

Home Town Helps

FEATURES OF FUTURE CITY

Chances for the Better That Are Assured Simply by the Ordinary March of Events.

Tomorrow you may not know your own city. They have probably begun altering it already, or are planning to do so. If not, it doesn't greatly matter, because certain forces at work will compel far-reaching changes automatically. Tomorrow your city will have wide boulevards cut through its narrow streets. These will accommodate four, six and eight lines of traffic. They will start at the center and run miles out into the country. Thousands of buildings will be torn down. Sharp street corners will be rounded off and the circle and crescent take the place of the checkerboard.

Did your city fathers, years ago, lay out a downtown boulevard or town with a strip of parkway in the center?

That beauty spot will be needed for traffic. But better beauty spots will appear miles from the downtown section. Slums and tenements will disappear, too. There will be a general grading up of living standards, and an equalization of real estate values.

When you drive a car the traffic cop will no longer be able to bawl you out, for he will disappear from street crossings, guiding traffic by electric signals from a point where he can see everything but say nothing—that is, if he doesn't disappear altogether, says a Saturday-Evening Post writer. For there will be double-decked street crossings at congested points. And traffic at ordinary street crossings will be speeded up by diffused lighting which kills the shadows that now make them dangerous.

TREES IN BUSINESS STREET

Writer Combats the More or Less Accepted Idea That They Are Somewhat Out of Place.

One of the characters in an early-day American romance of the time when the Stamp act was causing all kinds of trouble, is recorded as declaring that New York never would be a real business city because Broadway and Maiden lane were lined with trees, remarks the Indianapolis Star. The VanVrooms, the Stayesants, the Artavelts, and other early settlers of the country saved fine trees about their homes, on the village greens, along the country roads, and in the fields. But one will see no trees nowadays on Broadway, and Maiden lane has been transformed from the pleasant, tree-bordered region of Dutch homes with flower gardens into the busiest wholesale jewelry district in America, if not in the world.

Beauty and comfort gave way to the broads of commerce, not only in New York, but in most of America's great cities, so that today trees in a business street are a rare sight. There are elm-shaded villages in New England, maple-shaded towns in New York and the Ohio valley, and there are oak-tree streets to be seen in the southeastern states, but for the most part this refers only to small towns or cities—never to the congested centers of population where they should have been preserved.

City Streets Need Shade.

A Department of Agriculture bulletin insists that providing shade on city streets is as much a municipal function as providing lights or sidewalks and should be cared for by public officials. Probably the most efficient way of arranging for proper supervision, it says, is through an unpaid commission of three or five members which in turn employs an executive officer. Methods of organization are described, and numerous illustrations show how trees should be planted. There are chapters also describing pruning, spraying, transplanting, and other subjects of importance to every town or city, whether it has trees or wishes to have them. The bulletin may be had free upon application to the division of publications, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington.

Danger in Inflammable Roofs.

The value of property destroyed by fires communicated through the roof, is reported as \$223,000,000. Fire-prevention campaigns are being launched in a number of cities as the result of these figures.

Indianapolis, Ind., began such a campaign early last year, with the result of a reduction in 1921 of \$550,000 in fire losses and 350 in the number of fires. During one period, out of 1,199 fires in Indianapolis, 850 were directly chargeable to inflammable roofs.

Affected by World War.

As a result of a physical examination of regular army officers recent army surgeons have found clear evidence by physical deterioration caused by strain incident to the prosecution of the World war. A large percentage of the officers show either excessive high or abnormal low blood pressure.

Uncle Eben.

"After all dis jazz," said Uncle Eben, "I'd like to hear a few o' dem old barbe shop harmonica dey used to make so much fun o'."

Flag Sunk in Battle in Berlin Museum

Berlin.—The flag of the German cruiser Scharnhorst, which was sunk in the battle of Falkland, has reached the Berlin Naval museum after a romantic journey. The captain of a Brazilian coasting vessel found the body of a German sailor washed ashore on the southeastern coast of Brazil lashed to a sea chest containing the flag. A German resident, hearing of this, bought the flag and offered it to the Navy department on condition that he be reimbursed for his outlay.

But funds were lacking until recently, when a private collection furnished the means to acquire the flag, which is now on exhibition alongside the model of the cruiser Gneisenau, likewise sunk in the same battle, and other mementos of Germany's naval past.

BOY GETS DEAD MAN'S EYES

Unprecedented Grafting Operation Restores Sight of Blind Youth at Hornell, N. Y.

