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According to an article in the November issue of the Review of Reviews by Herbert Brucker, there are, as nearly as can be figured, sixty-two million Americans whose lives are insured in some way for a total of nearly ninety billion dollars. While the principle of insurance is perhaps as old as the hills, it is only in recent years that the American people have taken any great advantage of protective insurance. Mr. Brucker gives several reasons for the growth of the insurance business, chief among which are war insurance, the 1918 influenza epidemic, and higher wages after the war. When the government placed a value of \$10,000 upon the humblest private in the service, men thought more of their financial worth after the war. When so many men and women in the influenza epidemic dropped off suddenly, some with, and others without, insurance, the comparison in the way families were left was too obvious, and higher wages enabled more and more people to seek the protection of insurance. Mr. Brucker thinks we are moving toward an insured world. Certainly there are attractive features being offered now in the way of group insurance, indemnity for death, accident, sickness, and old age. (We do not charge the insurance agents of Johnston County a penny for this paragraph. We are just catching the Christmas spirit.)

Governor-elect Gardner comes from perhaps the biggest cotton producing county of North Carolina in this good year of 1928, but he has a fellow feeling for those in other counties who did not raise quite so much of the fleecy staple this year. He does not propose that the tax burden shall be any heavier because of any increase in his salary. Sometime ago, Gardner expressed a preference that the inauguration ceremony take place after the convening of the General Assembly, as has been the custom. Some seemed to have thought that Gardner's motive was to let the legislature have time to increase his salary as governor, an action not constitutional regarding certain state officials including governor, during their term of office. Gardner nailed this rumor when he stated Saturday that he would not under any circumstances permit his salary to be raised by the next legislature. At present the governor receives \$6,500 per year plus a travel allowance of \$600 and the use of the executive mansion.

Fine weather for hog killing! "Yes," replied the farmer to whom this statement was made in our office a few days ago. "I have been to two this week, and was asked to another today but had to come to town." This conversation carried us back more than twenty years, to the first hog killing in which we actually had a part. A country school teacher teaching her first school took country life as she found it, and when hog killing time came at her boarding place, she "fell to" with all the vigor and interest of which a greener hand was capable.

A number of neighbors had been invited in and all day the work of cutting out the hogs, of severing the backbones and spare ribs, of cutting up the meat for sausage, had been going on. The wash house in the yard was the center of activities, and by the time school was over in the afternoon, the cracklings were ready to be skimmed from the boiling fat in the big wash boiler. Everybody knew his job and no one loafed on it, but a spirit of banter and good will prevailed the atmosphere, and much of the drudgery of hog killing was overshadowed by the neighborliness that characterized the occasion.

Such scenes are typical Johnston County over every winter; and though some of our farmers are now learning that it pays to ship their hogs on foot in cooperative car load lots, it will be many a day before big hog killings are a thing of the past.

The drop in the price of cotton Saturday upon the announcement of the Government estimate showing a small increase in the crop, moved the Charlotte Observer to remark: "There are two things the world have never lived long enough yet to understand. One is woman; the other is cotton, and the man who might undertake to tell just what cotton is going to do under any conditions is a skater on thin ice." The Observer is right. When it looks as if cotton would go up it goes down, and most likely to go down it often goes up. There is absolutely no accounting for the cotton market. It does seem unreasonable, though, that the price should fall \$4.50 a bale upon the report of a "slight excess over expectations."

Dr. Frank Crane Says



ATTRACTION OF THE OLD

Laying aside all sex appeal and things of that sort many people believe that old persons are more interesting than young ones. There comes a time in a man's life when a young woman of forty is more interesting than one of eighteen. Beside the mature woman a girl is rather crude. People who go to Europe love to poke around among the antiquities. There is a sort of sentimental interest in anything that is old. Many people despise America because it is too new. There is no doubt about that the old has a certain sentimental value. H. G. Wells says that when every house is heated by electricity millionaires will have smoke coming out of their chimneys to give them an antique appearance—artificial smoke. At Hampton Court in England is a grapevine which brings the government more than six thousand dollars a year.

Only a little of the money is derived from the grapes it bears. Most of it comes from admission paid to see the vine because it is almost 160 years old. There is only one thing that interests man more than the new. It is the old. Anything that endures—whether it be a bit of canvas, a scrap of ancient oriental tapestry, an Etruscan wine jar, a bit of Mayan inscription on a volcanic rock from the forests of Guatemala, a printed page, or a lofty sequoia redwood—interests and fascinates man. The fact that it has existed from the time his unknown ancestors lived, and will continue to resist the ravages of time long after he is dead, has something to do with his interest. Mortal man looking at something which contains a touch of immortality is awed and fascinated.



