

INFLUENCE OF WEST POINT

Cadet on Home Visit Surprises Young Brother and Teaches Him Good Lesson.

When Bob, our gallant West Point cadet, came home for his long furlough, he slept with 12-year-old Dick. In the morning he thoroughly shocked Master Laxbones by stripping the clothes from the bed and putting the room in good order before he came down to breakfast. Dick's eyes were rounder than ever when Bob explained that every cadet was required to keep his room and clothes in immaculate condition. Before the end of Bob's furlough the boys had turned the cozy little room into a bare apartment which Dick cared for with great pride.

The wholesome discipline and results of the West Point training seem to us to offer valuable lessons to American parents and teachers.

Shortly after Bob's visit the question of extra spending money worked itself out in a very satisfactory way. Dick often teased for things that were beyond the limits of his moderate allowance. He is now able to add to his income by working around the house and grounds. Each hour of conscientious effort adds six cents to his allowance. Consequently he is eager to wash dishes, sweep, weed, paint, wash windows, and do many other things that he formerly regarded as particularly obnoxious.

His parents and friends have noticed with amusement that the money he has earned is spent with much greater discrimination than that which is given to him.—Harper's Bazar.

From the Blue Bird.
In Maeterlinck's "Blue Bird" little Tyltyl goes to some far-off heavenly place to learn that love abides with him at home. There he meets Mother Love. He says he wishes to stay with her always, where she looks so beautiful to him. She answers: "But it's just the same thing; I am down below, we are all down below. . . . You have come up here only to realize and to learn, once and for all, how to see me when you see me down below. . . . Do you understand, Tyltyl, dear? . . . You believe yourself in heaven; but heaven is wherever you and I kiss each other. . . . There are not two mothers, and you have no other. . . . Every child has only one; and it is always the same one and always the most beautiful; but you have to know her and to know how to look.

The Highest Kite Flights.
The art of flying kites is carried to its present perfection at the large aerological observatories, and the best records of altitudes up to date have been made at Mount Weather, Va., and Lindenbergh, Germany. The former station is 525 meters above sea level, the latter only 120, a circumstance that should be remembered in comparing the records made in the

two places. The following list of the highest flights, recently published by Dr. Assmann, gives the altitude above the ground, not above sea level: 1. Mount Weather, 5,740 meters; 2. Lindenbergh, 6,650 meters; 3. Mount Weather, 6,519 meters; 4. Mount Weather, 6,484 meters; 5. Lindenbergh, 6,380 meters; 6. Mount Weather, 6,379 meters.

LIFE IN A PEAVIAN VALLEY

Heart of a Peruvian Home in Hills of the Mountains, Where She Was Entertained.

My home in this wonderful valley, where for weeks on three separate expeditions, I have been hospitably entertained, is for the most part a house of a single story built around two courts or patios. Arriving on foot or horseback, one passes through a wide veranda into a large patio surrounded by a covered corridor or veranda and the principal rooms of the dwelling. The drawing room is furnished with Brussels carpet, large mirror, marble-topped tables, and expensive upholstered furniture. A piano, too, is here, as in every house where I was entertained. The stranger coming, as he must, on horseback, 50 miles from the coast, or by train, or by mule, enters the black range and down into the valley, will wonder how the great mirrors, the piano, the heavy French furniture, were brought to this town to which no railroad or carriage road leads. Neither mule nor burro, the ordinary freight carriers here, can transport a piano on his back. From Sannaco a cart road leads 30 miles to Moro. For the remaining 50 miles, over a pass as high as the top of the Matterhorn, 14,700 feet, and down a steep path to the valley, the piano is borne on the shoulders of men. Luckily for the gentleman, labor is cheap—30 cents a day.—Annie S. Peck, in Harper's Bazar.

Rushing for trains.
Mrs. Charles Whitney, who lives in Overbrook and whose husband comes to town every morning, called the maid yesterday with rather excited direction.
"Oh, Sarah!" she said, "I hadn't noticed how late it is. Go upstairs and tell Mr. Whitney to hurry or he'll miss his train."
"I have called him," Sarah answered proudly, "and he says, ma'am, that if I puts the grapefruit just outside the door and the chops on the top step and the rolls and coffee on the landing he can catch the 8:10 train."