Hornell, N. Y.—A blind boy has been made to see with eyes from a dying man. That was the information given here when it was said the remarkable operation on John Eichberger, nineteen, of this city, is about to prove a complete success.

About four years ago young Eichberger lost his sight after being struck in the face by a stone. Last August he was taken to the Mount Sinai hospital where an operation was performed. It was only partly successful, the youth being able to distinguish light from darkness.

After two more operations, it was found that the irises were so diseased that the case was hopeless. The surgeons then decided to transfer live and healthy irises to Eichberger's eyes from another man in the hospital who had no chance to live. As soon as the healthy irises were connected with the live nerves sight began to return to Eichberger.

Improvement was slow but steady. The case is said to have progressed to such a point that the hospital surgeons are absolutely certain that the operation will become a complete success and that the patient will be able to see as well as he ever did.

GIRL HAS QUEER PET



Mlle. Marthe Dumont, daughter of the military attache of the French embassy at Washington, has posed with her Brazilian monkey, the only one in this country, perched upon her shoulder. The little animal is an affectionate and playful pet.

AUTO FEVER HITS MEXICO CITY

Motor Show Booms Partly Due to Revolution Joy-Riding—American Cars Lead.

Mexico City, Mex.—The automobile show is continuing to hold the interest of the public. American cars predominate. The exposition is being held in the lobby and foyers of the unfinished National theater, the great marble structure which was started in the time of Porfirio Diaz and which was to excel any other playhouse in Central or South America in beauty and architecture.

The remarkable growth in the importation of American and European cars in recent years has been a source of wonder. Previous to the revolution there were but few automobiles in Mexico despite the fact that at that time roads were in fairly good condition. In 1913 the only cars to be seen were a few European models, the property of a few rich families.

Dissolving Salt Raises Ship.

Norfolk, Va.—Capt. L. P. Power of the schooner Cumberland Queen and his wife, given up for dead in the wreck of the ship, arrived in Norfolk one day recently. The ship, after grounding twice, finally sank, Power said, in the deep water. The captain and crew were taken to Charleston. Then the heavily laden, dissolved and the lightened ship bobbed up again, to be rescued by the coast guardmen.

ALWAYS WHITE MAN'S FRIEND

Washakie, Chief of Shoshoni Indians, Left Name as Great Chief and Fierce Fighter.

Washakie, chief of the eastern band of Shoshoni Indians, was always friendly to the whites and magnificent fighter against his red enemies. More than 9,000 emigrants over the Oregon trail signed a paper extolling his kindness in helping to recover lost stock, in aiding them over dangerous crossings, in leading back men who had strayed and become lost. This was in the Shoshoni country of Wyoming and during the great migrations of the fifties.

In personal appearance he is described as being tall and powerful of build, of dignified bearing. When a young man he was autocratic as a chief and refused hospitality to any horse thief or vagabond. He retained his great popularity in his tribe by his victories over the Blackfeet and Crows. He was employed at times by the American Fur company, and more than once saved hunters and trappers from death.

At the age of 70 the average white man begins to think of retiring. Not so with Washakie. Some of the newest generation decided he should be deposed.

Washakie vanished and was missing for two months. The council met to elect his successor. The old chief entered the lodge with dramatic abruptness and threw on the ground six enemy scalps he had taken while away. He continued as chief.

Men of his band served as scouts for the government after the Custer defeat.—Adventure Magazine.

BROUGHT IT ON THEMSELVES

According to Uncle Henry, Men Deliberately Surrendered First Place to the Female Sex.

"I see where they are going to take the words 'obey' and 'serve' out of the marriage service entirely," commented Barney, the cigar-stand man. "Not that they's meant anything for some time," he added sarcastically. "Darned if I know what's got into the women lately. Before long they'll grab the pants, an' we'll be wearin' Mother Hubbards an' swapping recipes over the back fence. From now on I won't take off anything at night but my hat, and I'm even goin' to lock that up."

"It's all our own fault," Uncle Henry remarked philosophically. "We started the whole business when we gave up our velvets an' satins an' turned bright clothes over to the female of the species. It was goin' against nature, Barney, an' nature never forgives. Look around yourself an' you'll see that the male bird is always the one with the top-knot, the long tail an' the brilliant plumage. Back in the days when we ordered our business suits from the steel mill an' it took a whole herd of silkworms to turn out a simple walkin' suit for us you didn't hear anything about equal rights, did you? No sirree, women never peeped until we stepped out of our fiery hose an' doublets an' ostrich plumes an' put on the hard-boiled an' pin-check pants of modern civilization."—Collier's.

