

The Judge's Justice

In the good old days "b.f.," "wah," when "Kun! Judge Bone" was an undisputed czar in his county, western Kentucky, he disposed of cases that came up before him with severity or clemency, according to their merits in his eyes, and without regard for law or precedent.

In one instance two old darkies went to law about a certain mule which each accused the other of having stolen. Inasmuch as the case presented many amusing features, the "Kun! Judge" enjoyed it the first day as a sort of special performance for his entertainment; but the second day he summarily dismissed Court in order to go with a hunting party.

"Now, see heah, you niggers: I'm tired of listenin' to all that nonsense. One or the othah of you stole that mule, and it's mighty plain to my mind that evah last one of you have been up heah swearin' to a pack of lies. Unc Moss, you can keep that mule—you was the last one to git him. Unc Joe, you go 'long up to the Big House and tell son Bob I said to give you that ol' black mule outer the pasture. Now crah las' one of you cleah' out, an, if evah I find out who stole that mule, I'll punish him yet. Co't's dismissed till day aftah to-mor'ah--no, battah make it nex' Monday. We'll be down in the bottom three or four days, won't we, Zuck?"

—January L. Pippin's

Cane Sugar Industry Hard Hit

For some years past the cane sugar industry of Porto Rico has enjoyed unwonted prosperity as a result of free admission of the product to the American market. Under the new United States tariff all sugars are shortly to enjoy this same privilege of free entry, and the Porto Ricans say that they will be unable to compete with the sugars of Cuba when the latter enter the United States on the same terms as their own. Already, indeed, planters in Porto Rico are unable to obtain credit as in former years, since the money lender will wait and see what the planters must contend with. Thus ignorant laborers are left idle, with no money and small prospect for work. Possibly, however, the situation will develop better than expected. There would seem to be no reason why Porto Rico should not grow sugar as cheaply as it can be grown in Cuba. So long, however, as Porto Rican sugar had free entry to the American market, while that from Cuba was taxed, the planters of Porto Rico were left without incentive to the adoption of the most efficient methods with a view to lessening the cost of production. Free competition may in the end prove a blessing by forcing efficiency upon them.

For Fat People

(St. Alban's "Messenger")

Ex-President Taft, who is known to be of some estate so far as weight goes, advises the fat man to beware of the "quack," in which advice he is ably seconded by The Journal of the American Medical Society. One can imagine even a president or the United States descending to commonplace expedients to reduce his flesh if such reduction were desired, and Mr. Taft, has come into the knowledge that fat is a local issue with

the individual. The medical journal says that anti-fat remedies by the score have been sprung on the public since the days when overfeeding made the Roman patricians fill a goodly part of the immediate landscape 2,000 years ago. And they all simmer down to the one word—f.k. Probably as long as men and women want to eat more and work less the art-fatters will reap a harvest, but there is no reason why there should be innocent victims, for that unfortunate part of the public that is portly has been amply warned.

Sure Signs

Of Kidney Trouble

If your back is constantly aching and if you experience dull shooting pains, your kidneys are out of order. If your urine is thick and cloudy or your passages frequent scanty and painful, your kidneys and bladder are out of order. Neglect quickly brings on rheumatism, diabetes, lumbago sciatica and etc.

Mrs. John Wagner of 110 Hollis St., Halifax, N. S., says: "Dull shooting pains would catch me across the small part of my back and extend into my shoulders and neck, often causing me to suffer with severe headaches and spells of dizziness. Spots would dazzle before my eyes and everything would turn black. I would fall to the floor and be unable to get up again without assistance. A friend told me of Booth's Kidney Pills and I began their use. The first box gave me relief and I am now well and strong."

All druggists sell Booth's Kidney Pills at 50c. box with a guarantee to relieve or your money back. They are the world's greatest specific for kidney and bladder trouble. Postpaid from the proprietors The R. T. Booth Co. Ltd. Fort Erie. Sold and guaranteed by E. W. Mair.

Diamond Imports Into the United States

In 1913 diamond importations into the United States made their highest record. The value of diamonds and other precious stones imported during the current year will approximate \$57,000,000 this being the first occasion on which the total has crossed the fifty million dollar line. This large gain occurs chiefly in cut diamonds, the uncut diamonds, which form a little over one-fourth of the total imports, showing slight gains over earlier years of the past decade. The value of uncut diamonds imported in 1903 was \$10,250,000, and in 1913 will approximate \$16,000,000, while that of cut diamonds was, in 1903, \$13,000,000, and in the current year will approximate \$30,000,000. Most of the diamonds imported originating in South Africa, are imported from The Netherlands, Belgium, France and the United Kingdom, and more than three-fourths of the cut are from Belgium and The Netherlands. The people of the United States, according to high authority, own practically half the diamonds of the world, worth approximately three quarters of a billion dollars.

