

# Uncle Walt's Story

XX SURE CURES

“OLD JINGLESON says he can cure any disease by drinking hot water,” announced the bald boarder. “He has had every disease that is officially recognized by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons and has banished them all by that simple means.”



“Anything becomes a curative agent if a man believes in it hard enough,” said the star boarder. “Jasper Jones says he was tormented with rheumatism for ten years, and tried everything of which we read in the almanacs, and nothing did him any good until he got a horse chestnut and carried it around in his pocket. Then the rheumatism disappeared, and hasn't played a return engagement since. I have talked with Jasper often, trying to point out the folly of his claim, but he refuses to yield an inch. I used to have all kinds of rheumatics before I got that horse chestnut,” he says, “and now I haven't a single one. Who would ask better proof than that?”

“And echo answers who, my dear Mrs. Jiggers. It may be that a horse chestnut in the hip pocket is a specific for rheumatism. It isn't safe to denounce any theory as a false alarm.”

“Ira Grifway used to be always groaning about his diseases, until it became unpleasant to meet him. He couldn't talk about anything else. He ignored the crops and regarded the weather with contempt, and devoted all his great energy and talents to a discussion of the things that were hurting him. Then all of a sudden he began boasting of how hale and hearty he was. He explained that the road to health was absurdly easy, and there was no excuse for sickness anywhere. All a man had to do, he said, was to get up early in the morning, before sunrise, and draw in a hundred long breaths of the crisp morning air. “He made the discovery himself, and it was more important than any modern invention. His sincerity is shown by the fact that there was no possible graft connected with it. A man can't sell the morning atmosphere at so much per breath. Ira's great discovery was free to everybody. If I were going to invent a cure for anything I'd compound something that could be put up in bottles and sold at a dollar a throw. The man who invents a fresh air cure is running benevolence into the ground.”

“His cure was so cheap that I decided to try it, as I was suffering from a broken heart and a sluggish liver at that period. I set my alarm clock for an hour before sunrise, and got up in the pale, bleak dawn, and put my head out of the window to inhale the prescribed hundred breaths. I had reached the twenty-seventh breath when a dissipated bee or wasp, on its way home from a night of revelry, stung me on the nose, and I was in such haste to put a porous plaster on that organ that I didn't finish the treatment, and never tried it again.”

“But I knew many people who claimed they were cured of everything from the mumps, hoof and mouth disease, by the hundred-breath treatment.”

“There was a spring on my father's farm, and I doped it with sulphuric acid and a few other wholesome ingredients, and then began selling the water to the afflicted for ten cents a jug. Some marvelous cures were effected. Men hobbled there on crutches to buy the healing fluid, and when they left they threw their crutches away.”

“For a brief session I had more small change than any boy in the county, but my father returned home from a visit, and when he found out what I had been doing, he interviewed me with a hickory pole, and for a year or two I was busy paying back the money I had collected from sufferers. The people who had been healed suffered a relapse as soon as they heard the water was faked; which goes to show, Mrs. Jiggers, that we are entitled to a better quality of butter on this table.”

**Way of Escape.**  
Flatbush—“That's a funny thing about a bowlegged man.”  
Bensonhurst—What's that?  
“Why, when he meets a mad dog in a narrow alley he's more bowlegged than ever.”

**Just Like the Old Home.**  
Mr. Scrapeleg—Can you give my daughter a home such as she has been accustomed to?  
The Sutor—Well, I've got a bull terrier and a fighting cat and a parrot and if that won't do it I know when I can get a chimpanzee.

**The Dear Girls.**  
Dora—Did you see the way that mam smiled at me?  
Doris—Yes, dear. Let me have a look at your face. Perhaps you've got a smut on your nose!  
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## PARADISE FOR THE INDOLENT

Stress of Modern Life Unknown Among the Inhabitants of the Marquesas Islands.

Persons possessing \$1,000 who like the indolent life of the tropics where winter is unknown can spend the remainder of their lives in the Marquesas islands in the Pacific ocean, where they need only work two hours a day to catch fish and pick bananas and spend the remainder of the day watching the skyblue sea wash lazily over the golden sands.

The money would be required to pay a second-class passage from one of the Pacific coast ports, with outfit, and the balance to purchase fertile land at \$2 an acre.

The Marquesas are situated in 8 to 11 south latitude and 140 west longitude and are of volcanic origin and mountainous. They are under the French republic and the commissioner lives at Tahohai, the chief town, which is on the island of Nukawa. There were 4,300 inhabitants in the islands when the census was taken in 1900, but the natives, who are Christians, have dwindled away since then. There are 3,800 square miles in the thirteen islands, which compose the Marquesas group. The chief products are tropical fruit, copra and mother of pearl. The landing is difficult, as the shore goes up like a wall from the sea.

