

RAMBLING THOUGHTS

Destructive of human life as an extreme hot wave is, the summer still takes fewer lives than does winter.

The hot days destroy more children while the cold destroys older people.

It is a popular fallacy that the wide jump in temperature from zero in winter to a hundred above in summer is itself a deadly thing.

The contrary is true. People live longest in this highly intemperate "temperate zone."

Not only do men and women live to be older here where the mercury in a few months slides 120 degrees from the coldest in winter to the street sunshine in summer than men and women in the zones where it is always warm or always cold. They also do far more work as well as live longer.

Neither steady heat nor prolonged cold produces virile men.

What great invention ever came from either the Equator of the Arctic Circle? What great works of art, science, literature, industry, statesmanship were born where temperatures are even?

These sudden changes in our own latitudes are the whips and spurs which drive you to do the world's big things.

There was never a Rockefeller or a Morgan or a McCormick or an Eli Whitney or a United States Steel Company or a Napoleon or a Washington where the mercury was always up or always down.

Men's brains seem only to move with a thermometer.

Common as thermometers are today they are comparatively newcomers in world history.

Columbus was dead 100 years before his fellow-countryman, Galileo, gave to man the first real thermometer.

Shakespeare never heard the expression: "it is ninety in the shade." They didn't know how to measure heat and cold in his day.

Now, supposing you had it to do all over again, at what natural point would you start to register heat and cold? It took a lot of thought to hit upon a universal point.

Sir Isaac Newton, whose scientific nose, you recall, the apple bumped, was also the fellow who first suggested that this natural, universal point in temperature was the point where water freezes.

So they first took the temperature at which ice melts or water freezes for one end and the heat of the human body for the other and divided it into 12 degrees.

Then up stepped that clever German scientist, Fahrenheit, and said—"Take freezing water for one point and boiling water as the other point."

That seemed perfectly simple and all the other scientists said to themselves: "Why didn't I think of that first?"

Zero is the temperature of snow mixed with salt and that is 32 degrees below the point at which water will freeze. Water boils at 180 degrees above its freezing point.

The centigrade thermometer simplify the thing by dividing this space between freezing and boiling water into an even 100 degrees.

A son of Sir Oliver Lodge, the noted English scientist, was killed in the war two years ago. Now Sir Oliver has written a book in which he vows he has been talking regularly with his dead boy.

Almost the most tiresome thing I can recall is the heckneyed methods employed for the alleged communication between the living and the dead.

Why is any third person or professional "medium" required for a father to talk to his own dead son—provided the father thinks the son can speak from the spirit world.

Why the stereotyped and often-exposed table-turning, rappings, slate-writings and bell-ringing.

Why should a sane person when dead resort to the claptrap of frequent exposed fakery, in communicating to the living world?

Moreover, why is it that except in one case in a million the dead make no alleged attempt to revisit the scenes of this life?

If Sir Oliver Lodge's son can talk to his father, why should not five million other dead soldiers open up verbal communications with those at home?

And the strange thing is that Maurice Maeterlinck, who made himself famous by writing about a bee, gives at least a strong moral endorsement to Lodge's pretensions.

THE HOTEL HYPOCRITES

Some of the Things You Will Find Out if You Travel.

(Charlotte Observer)

New York seems to be making a great blow about the action of the hotel men in the direction of food economy. These hotelists have adopted a set of rules in the direction of cutting down food waste. First, they would make Tuesday meatless day the Nation over; then they would serve poultry in place of beef; they would reduce the roll to 1/2 ounce and cut the butter pats to an ounce. They would eliminate sugar cubes and go back to granulated sugar, and they would have no more icing or frosting on cakes. Finally, and best of all, they would serve rice and corn cakes, but no wheat cakes. All well and good—so far as it goes. But while the hotels and restaurants have been cutting down the quantities of foods served, they have raised prices on every article. The portions have been reduced 50 per cent, while prices have been advanced 33 1-3 per cent. Financial America localizes a hotel well known to Charlotte people which formerly boasted of the large number of rooms "with bath" it had for the public at \$2 a day. "Now," says Financial America, "the \$2 room has become a \$4 room. The \$3 room is a \$6 room and the \$8 room is a \$12 room." Financial America does not miss the mark far when it says that "to own a hotel is to own a war bride." The hotels are patriotically gathering in all the surplus money in the country, while they are cutting down the rations and raising prices. Some of these hotels are highway robbers—and the public submits to it, cheerfully handing over to porters, hat-checkers and bell boys what the man at the desk has not taken from it. And the tax-fixers at Washington have given them about the same immunity they extend to that other promising source of income—the yallar cur dawg.