WHERE BEAVER HAVE BECOME A NUISANCE.

The industry of colonies of beaver is the sage marsh region in Luce County, Mich., is causing much loss to land companies. The companies are spending thousands of dollars in constructing drainage ditches to make a big tract available for agricultural purposes and the beavers are already undoing the work. By erecting dams across the ditches the industrious little animals are causing water to overflow the lands again. Trapping operations on a large scale are now contemplated.

A WONDERFUL WOOD.

The tropical tree greenheart supplies a wonderful wood. It belongs to the laurel family, and is exported mainly from Trinidad and British Guiana. No limit to its life is known. It is so nearly indestructible, and it is therefore largely used in ship and dock building. The Fran, and Capt. Scott's first ship the Discovery, were both built of greenheart. A United States government report says: Greenheart has been known to stand in wharves for over thirty years, and logs to have remained under water for one hundred years and in perfectly sound condition. Its extraordinary resistance to decay is probably owing to the presence of an alkaloid known as bibirine, and also to certain resinous substances known as tyloses. The latter are reddish-brown masses of living cells and grow in solid masses within little cavities and they often fill completely. As they grow with the tree they turn black and make the wood of the older trees black. The trees probably do not reach maturity under 250 years. The wood weighs about seventy-five pounds to the cubic foot, and resist a crushing pressure of 12,000 lbs. to the square inch.

The Larger Vision

By W. H. Geistweir.

It takes a big soul to see a big thing. The world is full of glory, but not everybody sees the glory. That is revealed by the inner spirit. It is folly to judge a spiritual truth by a material measurement. Men often pass judgement upon the gospel who are not fitted to judge—they are as blind as moles. Spiritual truth is spiritually apprehended. It takes an artistic spirit to see the artistic glory; it takes a musical soul to appreciate musical expression. The materialist, the scientist and the philosopher often enter the domain of spiritual life and discuss it as intelligently as the blind men of Hindostan discussed the appearance of the elephant; they were all wrong, because they were all blind. "Earth is crammed with heaven, and every common bush aflame with God; but only he who sees takes off his shoes; the rest sit around and pick blackberries."

We need to cultivate the larger vision of the future. The first evidence of coming age is when our eyes shift to the back of our heads. People who are looking to the past; who consider the golden age as being behind them; who have lost interest in the present; who see nothing but forebodings for the future—confess to old age, even when the calendar tells a different story. We need to cultivate a larger vision of God. This is not an easy thing. The intense secularism of the day has blurred, has eclipsed the vision of God. Our hearts are not pure enough; our hands are so soiled we do not see him who is our Father. The church of the future—aye, the church of the day in which we are living, rises or falls by its power to reveal God. Does this service visualize God? It is not a question of entertainment; not necessarily a question of human interest or the solving of human problems. Important as these problems are, the primal question of every religious service is—does it reveal God? Let the preacher come into his pulpit with this thought in his heart; let the singers in the choir enter upon the leadership of praise with this thought and purpose dominant—what a service will issue!—The Pacific Baptist.

Germany's Army Tax Unpopular

BERLIN, Jan. 3.—Every man, woman and child in Germany with an income of 250 dollars, or a fortune in excess of 2,500 dollars, is brooding over the new army tax, which will come formally into effect. Although the tax hits the middle class and others of moderate means only mildly, it permits them three years to pay it. There was never a more unpopular burden imposed upon the people of the Fatherland. A total of 250,000,000 dollars requires to be raised for increasing the Kaiser's military establishment. The declaration must be turned in not later than January 20. High hopes are expressed at the Treasury department that more taxpayers than ever before will tell the truth on this occasion. General

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Seal Brand Coffee

—use it for breakfast tomorrow
—and note the satisfied smile as your husband enjoys his morning cup.

Chase & Sanborn, Montreal.



amnesty is conferred upon all persons who hitherto unconscious or otherwise cheated the Imperial Exchequer.

