

THE HIGH SCHOOL TATTLE

(Continued from Page 1.)

Twice-Told Tales

Clara Tredway—Ma! Clinton has been hurt by a baseball. Mrs. T.—Oh dear, oh dear, what does the telegram say? Clara—Nose broken. How shall I have it set. (Greek or Roman?) Barber—Do you want a hair cut? John W.—No I want them all cut. Barber—Er—any particular way sir? John—Yes—Off. Mr. Westcott before a judge—I want a divorce from my wife. Judge—Why? Mr. W.—She talks, talks, talks. Its driving me crazy. Judge—What does she talk about? Mr. W.—She doesn't say—she talks in French. Fred Allen—I love you. Helen Pauline—Why Fred, what old literature have you been reading? Percy—You have your nerve talking Francis I am a fool. Grace Shulkins—Heavens I didn't know it was a secret.

—Editor.

FAMOUS TOWER OF LONDON

Has Housed World's Greatest Patriots and Has Also Been Custodian of Most Notorious.

Possibly no building in England is so rich in historic memories as the famous Tower of London. It is hatched in blood and tragedy; it is the haunting place of innumerable ghosts and filled with legendary lore. It has housed the world's greatest patriots and has also been the custodian of the world's most notorious. The Tower of London, the ancient citadel and state prison of London, is on the north bank of the Thames, about one mile east of London bridge. Tradition ascribes its foundation to Claudius Caesar; but for this statement there is no evidence, although the structure may occupy the site of the old Roman fortifications. The White tower—the first part erect-

ed—was commenced in 1078 by William the Conqueror, and completed by his son, William Rufus, who, in 1088, surrounded it with walls and a moat, and built, in addition, St. Thomas' tower and Traitor's gate. The Tower of London has been added to by several of the monarchs of England, and covers at the present time an area of 13 acres. It is used at the present day simply as an armory, and a jewel-house for the crown regalia.

Hair-Nets Hand Made. The impossibility of making hair nets by machinery is one of the notable things about their production. Owing to the fine texture of human hair and stiffness of the strands, no machine has yet been invented that is able to knit the delicate nets. All of the fashioning must be done by hand, and 95 per cent of all the hair nets produced are knitted in the homes of Chinese natives. The trailing required for the knitting of hair nets is long and tedious. Each net is tied in much the same way as in the manufacture of fish nets or hammocks; but, of course, the tying of a single strand is a much more delicate and difficult task. The production of a dozen hair nets in 10 or 12 hours is regarded as a good day's work.

Just His Theory. Mr. and Mrs. Gunter were discussing married happiness. "I have known my friend Jenkins, don't you, dear?" said Mr. Gunter to his wife, after a while. "Yes, of course I do, dear," was the reply. "Well, that man has the most happy ideas about marriage."

"Really?" "Yes; he believes that man and wife should always be in full harmony; that they should mutually yield every point to this end, and have no thought in the world, but true domestic happiness."

"Sagittari, and, of course, Mrs. Jenkins agrees with him?"

"Not so fast, my dear. Jenkins is not married."

Oyster Industry Is Large. Oyster culture represents the most valuable industry in the United States. It employs more than 67,000 persons drawing wages aggregating about \$11,900,000 a year, and uses vessels and apparatus appraised at \$17,000,000.

How U. S. and Britain Fixed Boundary Line

The famous slogan, "Fifty-four forty or fight" was first written by Esch W. Eastman, a delegate to a Democratic county convention in Iowa. He wrote some resolutions about local politics, and then added: "In the matter of the northwestern boundary we are for 'Fifty-four forty or fight.'" A state convention later adopted the same resolution. It was taken up by the Democratic press and speakers and spread like wildfire. In the guesses made by the public as to who was the author of the watchword, many prominent Democrats were named, but most of them centered on Lewis Cass of Michigan.

Caught up as a party cry and with the "occupancy" of the whole of Oregon inserted side by side with the annexation of Texas as a plank of the Democratic platform on which James K. Polk was nominated for the presidency, the country, during the campaign of 1844 rang with the defiant slogan.

James Buchanan, secretary of state, offered the old line of the forty-ninth parallel between British and American possessions west of the Rockies, an offer that was rejected by Great Britain. Polk withdrew Buchanan's offer and reasserted his determination to stand out for the whole of Oregon.

And before the summer of 1846 arrived Great Britain had accepted the forty-ninth parallel as the demarcation line between her Far West possessions and those of the United States, on the precise terms which the United States had from the first been willing to accept. Polk had been "bluffing"—Detroit News.

Mimosa Plant Protects Itself in Odd Manner

The mimosa of Brazil is a plant which reveals more "intelligence," perhaps, than any other. A footfall, a light touch, or any sudden disturbance will cause the leaves to close together and hang as though they had suddenly wilted.

