

JUST HUMANS

By Gene Carr



"DOES HE ALWAYS BEHAVE LIKE THAT?"
"YES, AND I'M GOING TO ASK MOTHER TO STAY HOME ONE AFTERNOON TO SEE HOW HE BEHAVES!"

Through a Woman's Eyes

By Jean Newton

WHEN WE ARE ANGRY

"YOU know, after we're really ourselves in a fit of anger, of all the disagreeable things we would say, after we've gotten everything out of our chests and are ready to drop it all and be friendly again—we are usually surprised to find that people hold it against us—they seem to keep thinking of the disagreeable things we said in anger and to treat us exactly as if we had meant every word—as if those words were US!"

It was a wise old man who pointed out this sad truth. For it is indeed so—people do hold us responsible for what we say when we are angry just as if we meant it all. And when we are all set for amiability and cheeriness again we find that there again is something wrong; we find unexpected resistance to our intentions. The fact is that a grudge begets a grudge; a grievance is like a germ in the way it engenders the other grievances. You have something against somebody and you tell them, or you manifest it in some other way that you are aggrieved. That relieves you and you think it ends the matter. But no—it only starts something. Your friend, not having intentionally hurt or insulted you, knows nothing of the grievance. He or she only knows that you are being rude or insulting or at least very disagreeable, and they resent it. That puts you on the defensive. And before you know it you find yourself feeling something like what the small boy calls a "punchy nickel". You, the offended one, the righteous one, are apologizing!

Remember, when you say what you think in anger, that doesn't end the matter. It only starts something, particularly because of what you say. Our words are like homing pigeons—particularly those we are quick to come to regret. They are sure to come to us. They are very likely never to hear the end of them, to find that they are regarded as our innermost, or real feelings, as the old saying is, "It's awful, and tremendously unfair. And the only way to protect ourselves is to consider carefully the price before we indulge in the luxury of letting things out, especially things that can be killed within our lives."

SUPERSTITIOUS

SUE



SHE HAS HEARD THAT—
If you should see a little bird pick her foot before that of the grocer's, during the ceremony, give her the glass some "How-De-Do," for it means that she will be the boss in that new establishment.

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LIFE PLAYS US PRANKS

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

LIFE plays us many pranks, no doubt. Our wishes stout it blows about. First here, then there—set who would cure.

For life with all its pranks left out? Not I, I swear.

Life played a sorry prank on me: I once had three good ships at sea, but they went down with gem and gown.

And left me tramping poor—and free—From town to town.

Life played a stranger prank on you. Now, who should you be walking on?

That very way that very day? And there were many things to do, And much to say.

Life played a prank and sunk my ship. No pennon dips, no white wing slips From shore to shore to bear my store.

I lost my ships and found your lips—And that was sure.

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How It Started

By JEAN NEWTON

"A MISS IS AS GOOD AS A MILE"

CONSTANTLY in everyday speech we meet with this saying to express the fact that we have almost achieved something, to have just missed reaching a goal, is no better, as far as results are concerned, than never to have made the attempt. It is a far cry from the significance of this saying to the medieval tale in which it had its origin.

"Amis et Amile" ("Amis and Amile"), a French lyric dating from the Twelfth or Thirteenth century, consisting of about thirty-five hundred verses, which detail the adventures of the two noble knights, the story of their great friendship and mutual sacrifice.

Closer than brothers, and resembling each other to a remarkable degree, Amis and Amile are in the service of Charlemagne, where they battle against and overcome the opposition of the treacherous Blarrie, and Amis wins for his bride the niece of Charlemagne. Delicent, the emperor's daughter, loves Amile, however, so darkest clouds gather over the heads of the knights. Amis saves his friend and obtains for him the hand of the princess.

In the course of his efforts on behalf of his friend, however, Amis has purchased himself for which he is punished with leprosy. Amile then voluntarily sacrifices his two sons that Amis may be cured by their blood. By a miracle then the sons are restored to life—and they all live happily ever after.

Whether it was in the thought of their resemblance to each other or their great attachment, which made them inseparable, or because of the signs which at its beginning, we do not know. We do know, however, that there is little similarity between its original significance and the sense in which we today say, "A miss is as good as a mile."