Designs Grand Staircase.
Miss Fay Kellogg is a New York girl who has great skill as an architect. She designed the scheme for the grand staircase of the Hall of Records in New York, which is regarded as a very good example of architectural beauty.

HOW THE JAPS FIGHT FIRE

Review of the Tokio Department, as a Demonstration of Practical Efficiency, Was Farcical.

As a display of low comedy talent of acrobatic skill and of lung capacity, the review of the Tokio fire brigades at Hibiy park may have had a certain degree of interest, but as a demonstration of practical efficiency in dealing with what the Japanese translator loves to designate "conflagrations" it was manifestly farcical. After witnessing such a lamentable display of ineptitude one could only marvel that the capital has hitherto escaped total destruction or that the ravages to which Osaka was subjected last year were restricted to some 20,000 houses.

It is true that the metropolitan fire companies represent a great advance upon what they were during the pre-war days, when the greatest solidarity of the members of the "hi-kei-gumi" was devoted not to the task of extinguishing the flames but rather to that of preserving from incineration the little effigy of a god or patron saint which every company unfailingly carried with it on these expeditions for good luck.

Old residents bear witness to the vociferous energy and enthusiasm with which the firemen fulfilled this self-appointed task, while the fire in its turn merrily discharged its mission of gutting everything inflammable within an accessible area. If, however, in the end the firemen escaped in withdrawing with their little wooden god still intact they were immensely pleased with themselves and were satisfied that society at large could have no ground for demanding anything more than this.

Cool and capable in war, the Japanese, despite centuries of familiarity, appear to lose their heads when fire starts. Confusion reigns supreme. Connected with each fire station are large numbers of what may be termed auxiliaries, who have really nothing to do with the actual task of extinguishing the flames, but whose duties consist in appearing on the scene at the earliest possible moment armed with lanterns and in thereafter helping to remove goods and chattels from the buildings within the danger zone.—New York Herald.

Absent-Minded After His Trial.
"Do you take this woman to be your lawfully wedded wife?" begins the minister, when the bridegroom, Mr. Cheesin Stox, the eminent dancer, interrupts with:
"I don't remember."
Then, seeing the look of amazement on the faces of all, he realizes where he is, and exclaims:
"I beg your pardon! For the moment I was thinking about my trial last week. Certainly I take her."
Life.

INDUSTRIOUS ONE IS WINNER

Fact That Should Be Appreciated by Boys and Girls Who Are Called Clever.

There is an immense amount of nonsense talked about people being "clever," and the talk is very often not only misleading but positively mischievous. If a boy or girl does well at school or college, it is explained by the simple word, "clever," and those who do badly are, on the other hand, "not clever." And so the "clever" ones are expected always to win the honors and the others are expected to follow behind at a respectable distance. It would not so much matter about ordinary onlookers talking in this fashion if the students themselves were unaffected. But it generally happens that they accept the situation, believing the verdict, and their studies and outlook are in consequence substantially damaged. As a matter of fact, the verdict is very rarely true. The prizes are won much more frequently by those who are exceptionally industrious, rather than by the exceptionally gifted, and it makes all the difference in the world if this fact is appreciated.

Foolish Lover's Suicide.
While kissing his sweetheart for the last time a young Portuguese named Edward D'Andrade shot himself dead in Manchester, Eng. At the inquest it was stated that his love affairs had not prospered. Mary Winifred Farrage said that D'Andrade, who was only nineteen, had been paying attentions to her for eighteen months, but latterly her parents had objected. He came to her home on Sunday night and said he wanted to speak to her alone. She and D'Andrade went together into the front room. D'Andrade handed her a parcel saying: "I give you these back." "I told him he must not stay," the witness continued, "because of my father. He had one hand on my shoulder and was just kissing me when I heard a revolver shot, and he fell backward to the floor. He died almost immediately from a wound in the temple."

Cheeses as Heirlooms.
In some parts of Switzerland it is said that cheeses form family heirlooms which are sometimes handed down from one generation to another. At Les Ormonts, in the canton of Vaud, it is customary to make special cheeses for certain family feasts. They are tagged with explanatory labels and eaten several years later, at other feasts, or even at funerals. Recently, at Les Ormonts, in a concealed shelter, there was discovered a cheese dating from 1785. It was as hard as a rock and had to be cut with a saw. It is reported to have tasted good.

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