

The Daily Mail

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A RETURN TO MYSTERY

One can regret the passing of the short skirt as the fading of a golden age wherein beauty trod the earth joyous and untrammelled. But there will be few tears shed, few sighs sighed, over the disappearance of the exposed, the naked knee.

We suspect that in the whole range of poetry there is not a line in praise of knees. Some way they touch no chord of artistic interest. They are just things displayed openly and daringly, like family scandals, that in other years were never bared to public gaze.

Knees are purely utilitarian contrivances of nature, necessary for the duties of walking, negotiating stairs and—occasionally in the human career—praying. But nature has not ornamented them. The star-fish has its rays, the sea-urchin its rows of decorative spikes, the diatom an amazing variety of knobs and lines the tubercles in orderly design. But the knee is only an irregular chunk of bone with a film of skin for decent covering. It cannot be made attractive even with the most expensive rouge and powder. A beauty patch upon it suggests a commonplace accident, and no more. Its habit of whacking itself against furniture corners, open doors in dark halls, bath tubs, automobile parts and the hidden spiles of the beaches subjects the knee to abrasions. Such wounds and scars detract from rather than advance the cause of beauty. Certain imaginative persons have spoke of dimpled knees these last two or three seasons. We confess never to have beheld them, and hold them to be figments of fancy.

History will record the plain, bare fact of plain, bare knees. No more. There is not a thing about the blooming things to warrant eloquence, soliloquy, a burst of glowing words or an hour of sniffing over their return to reticence.

ADVERSITY: ITS USES

Poverty is good medicine for the human spirit. But it is valuable only as a stimulant. Too much of it kills.

So there may be various interpretations of the narrative of his youth which John D. Rockefeller unfolded to those who helped him celebrate the sixty-seventh anniversary of his first day of toil.

The day he who was to become the richest man in the world tramped about for six weeks looking for a job. Then he got one and worked three months for \$50. That was rigorous training, even in those days of simple living.

The extraordinary boy can survive hardship and hunger and discouragement and emerge unhurt from his lonely conflict with circumstances. But there is something wrong with an age in which such conflicts are necessary.

The young Rockefeller gained strength through adversity of the sort that unquestionably breaks the spirits of innumerable other boys of whom you never hear, and quenches many a light that otherwise might shine brightly in this rather badly illuminated world.

THE BEAUTIFUL AND DUMB

George Beban, himself a moving-picture actor, proves his daring by asserting that 80 per cent of the stars of the films are not actors but exhibitors.

"Beautiful creatures these movie actresses are," admits George, "beautiful but oh, so dumb! They're merely pictures. They know nothing of acting and that's what's the matter with the movies today."

Doubtless that is one of many things that are the matter with the movies, and if the ladies Mr. Beban calls the beautiful and dumb are well advised they will begin to learn to act. For when the "talking movies" are perfected—and the inventions of De Forest and others are bringing that day nearer—the mere posing of pretty faces and figures dressed in gorgeous clothes will no longer suffice. Better acting and correct speaking will be necessary and for that few of the present stars of film have had the necessary training. Hollywood should endow a real school of acting.

Sir Henry W. Thornton who has been chosen to head the new National Railway Board is a native of In-

diana and had extensive railway experience in the United States before going to England to become general manager of the Great Eastern Railway. He was naturalized in 1919 and was soon afterwards knighted. He has signed a contract with the Canadian Government for three years and is to be paid a salary of \$50,000 a year.

Some of the aldermen are of the opinion that the bread and water diet for prisoners at the county jail is quite out of date and should be improved upon. This is a correct and humane view to take of the matter. In medieval times it may have been all right to shut a man up in a cell and set before him a bill of fare of bread and water, but such treatment of human beings in the twentieth century hardly seems right. The matter is in the hands of the County Councillors and they have the power to make the necessary change. The Councillors use to work for nothing and find themselves but today they are paid \$5 a day for their services, and they should see to it that the unfortunate in the county jail are given at least one square meal a day.

Says the *Truro N. S. Daily News*: "The Wm. Paterson Limited of Brantford, Ont., Manufacturers of high class Biscuits and Confectionery through their Maritime representatives, R. M. Fulton & Son, have opened a Branch Warehouse in Truro, N. S., for the distribution of their products in the Maritime Provinces." This is the kind of business that Fredericton should go after. As a distributing centre this city possesses wonderful advantages, and there are many upper province houses which might be prevailed upon to establish branches here. The City Council and Board of Trade should always be on the alert for this kind of business.