Passengers arriving from the Pacific say that the climate of the Marquesas is ideal and that life there is one long day dream, with no disturbing element beyond the silver-tongued notes of the bulbul at sunset from its lofty perch on the ancient baobabs by the seashore.—New York Times.

## RELIC OF MEDIEVAL TIMES

Sacred City of Mongolia Has But a Thin Veneer of the Civilization of Today.

Urga, sacred city of the Living Buddha, lying far to the north of Mongolia, is a relic of medieval times overlaid with a veneer of twentieth-century civilization, and is a city of violent contrasts and glaring anachronisms. It was used as a base of supplies by Roy Chapman Andrews, leader of the second Asiatic zoological expedition of the American Museum of Natural History.

Motor cars pass camel caravans fresh from the Gobi desert; holy lamas in bright robes walk side by side with black-gowned priests and swarthy Mongol women in the fantastic head-dresses of their race stare wonderingly at the latest fashions of their Russian sisters, relates a correspondent of the Detroit News. Three great races have met in Urga, and each carries on its own customs and way of life. The Mongols' felt-covered home has remained unchanged; the Chinese shop with its wooden counter and blue-gowned inmates is still pure Chinese, and the ornate cottages proclaim themselves to be Russian.

Men from all races and corners of the earth gamble together. All Mongolia lives on horseback, and a Mongol will never walk even a hundred yards if he can help it. Summer in Mongolia is short at best, and in the winter the temperature drops to 50 and 60 degrees below zero, and the great plateau is swept by biting winds from the Siberian steppes.

## Leaders Must Pay Price.

There's satisfaction in being able to do hard things. Weaklings have to be exceptionally insignificant if they can't do something. Then there is a large class that can do many things indifferently. Those who can carry big loads and carry them well are few. To be in this select class appeals to most folks, but only the few really deserve place in it. And they do not land there without effort. Such honors are matters of growth. Time and toil are the price paid for the advance. Beginning with what comes easy the worthy ones become experts and then add to their sphere of achieving such things as naturally fall in line with their endeavors. Then they grow without being really conscious of added strength. That comes as a glad surprise when some one calls attention to it.

## Asparagus Has a Pedigree.

Asparagus was cultivated in Rome 200 years B. C., and Pliny, in his “History Naturalis,” mentions that near Ravenna there grew a kind of which three heads weighed a pound. Asparagus flourished also in Greece. It is a native of several places near the sea in Britain. At Kynance cove, in Cornwall, a rocky island is called “Asparagus Island,” because at one time the plant was cultivated there. In ancient days all sprouts of young vegetables were called asparagus; and in comparatively modern times the artichoke, cardoon, sea-kale and allsander were included. Nowadays only the one is so called. Most probably all are wild sea-coast plants, and cultivated asparagus of an unpalatable order may still be found on British shores.

## Korean Women Nameless.

The Korean woman has not even a name. In childhood she receives a nickname, by which she is known in the family and by her friends, but when she arrives at maturity, it is employed only by “the sister of” or “the daughter of” such a person. After her marriage her name is buried; she is absolutely nameless. If it happens that a woman has to appear in a law court the judge gives her a special name for use while the case lasts, in order to save time and to simplify matters.

## KNOW MONEY BY PICTURES

How Those Who Handle Many Bills Find It Comparatively Easy to Tell Bad Ones.

It is a comparatively easy matter to become an expert in the quick handling of money and also to detect bills that have been raised, according to those who have tried. A large proportion of the bills now in circulation are federal reserve notes. Those in common use have identification characteristics. In addition to the numerals, easy to memorize.

Cashiers who handle large and small bills rapidly usually memorize the portrait on the bills, which are large enough to be unmistakable as the major mark of identification, with the numerals as the minor aid. The two combined are well-nigh infallible, save in the case of clever counterfeiters.

As the raising of bills is accomplished with the numerals, familiarity with the portraits, and comparison, will verify the proper denomination of the bills. The portraits on the federal reserve bills in everyday use are as follows:

- One-dollar notes, portrait of George Washington.
- Two-dollar notes, portrait of Thomas Jefferson.
- Five-dollar notes, portrait of Abraham Lincoln.
- Ten-dollar notes, portrait of Andrew Jackson.
- Twenty-dollar notes, portrait of Grover Cleveland.
- Fifty-dollar notes, portrait of U. S. Grant.
- Hundred-dollar notes, portrait of Benjamin Franklin.

## HAD HAZY IDEA OF FINANCE

Queer Notion Held by Old Wash White Common to Many Investors, According to Lawyer.