The contribution to defence, which is the sugar coated title of the new tax, is not a respecter of persons. The Kaiser, Kings and princes must pay their full quota. Royalty hitherto was exempted from taxation in Germany. The army tax law does not specifically assess them but the government gave an informal pledge to the country that the ruling sovereign would pay the same proportion as the humblest subject. The Kaiser's fortune is estimated at \$35,000,000 dollars. His fortune tax under the defence contribution, will be roundly 500,000 dollars, while on an income of \$5,500,000, which is the largest in Germany, he will pay 8 per cent or \$400,000, making the royal total spend close to \$1,000,000.

Prince Thurntaxis, of Bavaria, who is reckoned to be the richest person in Germany, with a fortune of \$82,000,000, and an income of \$1,250,000, will contribute between \$1,500,000 and \$2,000,000. Frau Bertha Krupp Von Bohlen Und Helbach, the 'Cannon Queen' of Essen, richest woman, has an estimated fortune of \$71,000,000 and an income of \$1,500,000. Her contribution to the war tax will be about 1,250,000 dollars.

The middle class man worth 25,000 dollars pays a property tax of 62 dollars and 50 cents. He has an income of 5,000 dollars a year; his income tax will be an additional 70 dollars.

Forest Fire Losses, 1913.

Dominion Forestry Branch Reports Remarkably Small Loss.

The lowest level of forest fire loss on record in Canada was reached this year on Dominion Forest Reserve in Western Canada. From the first of April to the end of September several of these reserves escaped without a single fire over ten acres in extent, the small fires that did occur being extinguished by the rangers before occasioning any damage to standing timber. On the Rocky Mountains Forest Reserve which has an area of 13,373,856 acres, the fire-loss amounted to but 1,150 acres of young timber of only potential value and \$150 worth of mature timber. The total area burnt over, more than half of which was cut-over or grass land, was but 3,010 acres, representing only 0.02 per cent of the area of this reserve. On the Dominion Forest reserves in British Columbia, which have a total area of 2,420,480 acres not a single fire succeeded in spreading over a larger area than ten acres, and the only green timber injured by fire was four acres of young lodgepole pine. The records are not yet complete for Saskatchewan and Manitoba, but the available figures compare favourably with the ones cited. The above figures also compare favourably with corresponding ones on the National Forests of the United States, where the area burned in 1913, although the smallest in recent years, was somewhat over 0.03 per cent of the total reserve area.

In the Fire Districts on Dominion Crown Lands in the west patrolled by Dominion fire rangers the loss occasioned by forest fires last season is also remarkably small, nor is this due wholly to the large amount of rain which fell last summer in the west, for there were also several dry spells when frequent fires occurred, which only the alertness of the fire-rangers prevented from occasioning large losses. In the Coast Fire Ranging District, B. C., which being situated in the Railway Belt is administered by the Dominion Forestry Branch, during June and July and August no less than 110 fires occurred, yet all of these fires were extinguished by the fire-rangers by the fire-rangers before any standing timber was destroyed.

THE FUTURE, NOT THE PAST.

New times demand new measures and new men;
The world advances, and in time our grows
The laws that in our father's day were best,
And doubtless after us some purer scheme
Will be shaped out by wiser men than we—
Made wiser by the steady growth of truth.
The time is ripe, and rotten-ripe, for change.
Then let it come. I have no dread of what
Is called for by the instinct of mankind,
Nor think I that God's world would fall apart
Because we tear a parchment, more or less.
Truth is eternal, but her effluence,
With endless change, is fitted to the hour;
Her mirror is turned forward, to reflect
The promise of the future, not the past.

—James Russell Lowell.

Beginning last June 15, all passenger vessels calling at Uruguay ports are required to be equipped with wireless apparatus.

TRIAL OF BANK NOTE COUNTERFEITERS.

Montreal, Jan. 3.—The five alleged counterfeiters recently captured in a cabin in the woods near Montreal, were to-day placed on trial at Joliet before Judge O. Le Croix. Henri Geroux, a secret service man, produced a large sheet on which the counterfeit notes were printed but not cut, and one note ready for circulation but lacking the serial number.

A manufacturing company in Pittsburg, Penn., smashed all records by constructing a blowing engine weighing 900,000 pounds in 37 days. The contract time was 90 days, which means a substantial bonus for the company.

At the home of Romina Fairbanks, in Morrisville, Vt., there is a lemon tree with one large lemon on it, and an orange tree with eight oranges, all in process of ripening.

INCREASED GARRISON AT CARRICKFERGUS CASTLE

Belfast, Jan. 3.—The garrison of Carrickfergus Castle, where there are large military stores, has been increased from 4 to 100. This has caused much comment here, as it is believed to have been done in view of the fears of an armed uprising against Home Rule.