Signs Rule Country Life, City Too.

"It's gotten so you can't go where you want to around this town—or in it," complained the man.

"What's wrong now?" asked his friend.

"Signs! Eternal signs! 'This way out.' 'Keep to the right.' 'East bound traffic only.' 'Use other stairs going out.' Then the cop stops you when you think you see a fine opening in traffic, and again you stop and go with the mob."

"Last Saturday I went out to the country thinking that I would at least be free from the confines of traffic rules and get away from signs for one day. 'No automobiles allowed.' 'No trespassing.' 'Beware of the dogs.' 'Private property—keep out.' 'No vehicular traffic.' 'Keep on the paths.' All those signs slapped me in the face. More personal liberty gone."—New York Sun.

Golf Ball Retriever.

The golf enthusiast may save energy for the next drive by the use of a new golf ball retriever, fastened to the putter handle, by which he can pick the ball out of the cup or from the green without stooping, says Popular Science Monthly.

The novelty consists of a small nickel plated brass cup, the inside diameter of which is exactly the same as that of a golf ball, the handle of the putter with the retriever in place is inserted, and pressed over the ball, which is caught in the cup and withdrawn. The inventor of the retriever claims that the extra weight at the end of the club will enable the player to putt more accurately.

Real Power.

Every one turned to admire the tall man with the fine physique. His hair had a natural wave, his chin was cleft, his eye was icy blue, he had a skin any woman might envy and he wore his clothes well.

No one noticed the small boy by his side. He was wizened and old, he looked like a withered apple, his eyes were small and shifty, his chin was weak, he was bald and sallow, and his clothes hung loosely about his thin form.

The small man had never done anything much except make about \$10,000,000, while the tall man was the traffic man who had just told him to come along to the station house for speeding.—Judge.

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LOOK TO COMMUNITY'S NEEDS

What Has Been Accomplished at Fort Scott, Kansas, May Be Cited as Case In Point.

Half a dozen years ago there were two years when the wheat around Fort Scott did not come to harvest and, as wheat was the only product of the community the town was left flat. Even the merchants closed their stores and moved away.

The chamber of commerce decided that the community needed more diversity of production. It studied the situation and decided that the dairy industry would fit logically into its scheme. The farmers owned only scrub cattle, but despite this the chamber went down to Kansas City and induced the big milk users to establish three shipping stations in the Fort territory. The farmers were much surprised to find that they could get money for milk which formerly had been used only as swill for hogs.

Then the chamber of commerce took its second step. It organized an excursion and took forty of its most progressive farmers to that part of Wisconsin where the dairy industry is most highly developed. It showed them just what first-class dairy farms and first-class dairy cattle were and how such an enterprise is properly operated.

But the chamber did not stop here. It raised enough money to buy a trainload of the best milk cows it could find in the United States, had them shipped to Fort Scott and sold to the farmers at cost, which was less than the price they would have had to pay if they had bought individually. Last year this community sold half a million dollars' worth of milk alone. That wealth would not have come to Fort Scott but for the sale of milk. It will be spent among the business people who make up its chamber of commerce. The country roundabout has just completed the laying of 225 miles of improved roads, a thing that the farmers had formerly refused to finance. The whole community is transforming itself. All of which comes of taking thought of community needs and proceeding to supply them.

KEEP THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

Annual Clean-Ups All Right in Their Way, but There is a Very Much Better Method.

The annual spring clean-up in Kansas City has become a well known event. But why should it be an event? Why not a continuous process?

Recently an excellent method of keeping the streets always in repair has been put into operation. Why can't something of this kind be made to apply to the cleaning not only of streets but of yards, lots and other places that demand attention? There is provision for street cleaning, of course. But the street-cleaning forces do not receive the encouragement and help they ought to have. Their work often is nullified or made difficult by the carelessness of individuals who throw papers and various kinds of refuse where they will be most unsightly and generally objectionable.

Keeping a city beautiful and clean all the year around does not stop with the operation of any city department. It becomes a part of the civic duty of every individual; it must be checked up to every home as well as to a health or street cleaning department. It may become a matter of habit with the people. It should be prompted by pride; a regard for the rights of neighbors; for what visitors may think of the city; for the best things in respect to appearance and public health.—Kansas City Star.

Stimulating Home Ownership.