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THE WHY OF SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

TIGER LILIES

IN THE rural districts of New England, the Middle states and the Middle West, there is a common superstition that looking closely into a tiger fly will cause feckles. Here is another instance of the persistence in modern life of the primitive mind; an example of how it ranks today just as it did in the dawn of the ages.

The tiger fly is a native of China and was first introduced into the western world, until comparatively modern times. Yet this gorgeous, speckled flower at once arouses in the "uncivilized" that old, belief in homeopathic magic so firmly held by our primitive ancestors—like causes like.

This and nature-worship, sometimes separately, sometimes interwoven, have been the parents of the majority of the ancient cults of ancient and modern superstitions. It is an interesting fact, though, that while the "persistent primitive" perpetuates in popular superstitions other forms of ancient magic, such superstitions are inherited, as it were, have a definite pedigree which can be traced. So, too, those superstitions tabernacled from nature worship and the cults of heathen gods and goddesses. But the generative day for those forces of superstition is gone. Homeopathic magic alone retains such vitality that it is able to create new superstitions from day to day. So if you look into a freckled tiger fly you will be freckled yourself, is a superstition which though widespread is of modern creation.

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The SANDMAN STORY

ABOUT MISS SHOEBILL

WELL, my name is Miss Shoebill. It doesn't mean that I send bill for shoes or that I'm telling anyone named Bill to "shoe" away.

"Nor does it mean that my bill looks just exactly like a shoe, though it does look rather strange. I will admit."

"Yes, I'm curious looking. I have gray feathers and my name used to be in Egypt."

"I'm a lovely looking thing in my own opinion but few others agree with me."

"They think I'm about as much of a sight as a creature can be and they don't mean a handsome sight."

"I'm a large bird—a member of the stork family—and I find the looks of people just as strange as they find mine."

"But tell us about yourself and your home and all."

"I'll tell the Tawny Frogmouth, 'an old friend of mine.'"

"I belong to the post-sucker family and I can sit upon a tree and can hardly be noticed, for my coloring looks like the lichen or moss of a tree."

"I have nice whiskers but they're not so very prominent as my mother always said to me."

"Young Tawny, be modest and simple in your appearance. You will have more style that way."

"In any event you will be safer."

"So I have followed her advice."

"But you must see us," said Mother Black Neck Swan. Both she and Mr. Swan had long, beautiful black necks and white bodies.

"They were always spoken of as 'that handsome couple,' or as 'that

lovely little family. Such pretty creatures."

"For there were two darling little white fluffy, soft swans, too, and they used to sit together on the water's wings when she and their daddy would go off for a water-stroll."

"We are from South America," said Mr. Black Neck Swan, "but this is pleasant swimming, too, isn't it, my dear?"

"Delightful," said Mrs. Black Neck Swan.

And the children didn't say anything for they were busy looking about to see everything, or at times they just rested and enjoyed their mother's beautiful wings.

"Well," said Miss Shoebill, as she looked down upon the Swan family swimming along, "you're a good deal more graceful than I am but you haven't funny faces."

"Now I've a funny face. Of course I said I thought I was lovely looking, but, between friends, that was only a joke."

"I know I'm funny looking."

"But it cheers people up."

"Now I am a new arrival at the zoo and they come here and see me and how they do laugh."

"It is not every one who would be willing to cause amusement by having just the kind of face I have."

"No, they would not all be so willing."

"But I'm obliging. Oh, well, I find things are all right, but I don't let anything worry me."

"I don't believe in too much worry. I'm not bothering about my appearance or whether I always look as neatly as I might."

"But you don't go in for too many frills, either, young Tawny."

"No, I think, among the new arrivals at the zoo, the swans are the ones who would take the heaviest prize," said Tawny.

"I'm sure I wouldn't," he added.

"And I know I wouldn't," said Miss Shoebill.

"But I'm just a child. I'd hate to have to live up to a beautiful reputation."

"It would be such a nuisance and such a bother."

"I sh, I can't talk any more. Why?"

"Well, for the moment I'm nothing else to say. You didn't think I'd say that, did you?"

"Well, the Shoebill is a surprise in more ways than one. It is really a surprise to many that there is a creature such as I am."