Grazing animals are attracted by the light green leaves of the mimosa. At their approach the plant will begin to droop. The attractive, fresh leaves of a moment before look dry and utterly unappetizing. The marauding animal does not fancy the dried-up dinner and so it moves on.

Should the animal, however, be particularly hungry, and inclined to investigate further, he gets some nasty pricks from the long sharp thorns with which the stems of the plant are studded. He is soon convinced that a meal in this spot would be accompanied by much pain, so he goes. A few minutes after the danger is past the mimosa will resume its usual appearance and look as green and fresh as ever.

Acquaintances and Friends

When two acquaintances meet, they sit down and talk.

The Scrap Book

Steward on Ship Is an Expert on Carrying Food

It looks difficult enough when you see your pet waiter dashing here and there in your favorite restaurant with both hands full of plates, and you marvel at the way in which he balances three "soups" in one hand, disaster seems imminent, says an steward. But you probably marvel more when on shipboard you are sitting on the fixed screw-chair, with the boat rolling or pitching heavily, and your waiter, or rather, steward, appears at the door of the saloon with four or five plates in each hand.

Balancing may be a studied pose in the restaurant or hotel, but on sea it is carried to a fine, though unobtrusive, art, and woe betide the steward who has not found his sea legs. There is a crash and a yell from the other side of the bulkhead, and the doctor is probably called upon to get busy with his needle.

The steward has a whole heap of things to contend with: People's fluctuating appetites, for instance. I have known one passenger to ask for five different dishes and send each away in turn.

Again, your land water can laugh at the pouring rain or blustering wind, his tables do not sway, throwing everything off as fast as he puts the cutlery and glass on; but in a ship it is a different matter. When a heavy swell is playing with the ship it is often necessary to soak blankets and put them on the cushions under the white cloths; otherwise even the tablecloths will not stay on.—London Mail.

Poet "Died" to Obtain Criticism of His Works

It would be an unusual person who did not have a lurking suspicion that uncomplimentary things are said of him. The pleasant references are usually voiced because they are intended to reach his ears, but the honest opinions, be they truthful or otherwise, are generally held in reserve.

Arthur Brehmer, an Austrian poet, wanted first-hand information on what posterity would think of his works, so he wrote notices of his death and sent them to the papers. There followed extensive sketches of his life and criticisms of his works.

It may be gratifying to poets to know while they live they are appreciated, but we doubt if the method adopted by the Austrian is a real test. It is not unlikely that in Austria the old Latin saying, "Of the dead say naught but good," is as familiar as it is elsewhere and that comments on Brehmer may have been influenced largely thereby.

The esteem or disesteem in which we are held in life is what really counts. Neither cuts much figure with us after we have passed on. Then, again, the nice things said of poets for others after their death are not to be exaggerated. Brehmer's experiment would be interesting if the really interesting part was not omitted. He seems uncertain as to the degree of posterity's appreciation.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Quite a Difference

"Do you think there is any chance of our breaking into the smart-set here?" "By smart-set do you mean high-brow or low-neck?"

Mosquito Plant Useful

The virtues of basil (Ocimum viride) known as the mosquito plant, are attracting the attention of scientists in England. An survey, officer has given a growing plant to the botanical gardens at Kew. He obtained it in Nigeria, where, he says, it is known to drive mosquitoes from its neighborhood, and the natives use the infusion of its leaves as a cure for malarial fevers. Its virtues are known in India round the Victoria Garden in Bombay, because the workmen were pestered by mosquitoes and suffered from malaria. As soon as the hedge was completed the mosquitoes left and there was no more malaria among the workmen.

Then He Quit

The wife of a sailor handed the pastor of a church the following note: "Peter Bowers having gone to sea, his wife desires the prayers of the congregation for his safety."

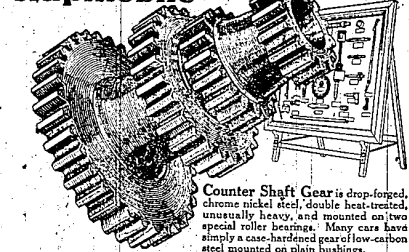
The minister glanced over it hurriedly and then said, "Peter Bowers having gone to see his wife, desires the prayers of the congregation for his safety."

Breaking It Gently

Young Man—I want a word of advice. Mr. Wader (grimly)—Well, Young Man—What is the best way to approach you for a loan?

Mr. Wader—If you are sensitive, better write for it and, when you get my reply, tear it up without reading it.—Stray Stories.

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WM. H. HART

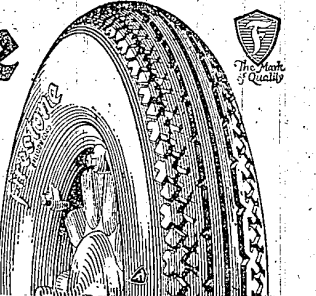
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