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WHAT IS THERE ABOUT SHIRT TAIL THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED AS SO FRIGHTFULLY IMMODEST?

Remember Things That Were Utterly Shocking Yesterday Are Commonplace Today

By Carl Goerch in News and Observer, Raleigh, N. C. Speaking from a general standpoint there is no such thing as modesty; it's a conventionalism. There is no such thing as immodesty; it's unconventionality. Modesty, according to Webster, is "free from all undue familiarity, indecency or lewdness; restrained within due limits of propriety." Conventionalism is "adhering to social formalities or usages." If a woman were to pause on Main street, lift up her skirt and adjust her garter, passers-by would gasp in astonishment and the general verdict would be that she was the personification of all things immodest. And yet, that same woman can wander up and down the beach, attired in the most abbreviated kind of a costume, and nobody pays any attention to her whatsoever. Her legs are bare and most of her back is in the same state. She is not considered immodest. This summer the stockless vogue is gaining numerous followers. First off there was much criticism concerning the style and the opinion of many people seemed to be that anyone who appeared in public places without stockings was doing something of a decidedly brazen nature. Why are bare legs considered perfectly proper on the beach and why are they censured on the streets? You answer that one. W. O. Saunders, of Elizabeth City, appears in public in a pair of pajamas, and people raise their hands in horror. "The height of indecency!" "How terribly immodest!" "Positively shocking!" These, and similar comments were heard everywhere. But what was here about Saunders' costume that was indecent? Where did the immodesty come in? What was so terribly shocking about it? Pajamas consist of a coat and pants. They afford just as decent a covering for a man's body as does a talm Beach suit. Nobody has any justification for saying there is anything indecent about a pajama-wardrobe. It isn't a matter of modesty; it's conventionalism. It is because Saunders departed from the conventional garb of men that all the criticism was raised. So far as modesty and immodesty are concerned, they cannot possibly be considered as factors. Suppose, this afternoon, you were to be walking along the principal street in your town and should take sudden notion to pull out the tail of your shirt and let it hang on the outside of your trousers, instead of a customary place. Everybody you met would think you were either crazy or frightfully immodest. What in the world is there about a shirt-tail that can be considered immodest? People aren't in the habit of going out with their shirt-tails exposed, when somebody gets the idea that would be more comfortable to let them stay out, instead of letting them constantly try to get out, he is regarded as being immodest. Where is there any sense in such a charge? Another supposition. Suppose you are occupying a dressing room in a bath-house at the beach. While in a state of what might be called gligee, you discover that you are out of cigarettes. You take stock of your costume and find that you have your shoes and socks, an athletic shirt and what are known as "shorts," opening the door of your room, you enter out into the open and stroll to the place where cigarettes are sold. Seventeen women faint and the police reserves are called out. Why? Because you proved yourself indecent. Because you are regarded as having done something frightfully immodest. After you have settled things with the police, you return to the bath-room, shed the shoes and shirt and shorts, and don a bathing suit that is far more abbreviated and that exposes much more of your body than did your former costume. Why should your appearance in the street and shorts be considered immodest? Why should it be perfectly proper to wear one of these scanty things?

