

HARD QUESTIONS.

Some of the Bumps a Query Editor Occasionally Gets.

A correspondent writes a sorrowful letter regarding his experiences in running "a correspondents' column" in a weekly paper. After he had written both questions and answers for a while the public finally became warmed up to the idea and began to send in questions in whose presence the encyclopedia itself was all nerveless and trembly. In one Saturday's mail the following letters were received addressed to "the editor of the correspondents' column":

Dear Sir—Where is the universe? Please give illustration. Yours truly,
J. PAUL SMITH.

Another read:

Dear Editor—How does a corpuscle differ from a germ and why? I can find nothing on this subject in our psychology. Yours truly,
FRANK EATON.

Still another read:

Dear Mr. Editor—In our examination paper today the teacher had the following question: "Mention the various functions." I couldn't do it. Will you please mention them? Thanking you in advance, I am, yours most truly,
CLARA E. JONES.

These questions may look easy, but if you think so take pen and sit down and answer them.

The Enemies of Wild Sheep.

Wild sheep depend for greatest protection on their climbing capabilities. They travel where no man can follow, and often in climbing use their knees instead of their fore hoofs. Their first instinct at the approach of an enemy is to start for the mountain top, aiming if possible to get above and keep above the enemy.

Wolves, wolverenes and eagles are their most common enemies, and the lambs suffer exclusively from these. Wolves are capable of taking down grown animals, but in summer hunger seldom induces them to make the struggle, and in winter they prefer low altitudes. There are many stories told of the lordly ram doing battle with wolves, which are on a par with the story of leaping from dizzy heights. The old rams are cunning, and in this lies their greatest safety. They are perfectly at home on rocky ledges, where the wolf is not, and if they can gain such a position they will, with one charge, hurl the wolf to the rocks below.—A. J. Stone in Outing.

Brown and Black.

In one of the middle cities of the United States there lived a local wit and his favorite butt. Both were prominent clubmen and enlivened the same social set. One was named Black and the other Brown. Black was immaculate in his dress, while Brown was careless, often wearing his finger nails in mourning and an ecru collar with a full dress suit. But family connections excused his shortcomings. One evening the pair arrived at a reception and met the hostess simultaneously. The two names mentioned together suggested a bonnet to Brown, but the opening was disastrous.

"The colors are very much in evidence tonight," said Brown. To which their hostess replied, "Yes. I see they are, and, if rumor is to be credited, they are fast colors."

"No, no," broke in Black; "Brown won't wash."

The Company's Reason.

An amusing extract from a Belgian paper gives the following incident:

A woman whose husband had lost his life in a railway accident received from the company 10,000 francs by way of compensation. Shortly after she heard that a traveler who had lost a leg had been paid 20,000 francs. The widow at once put on her bonnet and shawl and went to the office of the company.

"Gentlemen, how is this?" she asked. "You give 20,000 francs for a leg, and you allowed me only 10,000 francs for the loss of my husband?"

"Madam," was the reply, "the reason is plain. Twenty thousand francs won't provide him with a leg, but for ten thousand you can get a husband."

Adam's Staff.

The Talmudic writers tell us that "the blessed God gave to the first man in paradise a staff which had been created between the stars. Adam gave it to Enoch, Enoch to Noah, Noah to Shem, Shem to Abraham, Abraham to Isaac, Isaac to Jacob. Jacob carried

it into Egypt and gave it to his son Joseph. When Joseph died, his household goods were taken to the house of Pharaoh. Pharaoh took the staff of Adam, which had descended to Joseph from the first man, and put it among his special treasures."

The New Girl.

"Be mine," he cried in loving tone. The new girl said: "Nay, nay, But I'll take you to be my own. You dear boy, name the day."

To Start the Incineration.

Mrs. Wedden—You had better not treat Mr. Seeker so cavalierly. He has money to burn.

Miss Flypp—Then I'm his match.

Usually the Way.

"Did they make much money at the fancy fair?"
"Yes, indeed, and all because 'he prices were so unfair."

Fickle Fame.

Oh, fame's a fair and fickle thing. Though still its smile's entrancing, Yet he that makes a fiddle sing May set a world to dancing!

Particulars Desired.

Biggs—Say, can I sell you a good horse?
Diggs—Don't know. What is the matter with the animal?

Xmas.

Why Christmas is spelt X-mas Is plain as plain can be— It takes a mass of X's To fill the X-mas tree.

The Root of the Matter.

Pat—An' so yez shtruck fer shorter hours?
Mike—Yis. We want each wan to consist av forty minutes, begorry!—Puck.

In the Course of Time.

I'm going to be a millionaire; My money I shall hoard it. I'll be a great reformer then, Because I can afford it.

Way Down.

"She married beneath her, didn't she?"
"Yes; I believe some two or three millions beneath her."

His Epitaph.

Here lies a maker of mirrors; His loss, how we deplore it! He spent his days behind the glass, While you spend yours before it.

Obedience to the Letter.

Policeman—Come along now quietly or it will be worse for you.
O'Toole—O'll not. The magistrate told me last time never to be brought before him again, an' begorra O'll goin' to obey his instructions.—Boys of the Empire.

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"I was troubled with eczema from the crown of my head to the soles of my feet," writes Mrs. Ella Quick, of Cass City, Tuscola Co., Mich. "Could not walk at times nor wear my shoes. Thought there was no help for me—at least the doctor said there was none. I went to see friends at Christmas time and there heard of the good that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery had done for them, and was advised to try it at once. For fear that I might neglect it my friend sent to the village and got a bottle and made me promise that I would take it. I had been getting worse all the time. I took thirteen bottles of the 'Golden Medical Discovery' and ten vials of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, and used 'All-Healing Salve,' which made a complete cure. It was slow but sure. I was taking the medicine about eight months.

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A Ring on His Hands.

"Is Harkins worrying over the fact that Miss de Riche jilted him?"

"No, but it annoys him exceedingly to think that the ring she gave back was purchased at her father's store and paid for, too, by Jove!"

The man who cannot blush and who has no feeling of fear has reached the acme of imudence.

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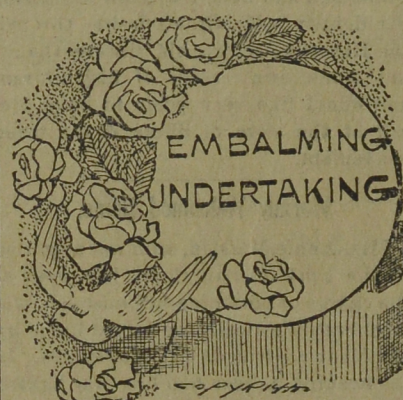
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