Pride Goeth Before a Fall. (Wall Street Journal)

One of the latest additions to the official family of President Wilson relates an experience soon after he assumed his cabinet duties, which, he

says, tended to diminish his pride of rank and teach him how utterly unimportant he is. In telling a Wall street friend of his first day's work as a cabinet officer, this official said: "In the afternoon I was at my secret-attended a cabinet meeting, after which I received many congratulations and expressions of good wishes. In the afternoon I went at my secretarial desk, when the door of my private office was unceremoniously opened and in walked a portly old colored man, with kinkey gray hair, and the pomposness and self assurance that only come with long tenure of office.

"He bore in his hand a batch of paper, which he carried with pompous majesty, as though he were going to confer a great favor on me. He addressed me as 'Mr. Secretary,' and laid the papers before me for my signature. The top one happened to be a letter, which I took up and began to read. I had not read more than the first line when 'my high blown pride at length broke under me' as the colored messenger took the letter out of my hands, again put in down upon the desk, and pointing (with emphasis) to a space said: 'You sign right dar.'

"And I signed, without further argument."

Although railroad fares in the Netherland were increased 20 per cent on January 1, 1917, an additional increase of 30 per cent has been ordered for July, August and September. The 20 per cent advance was due to higher operating expenses, but the 30 per cent, was added to discourage the travel during the holiday season, another sample of the unusual paths over which the whole world seems to be walking at the present time.

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STATE PHILATHEAS AMBULANCE

Sunday, August 19, is Philathea Ambulance Day in North Carolina.

Mrs. N. Bulkner, general secretary of the Philathea in North Carolina, is sending out the following letter to be read to the Philathea classes of the State:

Are we reading the "Signs of the Times" aright that we may avoid misusing our present opportunity for service?

Once they said he "Who runs may read," but today the one who reads must run. The kind of reading which makes for quick intelligence is reading the "signs of the times" over and above the publications of today.

Our country now faces its greatest crisis. The United States is mobilizing all its forces to perform a task which includes great dangers and wide potential blessings?

The day of the worker has come. Never before have the leaders of the country sent forth so urgent an appeal as that just now spreading through America.

When the call comes to us, may we respond cheerfully and give of our time and talents in this great work. We sincerely hope every Philathea will heed the call and not only "do her bit" but "do her best." President Wilson says, "We must fight out the cause of human Liberty and thus prove our services."

Just now the great call for women is through Red Cross Work. Our Philatheas of North Carolina have heard the call, are helping in local Red Cross Work, and are asking "what further can we do to help?"

Loud and clear comes the answer Send to France an Ambulance to be known as the Philathea Ambulance of North Carolina, U. S. A.

This will cost about \$1,000. We need your assistance to accomplish this. We know we can depend on you to help. Five cents from every Philathea in the State would provide funds to send the ambulance on its mission of mercy and service.

Sunday, August 19, 1917, is Philathea Ambulance Day in North Carolina classes. Please ask for contributions to this fund through your classes and from individuals on this date, and send to Mrs. N. Bulkner, General Secretary, Asheville, N. C. We hope there will be no delay in this important work and that none will say "there is nothing I can do."

The million young men registered June 5th for service in the great world war. How many of them do you know? Will your son, your brother or some dear friends be called to the colors and sent across the sea. Do this service for them and we'll soon have sufficient funds to send the North Carolina Philathea Ambulance to France.

Remember "Philathea Ambulance Day," Sunday, August 19th, in classes throughout the state. Please work up interest that success may crown our efforts.

MRS. N. BUCKNER, Gen. Sec.

U-Boats Are Helpless Against Destroyers.

(London Times)

Both sides have learned that the submarine hasn't a chance against the destroyer as a fighting craft. People frequently wonder why the submarines don't get busy and sink the destroyers that are on their trail. The submarines can't do it. The submarine can't travel nearly so fast as the destroyer. The destroyer on station, doing patrol duty, is always moving. It is a nervous little machine, always alert and ready to fire. The submarine that comes up within torpedo range of a destroyer and attempts to torpedo the latter is pretty certain to make two discoveries. One is that the destroyer can dodge the torpedo; the other is that the submarine cannot dodge the destroyer's gun fire.