One of the chief ways in which home ownership can be stimulated is through the education of the general public. Of late years it has become apparent to the leaders in the real estate profession that many people have not purchased their homes, not through inability or unwillingness, but simply because of their lack of knowledge. They fear that perhaps they might find themselves engaged in a venture about which they know nothing, and hence it does not appeal to their conservatism. The one best method of educating the public is by visualizing the processes involved in the acquisition of a home and home site. This is best done by having representative men in the industries allied to home construction brought together at an exposition to show people at first hand what has been done and what may be accomplished in the future and to give them authoritative information and definite costs.

Culture.

"Don't talk to me about colleges!" scoffed the self-made man. "Look at me! Do you suppose I would have been any more successful than I am if I'd had a college education?"

"No," admitted the professor, "but you might have been less inclined to brag about it."—Judge.

We Shall Double Our Efforts.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle says that there's an opportunity to work in heaven. Now that's something like a heaven.—Boston Transcript.

FOR THE EYES OF POSTERITY

Satisfactory Way Said to Have Been Found to Preserve Newspapers for Indefinite Period.

How to so pickle newspapers that they can be preserved indefinitely in the public libraries is a problem which has apparently been solved, according to the American Paper and Pulp association.

Eight years of experimenting participated in by three big New York newspapers at a cost of \$5,000 a year each, under the supervision of the New York public library, has taught librarians how to preserve for posterity newspaper files. The solution seems simple, being the mounting of each newspaper sheet between two sheets of thin Japanese tissue, shutting the air from the original sheets, reducing its legibility but slightly, and strengthening the page. Bound volumes of the mounted pages are now in constant daily use, and are free from the wear and tear which destroyed the untreated newspapers.

The New York experiments have been so successful that a big Western newspaper has sent representatives to New York to study and adopt the practice for use there.

The first investigation was made in Boston, and the library there tried to persuade the newspapers to print library editions on an extra paper, but the expense was too great. This is now done by a London paper, and was tried by a Brooklyn paper, but the cost was prohibitive.

In the New York experiments silk was first used, but the Japanese tissue was found the best for the purpose, as it hermetically sealed the newspaper pages from the air. Shellacs, varnishes and other substances were tried, with little success. Under the method now in use the operator wets a glass or steel-covered table, lays down a sheet of tissue, with the pasting machine, rice paste is put on, then in turn the newspaper page, paste and tissue, when the page is dried and pressed under a gas-heated mangle.

CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Precipitate Individual Foresaw Hard Task in Squaring Himself With His Fellow Citizens.

Clad in knickers and driving home from college two girls stopped at Noblesville. While there they went into the library.

When they came out into the street, most of the town was out to see them. Deciding that knickers must not be the thing in Noblesville, they hurried to get under the shelter of their car.

A man came up to them and invited them to stay longer as guests of the town. They refused, saying that they were in a hurry to get to Warsaw.

"Warsaw?" he stammered. "Why, aren't you the two girls who are bumping your way from New York to Indianapolis, and whose picture was in the paper this afternoon? We have been expecting two girls all day and as soon as I saw you go into the library I thought you were the ones, and had gone in to see what the Noblesville press had to say about you, and I hurried around and told everybody you were here. What'll I do?"—Indianapolis News.

Walking to Learn the World.

President Masaryk of Czechoslovakia has lately given another example of his practical idealism and wise foresight. He is furnishing the funds for a walking tour of the world this summer by students of Prague university. In the group are two Czechs, a Serbian, a Bulgarian and a Russian. After walking through Jugoslavia and Bulgaria the students will go to Constantinople and then to China and Japan. Thence passage will be taken to San Francisco and the leading cities of the United States will be visited on foot. Prague university will publish a report of the expedition. President Masaryk knows the folly of national isolation and the value of learning something about other nations besides his own.—Christian Science Monitor.

Toronto's Vacation Schools.

Utilizing schoolhouses, churches and public buildings, Toronto is maintaining this summer daily vacation schools in the congested districts of the city. More than 3,000 children are in attendance, says the Christian Science Monitor. While the primary object is to provide a place of refuge from the hot streets, the school has also a distinct educational value. The morning session is devoted to "play-work" and includes basketry, sewing and raffia instruction, story-telling, kindergarten activities and occasional moving picture exhibitions. In the afternoon come picnics, hikes and organized sports.

Unearth Ancient Roman Barge.

