

HUMAN NATURE REMAINS SAME THROUGHOUT AGES AN OLD TIMER DECLARES

(Tom Williams in Toledo Blade.)

"When the sawbuck went out of fashion we lost a lot beside back-aches," declared the Old Timer as he sorted over some seed of four o'clocks which he had just gathered.

"Personally, I'm glad its gone, yet I realize that the sawbuck and the backsaw were an institution that played no mean part in the education and development of youth.

"The axe had its place in th' same school, but was in a different class. Its work was more ruthless and heroic-like. You swung it in th' mighty woods with the crackling of frosted trees ringing about you and th' blue-jays laughing at you and you houn-dawg giving tongue in th' underbrush. You chopped and slashed and trimmed, each varying act producing its own particular sound.

Sawbuck Was Different.

"But th' sawbuck work in the woodshed was different. It became more mechanical and studious as you proceeded until you could saw away with perfect precision and let your mind wander to other and more inspiring scenes. You didn't have to keep your mind on what you were doing so much.

"Yet it was usually a task for the youngster. He had so much to cut and pile up before he could claim his liberty with a finished task and dash forth to join his fellows. It taught one to persist, to set a pace, to make a determined attack and to conquer. It developed grit and pluck and all that—particularly the more if th' wood was knotty, crooked and tough, as it generally was.

"And it wasn't alone th' country boy that had such chores in th' old days. Town folks in this section were obliged to burn wood largely. It came in four-foot length and these had to be sawed to stove size. So it was a chore for many a town and city boy after school and on Saturdays. The woodshed was a household institution. Many a lad learned his first responsibility to duty in one of them—and sometimes other things. It was the compulsory education of that time.

Substitute is Needed.

"I tell you, they took a lot out of th' lives of young folks with th' passing away of th' family chores without giving any substitute for them. I know th' youngsters won't agree with me in this. I wouldn't either when I was a kid, and many is the runaway excursions planned as well as other malign vengeance upon those responsible for my tasks—but never carried out.

The crossing watchman proceeded carefully and in silence with his sorting. Occasionally he threw a seed into the stove. Others he set aside apparently for further inspection before adding them to those he determined to keep.

"Did you ever notice that the four-o'clock seed is exactly the same shape as a Rugby ball?" he asked. "I believe that is where the pattern came from. And when they are perfectly dried out they are about as springy and full of tricks as one of those pigskins that play a leading role in th' lives of millions at this season."

"Hank been around lately?" the Old Timer was asked.

"That old cell hasn't been around here since day before yesterday. Says he's taking a home-study business course. Boys tell me he's getting pretty keen in business ways. Expects to get a job superintending a gas station.

"They tell me th' other day ne went into one of those stores where you get coupons with purchases. His mission was to get change for a dime. When he got his change he asked th' young fellow behind th' counter if he didn't get coupons with his change. Guess he's learning, eh?

Quite a Tin Peddler.

Never told you that Hank was a tin peddler in th' old days, did I? Well, I 'spose I'll have to explain that also. I declare folks are getting far away from things that use to be close to family life.

"A tin peddler was one who drove around th' country selling—I should say trading—tinware and trinkets to farmers' wives for eggs, butter, lard and sometimes chickens. 'Twas mostly barter. Each had his regular route and there was little trespassing. They came every week or two or three, as condition warranted, so you may know one covered quite a circuit.

"Besides tinpans, cups, saucepans, pie tins, cake pans and th' like they carried also the thing called 'notions'—but where they got that name I can't tell you—needles, thread, yarns, pins, cheap jewelry and sometimes a little dry goods and socks, mittens and gloves.

"Seldom much money changed hands. So much for so many dozens of eggs—in th' days when hens hadn't

been taught scientific laying by electric lightin'. Or so much goods for th' butter th' farm wife had to offer. The peddler then sold th' farm produce in town at a margin of profit. I never knew a tin peddler to endow a charity, build a castle or die a millionaire. Yet they had th' reputation of being flip with figures and weights.

"Everything in this world, excepting human nature, has changed a lot in my day. That continues about as mobile as th' Rock of Gibraltar. But who th' Sam Hill, exceptin' th' pessimists, would have it otherwise. It's th' only human nature we ever had and know anything about.

"Think of how terrible it would be if we had to acquaint ourselves with a new kind of human nature—men and women girls and boys entirely different from those we've always had to deal with—and that on top of th' other new fangled things we got to master TWO—HUMAN NATURE al'g'ob these days or get left so far behind that we couldn't be reached by even radio waves.

"If I couldn't call Old Hank a liar, and him knowing I half meant it, what comfort would he be to me as a friend and companion?

"No sire-e! A world with th' denatured human nature some aerial artists paint would be th' most lonesome place imaginable to my notion of it."

FAMED WALLS OF PARIS FALL UNDER HAMMER

Paris, Oct. 15—The walls of Paris, those stern fortifications which served to shelter the French capital for centuries, are steadily and swiftly passing from view. As the huge masonry is daily pulverized by levelling machines, another landmark of old Paris is disappearing. Soon there will be "gates of the city," but no walls through which to make the gates. Instead, apartment houses and new boulevards and parks are growing up on the site where the formidable barriers long stood. Officials in charge of the destruction report that sixty-one bastions already have been demolished and that two-thirds of the wall is down. Since the first break was made in 1919, a total of 340,000 cubic meters have been torn down and 3,000,000 cubic meters of land have been reclaimed at a cost of 30,000,000 francs.