Halifax Chronicle: The present experience of Minnesota and Quebec, both of which are in the range of forest conflagrations, should be a reminder that the forest fire is still at this season of the year a menace to guard against. Owing to the abundance of moisture on the Atlantic coast the danger here may not be as great as it is in some sections of the country. But the woods in many places, with their carpets of withered leaves and grasses, are dry enough to be dangerous when careless people are abroad. Hunters in their eagerness for the sport should not forget the camp fires.

A clerk at a local hotel says that he has noticed all his life that a man who is grouchy and fault-finding and unaccommodating gets just that sort of treatment from others in the long run. On the other hand, he comments the man who wears a smile, and is friendly and courteous in his dealings, never fails to get the best end of the bargain. "In other words," he says, "you get just what you give." The immortal Josh Billings used to say that "the man who gets something for nothing gets just what he pays for."

Betsy, lovely Betsy! We sing your worth and tact. All simple folk still wear your yoke and glory in the fact. The hard-boiled may be scorning your simple virtues; yet, oh, Betsy, dear, each morning you're still our one bet Bet. And we may mention, while the thought occurs to us, that Betsy is a white Leghorn hen at the Ottawa, Canada, experimental farm, and she has laid an egg every day for 107 consecutive days.

According to the National Association of Sost Accountants, meeting in Atlantic City, hosiery manufacturers are worried at the return of the long skirt. With short skirts stockings had to be perfect. With long skirts it is another story. The runs that go uncounted add nothing to the score.

New Yorker has been fined \$5 for swinging a rat by its tail. How else, we pause to inquire, should a rat be swung.

Chicago manufacturer says some union plasterers in his town are making \$26 a day. That's laying it on with a trowel.

President Faunce of Brown university says that too many men of the wrong kind go to college. Well, they cannot all be star athletes.

Tino of Greece is said to have salted away nearly \$2,000,000. This should at least tide him over until he can get out his memoirs.

Judging by the cocksure attitude of Kemal somebody has been stuffing Turkey.

With Kemal's forces hemming in the British, somebody is due for a ripping time.

Fortunately quite a good many ultimatums are duds.

Personal Mention

Mrs. J. G. A. Calquhoun of Moncton arrived here last evening for a brief visit and is being warmly welcomed by many old friends.

Newcastle Advocate: Mrs. H. B. Cassidy returned yesterday from Fredericton where she spent the past week visiting friends and relatives.

Newcastle Advocate: Mr. Lourie LeBail, of Fredericton arrived in Newcastle on Monday and will take the position of foreman with the Miramichi Hosiery Co.

Through Our Sieve

Stop, look and listen. Many trains are still running.

Sometimes when we let well enough alone, well enough won't let us alone.

Young man if you are looking for a good housekeeper it is up to you to dodge the girl who looks coyly out of the corner of her eyes.

There is no sense in a man having a desk motto if he lets his feet obscure it.

Weeds are scenery until one gets close enough to recognize them.

When a woman declares that all men are alike she doesn't stop to reflect that it may be her fault.

There are too many people in the world trying to overthrow the system of earning bread by the sweat of the brow.

Time heals all wounds and we now love the memory of the little devils who climbed out of the old 'swimmin' hole first and tied knots our clothes.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., says the woodpile helped to form character boys. If he has reference to a former day he should not overlook the virtues of the grindstone. There was a time when a boy could do a good turn every day.

One can always tell a new auto owner who has driven his car down town for the first time. After parking it he always looks back a few times evidently expecting a gang of desperate thieves to swoop down and carry it away.

H. Price Webber at School

The favorite of the people who love things theatrical, Mr. H. Price Webber, has been delighting the pupils and teachers of the Normal school at Presque Isle, Me., with an address on his work in the stage world. Many of his experiences were humorous and very pleasing to his hearers. It was interesting to them to know that he was born in Brixham, England, where the Rev. H. F. Lyte lived and wrote the well-known hymn, "Abide With Me." They were charmed to know that Mr. Webber's mother attended the church that was under the rectorship of Rev. Mr. Lyte. Mr. Webber was heartily thanked by the Principal, teachers and scholars and cordially asked to come soon again.

PLANTS RE-OPENS

Kingston, Ont., Oct. 5—The Canadian Locomotive Company closed for well over a year, re-opened yesterday morning, and while only 75 hands are on the job, this number will be rapidly increased.

CLASSIFIED ADS.

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WANTED

WANTED—Want to hear from owner having farm for sale; give particulars and lowest price. John J. Black, Canada Street, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

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