"But here I am! No one can deny it."

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Why We Do What We Do

By M. E. THOMSON, Ph. D.

WHY WE INHERIT OUR POLITICS

A GOOD deal of the ammunition in presidential campaigns misses its mark because the majority of voters are not open to conviction in politics. They vote their party ticket. They inherited their party and vote as their fathers voted before them.

We inherit our politics along with our religion and blue eyes or brown, as the case may be.

Before we are old enough to know much about politics we cast our ballot. And in lieu of knowledge we follow example, the example of those who have the greatest prestige with us, those we know and trust. These are our elders in the same household. Thus before we realize it we have completely identified ourselves with a certain party and stick to it from a sense of loyalty if nothing more.

Political prejudice is no different from any other kind. It can be broken down or abolished only by a stronger prejudice of opposite nature.

A man's political views are not altogether a matter of family training, pride and prejudice. The political parties encourage this sort of blind loyalty by giving the preference to those who are "dyed in the wool."

In the national conventions certain men boast that they never voted any other ticket for generations and sought special favors for the grandsons of party loyalty. Candidates are accepted or rejected on the strength of their allegiance.

Party success depends upon party loyalty, and if a man is going to get any recognition from his party he must stick to the ship, sink or swim.

We inherit our politics through the natural process of family traditions as part of the furniture of the old homestead and the family coat of arms. In addition to the party, system demands the type of loyalty that is calculated to perpetuate the party, of passing it on from father to son.

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Orchestra Defined

An orchestra is described as a band of performers on various instruments, including especially those of the violin class, adapted for rendering the larger kinds of concerted music as symphonies, overtures, etc., and commonly distinguished from the military or street band of players on wind instruments.

Cost of College Education

The bureau of education says that the minimum spent per year by college students is \$700. There is no way of striking an average, since wealthy students with large allowances from home spend their money in numerous ways outside of campus activities.

The modern girl spins yarns, too, but they loom up as jest comic strips.

GABBY GERTIE

"The modern girl spins yarns, too, but they loom up as jest comic strips."

Warner Baxter

Handsome Warner Baxter of the "talkies" is one of the actors who has ridden in on the waves of this popular improvement on the movies. At one time he was an insurance agent, which some say made a "good talker of him." He has been given the star role in the Movietone "Such Men Are Dangerous." Baxter has had an interesting career on stage and screen. He prefers to do romantic character parts.

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For Meditation

By LEONARD A. BARRETT

A THUNDERSTORM

THIS ancient people had strange notions. They were very superstitious. Everything was invested with a spirit. They were afraid of the thunder because they believed it was the voice of their god. They were likewise afraid of the lightning because they thought it was an opening in the skies through which the golden glory of heaven shone. While we of today have outgrown many of these superstitions and fears some persons are still afraid of storms. Such fears might easily be removed if we correctly understood the workings of nature's laws. As the lightning is only the passing of electric current from one cloud to another, so a thunder is caused by nature's refusal to tolerate a vacuum. As the air rushes in to fill the space caused by the passing of the bullet of a pistol, so the noise of thunder is only nature's efforts to fill the space made by the lightning flash. The best way to relieve a child of fear of storms is to take him out into the storm and let him see for himself that there is no cause for fear.

There is something majestic about the dashing, smashing and crashing of a summer's thunderstorm. After the storm has spent its strength there follows a calm, a silence, which no words can describe. The sun shines through the clouds, even a silver lining may be seen.

The storms which crash into human lives are much like the thunderstorms of summer. They come suddenly and seem to be disastrous, but are not altogether destructive. Something very valuable is accomplished by a storm. Upon a proper proportion of shadows, so the storms which come into our experience develop peace and self-control. He is a wise man who has learned how to remain calm and self-possessed in the midst of a storm. Self-mastery of personality is not a gift. It must be toiled for in daily contact with life's battles. Storms develop resisting power. We are better prepared to meet the storms which assail us tomorrow because we have not been mastered by the failures and disappointments of today.

After the storm is over go out on floors and listen. A silence speaks a language all its own, and seems to say:

"Trace the rainbow through the rain And know the rainbow is not vain That morn' shall be fruitful by a rain."

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