly declared that the women wanted more offices.

Commenting on this, the New York World says: "Are these aspirations, in the last analysis, materially different from the aspirations of 'Cannany or of the Philadelphia Republican machine'?

This is hardly fair. Women, now half the voters, have been promised a square deal in politics, and a square deal certainly ought to give them a good deal larger representation than they have yet obtained in our political machinery.

Where they have gone into office, legislative or executive, they have usually improved things. Few dispassionate observers are likely to believe that they would do any worse than the men have done.

AMATEUR ATHLETICS

It is reported by one interested in such things that there are 3,000 young men and boys in the District of Columbia who are actively participating in amateur baseball this spring.

Amateur athletics appear to be making rapid progress. The public enjoys watching professional sports as keenly as ever, but an ever-increasing proportion of citizens is taking part in the amateur counterparts of professional games.

BEVERIDGE HAS 18,000 LEAD

Indianapolis, May 4.—Returns from additional precincts received from Tuesday's primary senatorial race indicate an increase in the lead of Albert J. Beveridge over Senator Harry S. New.

BONUS PROSPECTS

The American Legion is now engaged in a national inquiry as to the preferences of war veterans with regard to compensation.

WAR THREATS.

The wars have died out, but there are still armies in the field, and rumors of war persist. Every few days there is a new scare from some source or other.

LANEY IN RACE FOR GOVERNOR

Columbia, May 4.—Senator Geo. Laney, of Chesterfield county, was endorsed for the governorship by his county Democratic convention last Monday.

TAXI MURDERERS TO BE SENTENCED

Gappins, Fox and Kirby Will Be Sentenced at Lexington Court

Columbia, May 4.—Jesse Gappins and probably C. O. Fox and S. J. Kirby, the three men now in the death house of the state penitentiary, convicted of murder last summer of William Brazell, a Columbia taxi-driver, whose undoing caused a man-hunt over Georgia and South Carolina, will be sentenced to the electric chair during the week of May 22.

TO-DAY'S BEST JOKES AND STORIES

What is Sumter going to do about a base ball team or are they going to wait until the season is half over?

A newspaper heading says: "May 1st begins a week for Postal improvement." Thank God for that.

Come on Sun, don't be afraid to come right out and shine. There isn't anyone afraid of freckles and sun burn.

A girl came into the office yesterday and says she, "Is this the item office?" and says, "Well, it ain't the New York Times," and says she, "Think you're smart, don't you?" and says, "Well, we ain't no Ben Franklin," says she, "but we got through the grammar school all right."

A wedding party was disturbed by the crying of a baby belonging to one of the women guests. One of the young ladies present remarked to the bridesmaids, "What a nuisance babies are at a wedding!"

"I should say so," returned the latter, "and added with full consideration, "When I send out the invitations to my wedding I shall have printed in the corner, 'No babies expected.'"

Old Father Hubbard went to his cupboard. To tickle his palate, that's all. In forty-eight hours, a prayer and flowers. Alas! It was wood alcohol. —Practical Druggist.

The Pastor—So God has sent you two more little brothers, Dolly? Dolly (brightly)—Yes, and he is the only one that knows where the money's coming from. I heard daddy say so.—Practical Med.

Not Serious.—An accident had occurred in the car yesterday. Joe—Oh, it didn't amount to much. Jerry—Neither she nor the car hurt? Joe—No, only a little paint knocked off both.—Gas Magazine.

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A young colored couple were sitting at the foot of the statue of liberty. Henry was holding Mandy's hand. "Henry," said Mandy, "Does you all know why dey has such small lights on de statue of liberty?" "Ah dunno," replied Henry, "unless it's because de less light de mo' liberty."

In our own case, a strike would be the triumph of a fishing hole over duty.

One of the infant republics is talking of prohibition. Oh, well; the good dry young.

A man is old when foot comfort seems of greater importance than tickling his vanity.

Things might be worse. Suppose some patriot should organize a diverite bloc in Congress.

The man in the smoker who scolds because women smoke is the one whose pipe smells like that.

Too many people think they can't be their brothers keeper without putting a ring in his nose.

A prominent cartoonist errs in giving Noah a bald head. If he had been bald, the two flies never would have survived the cruise.

About the only change in woman is that she has learned to be the keeper of her own conscience.

These warm days remind us that in a few weeks that kind of folks will be bragging about their daily baths.

And yet, if all available water power was converted into electrical energy, the coal bin would be a has-bin.

And yet it must be confessed that a few who belong to the Capital group think the Labor group belongs to them.

We have a suspicion that Chilton is offered many a fat bribe to ferry over truck-loads of tax-free securities.

News item, 1976: The movies have outgrown the notion that the efforts of an amateur to hit a golf ball are funny.

One reason why the old-timers were hardy was that mothers had no booklets entitled "Care of the Infant."

At that, wine, women and song was a combination little more objectionable than shoe polish, flappers and jazz.

In a land for tax-free municipal bonds, there is no reason why we shouldn't have streets paved with gold right here.

Our government plans to live five hundred years ago next year.

"They are ruining their complexions," says a doctor. Why, they are making them!