Important archeological discoveries have been made at Castello di Porto, near Rome. The hull of an enormous Roman barge has been excavated near a small lake. It is presumably a relic of a mercantile fleet which was used to ship wheat from Sicily to Rome, before Castello di Porto shipped by the Tiber. The hull is like a similar relic of Nero's fleet at lovely Lake Nemi. Excavations are proceeding and other discoveries are expected.

Newsboy, Seventy-One, Follows Races.

David Stevens, a seventy-one-year-old "newsboy" of Dublin, has attended every running of the Epsom Derby for 50 years. The week of the great race is his only holiday. At all other times he is to be found on the street corner in the Irish capital selling papers.

MORE THAN A RAIN SHEDDER

African Chiefs Take the Possession of an Umbrella Very Seriously, According to Reports.

Some time ago, there was what the news described as unrest in the West African colony of Lagos; telegrams were dispatched between that country and Great Britain, governors and deputy-governors were interviewed, and it was with difficulty that a native war was averted. The cause of all this commotion was an umbrella!

Now, in our country, as we all know, an umbrella is looked upon as a harmless possession—but not so in West Africa. There, among most of the native tribes, the umbrella is regarded as an emblem of royalty, and its possession is strictly confined to the chief or king of the tribe.

Therefore the indignation was intense on the part of one of these kings, when he found an inferior chief putting up an umbrella of his own. The king at once took a journey to Lagos, to lodge a formal complaint of the chief's treasonable conduct with the British governor.

An African king's umbrella is a very elaborate affair, and it often costs large sums of money. Most of the umbrellas for Ashanti and the Gold coast are made of gigantic size, some of them when open measuring ten feet across.

The coverings of these umbrellas are of colored silk—the brighter the better, with very deep fringes. The largest umbrellas are carried over the heads of chiefs, by bearers while other bearers steady the umbrella by cords attached to the uppermost parts.

One state umbrella had for its apex a silver eagle standing on two silver cannons, while another umbrella had a gold hen on the top, the hen being surrounded by numerous chickens, to represent the chief and his tribe.

CHANGES IN "OLD FAITHFUL"

Yellowstone's Famous Geyser Has Slightly Lengthened the Period Between Its Eruptions.

Old Faithful, Yellowstone's most famous geyser, has slightly changed the period of its eruptions.

According to the observations of the park naturalist and the rangers, the geyser now spouts on an average every 64.6 minutes. Last year the average period was 60 minutes.

The alteration in Old Faithful's "tempo" does not indicate any lessening of its vigor or "faithfulness." On the contrary, Naturalist M. P. Skinner's observations show the mighty fountain to be increasing in volume. The change is believed to be due to an alteration in the subterranean tube of the geyser.

For the last year or so Old Faithful has acquired a habit of occasionally throwing out small rocks. The passage of the rocks through the tube is believed to have enlarged its dimensions slightly, this in turn being responsible for the lengthened period between eruptions and the increased volume of water.

A number of other interesting changes, lending a constantly varying interest to the mysterious manifestations of the park's performing natural wonders, also are reported by official observers.

That Word "Corker."

The American word "corker," meaning a person or thing of superlative quality, is only a slang use of a legitimate English word. Corker, in its original sense, meant a conclusive argument. It probably originated from the finality which a cork thrust into the mouth of a bottle stops all egress or ingress of material in it.

The relegation of the word as used in America to the limbo of slang by the dictionary writers has neither weakened the word nor limited its use.

The word "corker" is a perfectly good word. It expresses precisely a shade of meaning that needed to be expressed, and the chances are that it will be a word of good and regular standing long after the bones of the last living dictionary writers have thoroughly bleached.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Newspaper Accuracy.

B. A. White of the Detroit News, after long investigation, finds that daily papers make only one error in every 8,250 opportunities for mistakes. This country recently celebrated the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock and history has pointed out the very spot where they landed. Now a scientist discovers that at the time the Pilgrims landed this spot was under sea. Which leads Mr. White to ask, "If history cannot report a fact correctly in 300 years, ought we expect a newspaper to be unfailingly accurate in six or eight hours?"

Diphtheria Germs in Wild Horses.

Wild horses running on the open range and never in contact with human beings have been found to be infected with the diphtheria germ, according to Dr. H. W. Schoening of the pathological division of the bureau of plant industry, at Washington. The fact, he claims, indicates that the diphtheria organism is widespread in the soil and is not carried to the horse by some human being, as has been held.

As She Appeared to Him.

Miss Sarah Bellum—No one of this generation appreciates me. I was born too soon.

Max Multirox—Quite so. I believe you'd be a pretty young girl right now if you had only been born about years later than you were.