Eight and ten-story houses are going up now in some sections. Other parts have been turned over to the military authorities and to railroads and wide avenues are being built. During the next month five more bastions will be razed and the gates near these will be enlarged. In the end virtually no vestige will remain of the ancient embattlements which held off the invaders hundreds of years ago.

"Just try to frighten me, will you?" said Jones to Mayson.

"What for?"

"I have got hiccough and if you frighten me, it will go away at once."

"Very well, then here goes!"—shouting at the top of his voice.

"Lend me half-a-crown, old fellow."

"Ah! Thanks, it's gone."

Burglar—I beg your pardon sir, but I mistook your house for mine.

Owner—Yes, and I should say by the look of the place that you've done the same with my goods.



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Of Interest to the Women

FASHION NOTES.

French Wear Skirts Longer—Like 'Bread and Butter' Hats.

Skirts are a little longer than in 1925.

"Slim as you like you may look, but a little more length on the skirts" seems to have been the motto of the designers.

The picture hat, not quite as large and decorative as formerly but still "a picture hat" is generally made of velvet, panne or felt and is trimmed with feathers flowers or ribbon.

Small felt hats with draped and ribbon trimmed crowns are worn with tailor mades. A felt hat, designers say, is at home with any dress.

"We call them the bread and butter hats" one leading designer said recently "because truly they are the bread and butter of the millinery trade."

CLEVER SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEEDLEWOMAN.

When gathering use two single threads from one quarter to one half inch apart. Then in stitching the gathered section to the straight one stitch between the two rows of gathering threads. This prevents the material from pushing along and forming pleats under the presser foot.

When tracing embroidery designs from an old pattern, marking seams tucks or darts, use a tracing wheel and a sheet of white carbon paper.

Do not use the finger tips to sprinkle water upon material that it to be pressed. A damp cloth is the only way to be sure of even moisture and a flat, well pressed seam.

When pressing the armhole seam turn it toward the neck of the garment.

Buttons which are to go through buttonholes should never be sewed flat to the garment but a shank should be made by laying a pin over the top of the button and sewing over it.

NEW APPLE PIE.

½ cups flour
¼ cup of shortening
¼ teaspoon of salt
3 cups apples
3 teaspoons sugar
1 teaspoon milk
Cinnamon or nutmeg
Sift the flour and salt into bowl add the shortening and rub in very lightly add just enough cold water to hold together; roll out on floured board; line pie plate. Wash, pare and slice the apples fine; fill into the crust add sugar and dust cinnamon or nutmeg. Roll out the remainder of the dough, wet the lower edge and cover pie, pressing the edges tight; brush the top with milk and bake in moderate oven 30 minutes.

OLD FASHIONED CHEESE CAKE.

1 cup cottage cheese
1 cup milk
1 egg
½ cup sugar
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon grated lemon rind
Mix the milk and cheese together; add the well beaten eggs, sugar, salt and lemon rind. Line pie plate with good, short crust; pour in the cheese mixture and dust with cinnamon. Bake 35 minutes in moderate oven, or the same as custard pie.

COTTAGE CHEESE SANDWICHES.

1 pound cottage cheese
3 tablespoons finely chopped chives or grated onion
1 teaspoon salt
Dash white pepper
Dash paprika
Put the cottage cheese into bowl add the onion or chives, salt, pepper and paprika; mix until creamy. Spread

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on thin slices of buttered bread add lettuce leaf or shredded lettuce and press together; cut into three cornered pieces.

BAKED SQUASH.

Cut the squash into pieces and re-seeds and all stringy fibres. Spread each piece with butter, salt and pepper Press a few raisins into each piece and set in oven to bake.

THE FAMILY OF L. R. STEEL IS DESTITUTE

Buffalo, Oct. 16—Leonard R. Steel, founder of the defunct L. R. Steel Company, promoter of chains of 5 and 10-cent stores and other merchandising enterprises, left his widow and son without a dollar.

The accounts of the administrator of the Steel estate submitted to surrogate's court shows that the promoter of millions left only \$17,399.19. Every dollar of this, except \$9,000 in law fees will go to federal or state governments for taxes. Steel's federal taxes alone for 1922, his first prosperous year, amounted with penalties for non-payment to \$76,722.61.

TOO MUCH SO.

Secretary Walker of the New York transit commission was lamenting the increase in automobile fatalities.

"A lawyer," he said "was examining a woman witness the other day."

"Madam," he protested "two minutes ago you said your husband died a natural death and now you say he was killed in an automobile accident."

"Well," said the woman, "Isn't that a natural death these days?"

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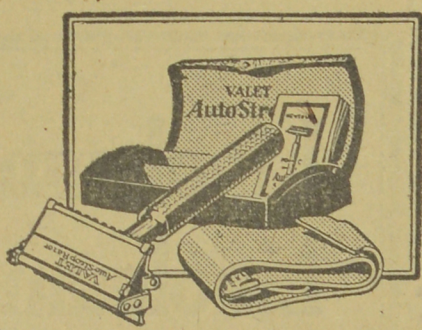
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