At a dinner in New York the other day a prominent lawyer noted for his activities in rousing up investment swindlers told the following good story:

“It's pitiful to see how foolish a great many people are when it comes to a question of finance.

“Old Wash White is a good example of financial foolishness. When Wash's boss got back to the Delta from the North one day, he found the old man driving a fine young mule hitched to a handsome wagon.

“Now, Wash was a notoriously shiftless customer, and so his boss said to him:

“Where did you get that splendid turnout, Washington?”

“Ah done boughten it at Magnolia, sah,” said Wash.

“How much did it cost you?”

“Ah done give mah note fo' \$200 for it, sah.”

“Good gracious,” said the boss, “where do you expect to get \$200 to meet your note when it falls due?”

“Wash looked astonished and offended.

“Fo' de Lawd's sake, boss man,” he said, “you sho'ly don' expect me ter give mah note an' pay, too?”

## Wasn't Addressing Tramp.

On her way downtown the other morning the woman stopped to see a sick friend, who lives on the first floor of a remodeled private house with a bedroom overlooking a nice old-fashioned back yard. The window was open and suddenly a loud voice broke the calm of the sick-room.

“You dirty bum, that's what you are,” said the voice. “Of course you'll be comin' home now for your breakfast—look at you, covered with dirt. It's a bum you are and not a drop of blue blood in you. Quit your whinin' you hungry stayout. Me lookin' and waitin' for you last night and worryin' about you! And now I suppose you want to sleep all day and rest up for another night. You're just like the rest of your kind. It's a bum you are and nothin' else.”

The woman leaned out of the open window that she might see the wreck of humanity the trade had visualized. And there was the comfortably built, immaculately clean janitress letting in her prize-winning Angora cat. Dough-boy had come home for breakfast.—New York Sun.

## Japan's Sulphur Baths.

At the foot of the volcano Asamaya in Japan there is a combination of hot sulphur and cold mineral springs. The bathing house consists of three or four substantial wooden bathing tanks, into which the hot water flows, and a wooden platform running around the room with cupboards and shelves where the people dress.

Beams laid across the bathing tanks divide them into little squares, a square for each person.

The duration of the time bath is regulated with great precision by the head attendant, and during the bath from 150 to 200 half litre scoops of hot sulphur water are poured over the head of the bather.

## Emergency Call.

“We've got lizards in our basement, and I just killed a snake in the front yard. Can't you send some one out right away to kill them?” wailed a voice over the telephone to William F. Cleary, clerk of the board of public works.

It was a woman's voice, or Mr. Cleary would have sent a request to the board of public safety that one of the morals squads be sent out with a suggestion that they might find whatever it was that made people “see snakes.” However, he asked the board to send out an ordinary policeman to kill the reptiles.—Indianapolis News.

## COMMISSION WILL REVISE LAWS OF SAN DOMINGO.

(By The Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—It will be several months at least before the actual withdrawal of American marines from the Dominican republic will begin under the provisions of the proclamation issued at San Domingo Christmas eve by direction of President Wilson, Secretary Daniels said today. Mr. Daniels conferred today with state department officers with regard to the membership of the commission to be appointed to revise the laws and frame such new statutes as may be necessary to enable the Dominicans to successfully govern their country. Rear Admiral Thomas Snowden, the naval governor of San Domingo, will appoint the commission upon recommendation from Washington.

After the Dominican congress has approved the new statutes and places them in effect, the withdrawal of American forces will be started, Mr. Daniels said.

## 115-YEAR-OLD WOMAN IS HARD TO FLOOR

(By The Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Sarah Quinn, who says she is 115 years old, declared today she was “as well as usual” after being nearly asphyxiated in her home yesterday. She is believed to have absent-mindedly blown out the gas stove flame. An hour after being revived in a hospital she insisted on going home, “to do the dishes.”

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Arrival and departure of passenger trains at Gastonia:

Schedule figures published as information and not guaranteed.

Arrives	Departs
from	for
4:25a N. Y.—Wash.—Atla.—Bham	4:25a
8:20a Charlotte—Atlanta	8:20a
8:28a Atlanta—Washington	8:28a
9:38a Bhm.—Atl.—Wash.—N. O.	9:38a
10:35a Washington—Atlanta	10:35a
12:45p Westminster—Danville	12:45p
4:50p Atlanta—Richmond	4:50p
5:20p Danville—Westminster	5:20p
8:05 Atlanta—Washington	8:05
9:25p N. Y.—Wash.—Atl.—Bham—N. O.	9:25p
11:40p Bham.—Atla.—Wash.—N. O.	11:40p
12:15a Washington—Atlanta	12:15a

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