"Mommer, how do you spell fulfill?" asked Billie Bunnie of his mother one night. "I do wish you would not call me 'mommer'," replied Mrs. Rabbit. "Sweetest, Mother of mine, how do you spell fulfill?" "That's better. You spell it f-u-l-l-i-l-l." "Thank you, mother, dear." Then there was a scratching and everything was still. Br'er Rabbit was seated before the fire doing. Every little while his head would go down and Billie Bunnie, or Bobbie Bunnie would sneeze and wake him up again. "Mother, dear, if I had two apples and Daddy one, how many—" "You are too stingy to give Daddy any," broke in Bobbie Bunnie. "Never mind, children, you go on with your work. If I do your work, you'll never learn anything," said Mrs. Rabbit soothingly. Down, down, down went on Br'er Rabbit's head until it was against the paper. "Cher-CHOO!" went Billie Bunnie. "Mercy me!" exclaimed Br'er Rabbit. "What was that terrible noise?" "It was Billie—I think she must be taking cold. I'll have to give her some aloe and castor oil if she doesn't stop sneezing," answered Mrs. Rabbit, as her husband settled himself in his chair. All was quiet for a long time—Billie stopped sneezing, but both of the children were watching their father and waiting to wake him up. All was very still and the two children went over and kissed their mother good night. Then they stole softly upstairs. By and by there was a BUMP! "My goodness!" exclaimed Br'er Rabbit. "Is the house falling down?" "I guess one of the children dropped a book," said Mrs. Rabbit, as she went on with her sewing. Br'er Rabbit settled himself once more, and was soon fast asleep. "Mother, I want Daddy to kiss me good night," came a voice from upstairs. "I'll come up there with a paddle if you don't let me sleep," laughed Br'er Rabbit, as he took off his coat and started upstairs.

TRUTH TABLETS

By Rev. D. H. Tuttle
 No. 1. Do you wish to please the devil? Then be one who is always finding something about which to fret, or complain, or who is eager to hear a scrap of scandal-rag of back-biting that you can pass on to gossipers that they may be kept busy chewing the old dirty rag. Most such folks will do as dirty things as they talk about. See Psa. 15:3 and 1 Cor. 10:1-12. Read, fear God, and quit such vile use of your tongue.
 No. 2. The phrase, "Gentlemen of the jury," gets far too much use in speeches of lawyers to jurors. Is it for lack of ability to put one's facts closer together? Is it necessary in order to hold the attention of the jury? There is a little gland found only in the human species called the mental tubercle, and found only in animals that can speak. A modern German, both witty and wise, said, "I'll believe that any animal THINKS when it tells me so." Is it not useless wear and tear of the mental tubercle gland to make so oft-repeated use of the words, "Gentlemen of the jury," in one address to the same jury? The same objection might wisely be made to the repeated use of God's name in the same prayer by many preachers.
 No. 3. Would it not save much time in the trial of cases, in both our Recorder's and Superior courts, to require all witnesses to be seated on certain pews, or rows of pews just in the rear of the bar? Recently I saw much time lost while the active machinery of the court was waiting for witnesses to come from distant parts of the auditorium and gallery. It is tedious waiting. The time of the court is money from peoples' pockets to be used wisely, not wasted.

Kenly Man Is Seriously Hurt.

STARTS ON PAGE ONE
 Monday in Goldsboro.
 Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Pyatt and little daughter, Baby Gene, of Goldsboro, spent Saturday with Mr. R. A. Hales.
 Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Broughton spent Wednesday afternoon in Wilson.
 Mr. Donald Kirby, of Goldsboro, was a visitor in town last Sunday.
 Mesdames J. W. Darden and R. T. Fulghum spent Wednesday afternoon in Wilson.
 Rev. F. B. Joyner, of Cary, was in town Wednesday afternoon.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hollowell spent Wednesday in Spring Hope and Louisburg.
 Miss Faye Barnes has returned home after spending some time in Raleigh.
 Mesdames J. H. Frizelle and H. M. Grizzard were the guests of Mrs. Henry Holland near town on

