

NEEDED BOOKS TO KEEP UP

Washington, D. C., March 12—Treasury officials were sifting today over a letter received from an income tax payer in North Dakota. This individual in making out his tax return failed to make clear whether or not he was married at the end of the tax-paying year.

In a routine way, therefore, the Treasury inquired of him what had been his "marital condition."

"I am sorry it is impossible to let you know my marital condition then," the man replied, "as I was not keeping books that month."

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A girl seldom begins to take life seriously until she has been up against one case of unrequited love.

No man expects his wife to clean his pipe for him. That's one dirty job he does himself.

INTELLIGENT PERSONS ONLY CAN SNEEZE

Watch your sneezes—they have a meaning! It is a fact, vouched for by Scotchmen, ignorant and educated that only intelligent persons are able to sneeze. British nurses used to believe that babies were under the spell of the fairies until they sneezed. If it failed to sneeze, it was regarded with suspicion. Old time Germans believed that if a man sneezed on waking he had better stay in bed for three hours lest his wife henpeck him throughout the week.

If you are an Alfooran and you

HAD AN ANNOYING HACKING COUGH

GOT NO REST AT NIGHT

Hacking coughs are very wearing on the system. The constant coughing disturbs the rest, and keeps the lungs and bronchial tubes in such an irritated and inflamed condition, that unless you get immediate relief the cough may become settled and serious lung trouble ensue.

There is no better remedy than Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup for relieving all kinds of coughs or colds, combining as it does the lung healing virtues of the pine tree with which is Mrs. E. J. Ross, Penhold, Alta., writes: "About three years ago I caught a very bad cold, accompanied with a sore throat and hoarseness. I was so hoarse you could not hear me speak. I could get no rest at night with the terrible annoying, hacking cough. I tried several remedies, but they did me no good. I finally saw Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup advertised so I got a bottle. It at once gave me relief, and after using four of them my cough had all gone. Now I always keep it in the house."

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sneeze as you are about to leave a gathering of friends you should sit right down again before taking another step.

In Polynesia a native believes some one is speaking of him if he sneezes. If it is a violent sneeze he is being cursed, and vice versa. The sneeze of a child is regarded as significant of the child's future among uncivilized peoples. A sneeze during a meal means a visit, say the Maoris, and in Tonga it means the coming of evil. If in the christening a New Zealand savage child should sneeze the priest holds a wooden idol to his ear and says a charm.

In Scotland a sneeze on stepping out of bed is the omen of company, the number of guests being foretold by the number of sneezes. A Flemish belief has it that a sneeze is confirmation that the truth has just been spoken. In Welsh folklore a cat's sneeze means cold weather. Bohemians believe that the devil must sneeze violently at the sign of the cross.

Bad Way to Start New Year.

Don't sneeze on New Year's, warn Chinamen; it means bad luck all year. The only way to get around that sneeze is to visit three families and beg a round cake and eat the three cakes before midnight. A sneeze in reply to a question means in sneeze talk—that's right. In Turkistan people look askance at three sneezes, which are a sign of bad luck.

One sneeze means some one's praising the sneezer; two means censure; while three mean a cold—this according to Japanese superstition. The same belief prevails in Mexico, and in Sussex the people hate sneezing cats as bringers of bad luck.

Most people nowadays say "God bless you" to the sneezer, but few realize what ancient custom they are following when they do so. Aristotle himself regarded salutation after sneezing as an ancient custom. Cicero attended the theatre one day and sneezed, whereupon the entire audience, irrespective of rank, arose and cried out: "God bless you!"

One theory traces the origin of this custom to the sixth century, during which era there raged a plague in Italy which every one who sneezed attracted. Prayers were said against sneezing, and it became customary for people to say to those who sneezed "God help ye!"

"God help me," says the resident in Iceland on sneezing. When his neighbor sneezes he says "God help you!" Florida Indians salute the sneezing person with the following: "May the sun guard thee, be with thee, enlighten thee, magnify thee, favor thee."

When the Emperor of Monomotapa sneezed the "God bless you's" were relayed from mouth to mouth through out his realm. Only a hundred years ago in Guinea every one knelt and clapped their hands when a person of rank sneezed. Courtiers of a king in Nubia turn their backs to the King when he sneezes and slap their right hips vigorously.

In England and France during the seventeenth century it was customary to doff the hat during the sneeze and for the sneezer formally to return the salutations of the ceremony.

"Mbula," exclaimed the Fiji gentleman on hearing a sneeze, which means "May you live!" Formerly Fijians said "May you club some one" or "May your wife have twins!"

Aristotle believed that there was a god of sneezing, and an old Roman greeting reads "Go on your way, sneezing pleasantly."

The young bachelor about to take the matrimonial plunge had better pay attention to this mediaeval superstition: "If a man go to dwell in a house and sneeze one time let him dwell there, but if he sneeze twice let him not tarry, neither let him dwell therein."



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