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MEASURING DISTANCE BY RADIO POSSIBLE

Wireless is Making the World Smaller and Smaller Each Day

Washington, April 22.—How far is Paris, London, Berlin?

"The man in the street and the geography class answer in miles to-day," says a bulletin issued from the National Geographic Society.

"But in a year or even a few months, the answers may come in quarter-turns of a little black knob.

"For radio is affecting geography as it is affecting many other things, you can hear voices and see faces and perhaps even the hum of traffic in the streets of a distant city, that city must straightway be much of its remoteness.

The World's Longest Radio Wave is being used today when radio telegraphy is merely a slightly off-brother, our own country seems to be shrinking rapidly, and nations seem to be gravitating closer together. It is as though Europe and America, and presently the other continents, were being towed toward one another by tightening hawsers of ether waves.

The station which of all those in the world now regularly uses the longest waves—23,000 meters or approximately 14 miles—is near Bordeaux, France. It is the Lafayette Station, built by the United States navy to facilitate America's part in the world war, and since sold to France. This station, which until recently was unchallenged as the world's most powerful station, sends its telegraphic messages with ease—and practically instantaneously, of course—over the 4,000 miles of water and land that separate Bordeaux from Washington; and it has been heard occasionally in French Indo China, 6,000 miles to the east.

"Lafayette's title to first place is now challenged by a commercial station recently opened on Long Island, which, if it is not yet more powerful, will be when additional units are added. This station sends on the longest waves, 19,000 meters or nearly 12 miles, and is employed for transmitting messages to Germany, about 4,000 miles away.

Communicates Over 3,000 Miles. "Although the United States Navy's station at Annapolis, Md., is assigned a wave of 17,145 meters (roughly 10 1/2 miles), the third longest in use, it is easily one of the world's most powerful stations. For that matter, so is the navy station at Cavite, Philippine Islands, operating on 13,800 meters. The eastern portion of the Annapolis station—which is operated, incidentally, by remote control by means of keys in the navy building in Washington—to transmit messages day in and day out over a radius of about 1,500 miles, this range includes the extreme eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea, and the same territory can also be reached from the opposite direction by the Philippine station.

"The United States navy has the most complete system of high power land stations for radio telegraphy of all naval establishments. Southward of the great Annapolis station it has among its larger units the sending plant at Cayey, Porto Rico, using a 10,510 meter wave, and another at Balboa, Canal Zone, sending on 10,110 meters. The eastern portion of the Pacific is covered from the continent by a station at San Diego, California and another on Puget Sound. The former uses waves of 9,800 meters and the latter of 7,100. In the Hawaiian Islands the navy has two sending stations, one using 11,500 meters and the other 8,875. On Guam is a naval station which sends on 5,145 meters, and finally, in the Philippines the 13,900 meter station which completes the navy's band of radio stations around the world. In practically no place where its ships are likely to cruise will they be out of range of dots and dashes from one or more of the navy's sending stations.

British Jumps Shorter. "The British navy does not maintain a system of land stations of its own but uses those of the British postoffice. These postal stations practically encircle the earth, but they do so in much smaller jumps than those of the United States navy, and therefore use less powerful stations.

"Of the twelve longest wave stations which follow Annapolis, seven are in the United States or its territories. They are commercial stations at Barnegat, N. J., 16,800 meters; St. James, Long Island, 16,465; Kohuku, Hawaiian Islands, 16,300; and Tuscarora, N. J., 15,900; the navy station at Cavite, P. I., and commercial stations at New Brunswick, N. J., 13,600 meters and Bolinas, Cal., 13,310 meters. The five foreign stations in this group are British stations at Leifur, near Oxford, England, 15,500 meters; and Farnborough, Wales, 14,400 meters; a Dutch station in Java, 15,600 meters; a Japanese station at Iwaki, 15,000 meters; and a French station at Nantes, France, 13,500 meters.

"There are only seven other important long distance stations using waves of 11,000 meters or more. They are Abu Zabal, near Cairo, Egypt, 13,300 meters; Nauen, Germany, 12,800; Lyons, France, 12,500; Stavanger, Norway, 12,000; Marlon, Mass., 11,620; a station on the west coast of India, 11,200; and Rome, 11,000.

"The United States navy has numerous sending stations at its forts and posts scattered over the United States which operate on 10,000 meters. The Postoffice department at its several stations, sends on waves for the most part between 1,000 and 4,000 meters long."

Why are all these men idle? Aren't there a few more streets where perfectly good paving can be torn up and replaced?

Frankly, our ambition is to tour Europe as a celebrity and get paid for telling folks over there what we think of 'em.

It isn't the cost of a pair of white shoes, it's the upkeep.

Strongest crop reported so far is onions.

The year 1922 will be a great day for those Texans who have caught the seven-year itch.

Fine thing about a 16-year-old flapper is she will outgrow it 16 years from now when she is 32.

In the annual race between weeds and vegetables the weeds are leading by a few inches.

Suppose the man who committed 250 burglaries for his wife had been this man with 13 wives?

Why is it that some man with real knowledge of the facts always has to butt in and spoil the conversation?

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