Hopewell

SMITHFIELD, Route 1, Dec. 10.
 —Misses Gretchen and Pauline Johnson, of Raleigh, spent a few days last week with Miss Vera Lassiter.
 Mr. W. J. Alford and family spent Thanksgiving with Mr. Alford's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Alford of Smithfield.
 Mr. Earl Stephenson of the Cor-

inth section was in our section on Sunday.
 Miss Mae Barbour spent Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Barbour in Johnson Union section.
 Messrs. Lee Alton West and Enoch Wilson, of Dunn, and Miss Loleta Emnis, of Smithfield, visited Miss Edna Alford Sunday.
 We are sorry to note that Mrs. Florida Bailey is on the sick list this week.
 Mr. Leon Johnson, of Johnson Town, was in this section Sunday night.
 Misses Ruby and Bessie Johnson attended the Thanksgiving services at St. Mary's Grove last Thursday evening.
 Rev. D. C. Johnson visited his daughter, Mrs. W. E. Wallace who is in Rex Hospital at Raleigh, Sunday.
 Miss Emma Rhodes, of Neuse Island section, is visiting her sister, Mrs. E. B. Wall.
 Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Langdon and little daughter, Frances, of near Angier, visited in this section on Sunday night.
 Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wall visited relatives near Micro Thursday.
 Mr. and Mrs. Delia Hardee and family, of Johnson Town, visited

Mr. and Mrs. Mellie Johnson on Sunday.
 Miss Lois Carmean visited her parents in Spring Hope Thanksgiving.
 Miss Iola Gordon, of McCullers, recently visited Miss Julia Johnson.
 Misses Julia and Helen Johnson and Mr. Maurice Johnson were in the Corinth section Thursday night.
 Mr. Horace Avera, of near Smithfield, and Mr. Hubert Barbour, of Spilona, were in this vicinity during the week end.
Paragraphics—
 Tobacco flea beetles are best controlled in the plant bed. Make it tight and plant a trap-bee round about, caution tobacco specialists. From 40,000 to 50,000 pounds of Danish Bald Head cabbage cut from one acre of bottom land is the record of Porter Morgan of Transylvania county who says he cleared \$800 an acre from the crop this season.
 John Sparks of Morganton reports that he harvested 225 tons of cured alfalfa hay from 40 acres this season.
 By harvesting their soybean crop with combines on the bottom

of the former Lake Mattamuskeet in Hyde county, the New Holland farms are securing an average yield of 25 bushels of beans per acre.
 Sixty new boys have enrolled in the 4-H pig club work of Pitt

county. Livestock growers interested in learning more about the job will enjoy the meeting of the Southern Livestock Association to be held at State College in Raleigh, December 18, 19 and 20.

Are Your Curtains GOOD?

We repair side curtains for all makes of cars. We have a complete stock of heavy grade celluloid and all materials necessary.

Drive in today and shut out the cold wind

Southern Chevrolet Co.

"The Home of Service and Satisfaction"
 Market St. Smithfield, N. C.

GIFTS to Delight Every Woman

Dec 28

"It's doubly welcome if it's from here"

COME to us for the answer to the biggest question of the hour—"What shall I give her for Christmas?" Here is a real treasure trove of gifts that would make any feminine eye light up with joy — sophisticated gifts — frivolous gifts — daintily personal gifts.

All the newer things of the finer sort are here in infinite variety and the price range is elastic enough to fit any Christmas budget.

Just drop in — and before you know it you'll have that Christmas list reduced to a mere shadow itself.

Dec 28

Dec 28

Underthings

What woman ever has too many of these dainty silken things?

Teddies
98c and \$1.98

Gowns
\$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.98 and \$4.98

Silk Bloomers and Vests
98c and \$1.85

Step-In Sets
tailored or beautifully lace trimmed, in flesh, peach and orchid
\$2.98

Dec 28

Hosiery

When in doubt give her hosiery — it's the ever-appreciated gift.

Phoenix full-fashioned, all silk chiffon in all the newest shades.
\$1.50 and \$1.95

Kayser's Silk Hose
in all the new shades
\$1.50, \$1.95, \$2.50

Bags

Very chic—the kind she would choose for herself.
98c and \$2.98

Bridge and Floor Lamps

A gift very dear, indeed, to any lady's heart.
\$4.95 and \$6.45

Dec 28

Jewelry

Beautiful trinkets for lovely necks, wrists and fingers

Real values in Pearl Strands, Rhinestone Pins, Novelty Pendants, Bracelets

Silk Quilted Bath Robes

The luxury gift that any woman would be sure to love.
\$7.50, \$9.95, 10.95 and \$12.95

Hudson-Belk Company

"The Home of Better Bargains"