The destroyer has more guns, and heavier ones than the submarine can carry. It is much faster. The effective range of a torpedo tube is a good deal less than the effective range of the destroyer's guns. A fast destroyer under full steam can actually run away from a torpedo. The torpedo starts on his journey under a maximum speed of perhaps a little over 30 miles an hour, with enough power in it to carry it perhaps a mile and a half. The destroyer's business is to be ready, and it always is. When a periscope comes in sight of the destroyer's lookout the destroyer's guns are ready for business, and so is every body on board. If by chance the torpedo gets launched the agile little vessel is ready to dodge, for that is an important part of her business. More likely the destroyer's guns will be so busy on the instant that the torpedo will never be fired.

LEGAL ADS

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

At a Circuit Court Continued and held in the county of Mecklenburg, Virginia, at the Court House thereof on Tuesday the 22nd day of August, 1916.

Old Dominion Trust Company, Curator of the estate of W. W. Gooch, deceased, plaintiff, VS

Margaret Corwin Radcliff Gooch, Annie Wayne Suhor, etc, Defendants.

And the Court doth further order and adjudge and decree that this cause be referred to C. T. Reekes one of the Commissioners of this court and the said Commissioner is directed to take and state the following reports, viz:

First: An account of the assets both real and personal of which the late W. H. Gooch died, seized and possessed, wheresoever the same may be situated and as to the real estate he is requested to report the number of acres, the buildings, the character of the land, of each of the several tracts, together with the fee simple and annual value thereof; and as to the personal estate, the said special commissioner is directed to report the same consists of money due the estate that said Commissioner is required to report the evidence of the debt and whether the same is secured and if secured, how secured, and the characted and value of the security.

Second: An account of all the debts, obligations and liabilities due by the estate of W. H. Gooch, deceased, together with a statement showing to whom said debts or obligations are due, how the same are evidenced and whether the same are secured or unsecured and if secured how secured.

Third: An account of all debts for which the late W. H. Gooch is bound as endorsed, guarantor, security or otherwise, together with a report as to the solvency of the original obligors or debtors, and whether or not the said W. H. Gooch or any one else holds or should hold security or collateral for the payment or said original debts.

Fourth: And said Commissioner is further directed to report any other and further matters deemed material and pertinent to the matters above directed, and to return to this Court all the evidence taken by him in pursuance of the above enquiries.

Fifth: Before preceeding to take above accounts the said Commissioner shall advertise the time and place of taking the same once a week for four successive weeks in some newspaper published in the city of Richmond, Va., also in the county of Mecklenburg, Virginia, and also in the city of Oxford, N. C.

An extract from the records. Teste: H. F. HUTCHESON, Clerk.

Extracts from decree entered in vacation in said court on September 18, 1916:

The court being of opinion* * * doth judge, order and decree that the said Commissioner C. T. Reekes, shall further inquire and report: (X) What debts of W. H. Gooch (dec'd), if any, in order to conserve the best interests of the estate should now be paid, and

(Y) Whether the payment of said debts will affect the priority in the order of payment prescribed by law, and if so, how.

To the Clerk of Mecklenburg Circuit Court.

WM. R. BARKSDALE, Judge, Sept. 18, 1916.

An extract from the records, Teste: H. F. HUTCHESON, Clerk.

Boynton, Va, July 12th, 1917

COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE

Parties interested in the decrees, from which the foregoing are extracts, will take notice that I have fixed upon Tuesday, the 14th day of August, 1917, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 6 p. m. of that day as the time, and Grace Hotel, Clarks-ville, Mecklenburg County, Va., as the place for preceeding to execute the same, at which time and place they are required to attend with such books, papers, vouchers and evidence as will enable me to comply with the said orders of the Court. If the taking of said accounts, for any reason, be not begun on that day or if begun, be not completed, the same will be adjourned from day to day, or from time to time till completed. CHAS. T. REEKES, Commissioner in Chancery for the said Court.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.

Having this day qualified as administrator on the estate of Roland Goss, deceased, this is to notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please come forward and make prompt settlement. This 10th day of July, 1917. B. F. GOSS, Admr. T. Lanier, Attorney.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of R. Broughton deceased this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the undersigned within the time required by law or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate will please come forward and settle at once. WILLIAM DUNSFORD, T. Lanier, Att. Admr.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.

Having qualified as administratrix on the estate of R. E. Buchanan, deceased, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the said estate to present them to the undersigned, duly verified, on or before July 31st, 1918, or this notice will be plead in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This the 1st day of July 1917.

MRS. ANNIE E. BUCHANAN, Administratrix. Parham & Lassiter, Attorneys.

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