to it were put off the floor. Large placards were to be found at most of the dancing floors, giving notice that no ragging would be tolerated. A girl who permitted her partner to rag was regarded as having sunk to the depths of depravity. It wasn't long, however, before everybody began ragging, and then nobody thought anything more about it. As long as only a few were doing it the practice was considered as being disgraceful. When that particular form of dancing became general, criticism and condemnation were discarded. If everybody in Elizabeth City were to appear in pajamas tomorrow morning, nobody would notice anything unusual or "immodest" about the apparel. To be modest, therefore, it would seem that you have to do as the crowd does. If you are doing a thing all by yourself, you are guilty of immodesty. Last Sunday morning, before I had finished dressing, I went out on the front porch to see the paper. When I returned my wife chanced to see me. It so happened that I had failed to put on a shirt. "Did you go out on the porch in your undershirt?" she inquired, in horrified accents. I admitted the truth of the accusation. "Suppose somebody had seen you," she protested. Well, what if somebody had seen me? What is there out-of-the-way about a sleeveless shirt? Where does the immodesty come in? Modesty has nothing to do with it whatsoever. The women used to wear a gown which was called the "slit skirt." It had a short slash up the side, revealing casual glimpses of ankle and calf. The garment was considered the height of immodesty for a month or so. Look what they're wearing today! And yet, the knee-length skirts of today are considered respectable and modest in every respect. What is considered extremely immodest today becomes entirely modest tomorrow. Modesty, it would seem is based upon conventionalism, and conventionalism is based upon the abhorrence and dislike of the average individual to see someone else do something of an original nature. Modesty, therefore, is akin to jealousy. Going back once more to W. O. Saunders and his pajamas. The principal reason why there has been so much criticism concerning his little experience is because it proved him to be original, daring, inventive and unconventional. There was absolutely no reason in the world for all the hullabaloo that was raised. Nary a solitary reason. If people had passed him by with a polite greeting, if the preachers and editorial writers had ignored him, if the whole thing had been treated as an every-day occurrence, unworthy of special attention, Mr. Saunders would have stalked back to his domicile, ripped off his pajamas, donned his regular suit, and cussed out everybody and everything in Elizabeth City for failing to appreciate his originality. People don't like for anybody to be original. Originality in wearing apparel is termed immodesty. Originality in conduct is termed eccentricity. Originality in thought is radical. And yet, when you come to think about it, practically all the progress that has been made in the world has been made by people who had original ideas of some kind or another. Originality is the spice of life. You can get a bigger kick in five minutes by doing something original than you can out of following the conventions for a life-time. If you don't believe it, try it out for yourself. Try Saunders' pajama stunt, if you wish. Pull out your shirt-tail and let it flap in the breeze. Throw your collars and neckties into the garbage can, where they should have been placed many years ago. If you are a woman, addicted to the cigarette habit, throw away your cigarettes and start using a corn-cob pipe. If you want to go barefooted down to work, whose business is it, except your own. Modesty? Nothing but a lot of rubbish, so far as ninety per cent of the so-called modesty is concerned. The only reason I don't come out in pajamas myself is that I wear night shirts. The only reason I don't come out in a night shirt is that I— Well, never mind the reason. I just naturally ain't going to do it modestly or no modesty. Tobacco curing and grading has now begun in all parts of the State. Growers are encouraged by the good prices prevailing on the Georgia market. Though a county agent has been at work in Stokes County since the first of July, he has already placed several pure bred dairy heifers.

Help For The Veteran

The American Legion, District of Columbia Department, has started something needed in the form of a non-profit employment bureau for aiding former service men who are out of work. Veterans are registered, facts about them recorded, and references carefully investigated. When an employer needs a man the facts about several men who can possibly meet his qualifications are available to him. If this type of work could be carried on all over the country we would soon hear less about the out-of-work veteran. It would, too, kill off a lot of men who plead the service-to-country act, but are loafers in intent.

SHELTON DEAD; WIFE IS HELD

Fred Shelton, said to have been shot by his wife, Flossie Shelton, who is being held in the Madison county jail at Marshall, died at a hospital in Greenville, Tenn., shortly after midnight Tuesday morning, August 20, after he had clung tenaciously to life for 34 days with a bullet wound in his head. Since Shelton was taken to the hospital from Madison county, on the night of July 16, he had been in a semi-conscious condition, and several days ago the hospital attaches gave up hope for his recovery. Shelton did not discuss the shooting during his stay at the hospital, other than to whisper almost totally incoherent and scattering remarks while in a semi-conscious state. According to reports, one of these whispered statements was: "It was no accident." The body was sent to Shelton's relatives in Madison for burial. Flossie Shelton, his bride of a few weeks, is being held in the jail at Marshall without bond on a charge of firing the fatal shot. It has been reported that no preliminary hearing will be held for Mrs. Shelton, due to the nearness of the Madison county term of Superior Court, which will convene Monday, and that the hearing will be held before the Grand Jury.

Merrily They Rumble Along

Rumble seat riders will give a vote of thanks to the inventor of the so-called rumbletop now seen on a large number of cars on Fifth Avenue, New York, and other great arteries of automobile traffic. This ingenious device is carried in a small space when days are fair and warm, but when sudden showers or chilly nights make protection necessary the rumbletop is quickly assembled. Transparent Pyralin side and rear windows enable the rumblers to view the landscape. In short, this ultra-modern accessory transforms the two-seater sports coupe into a four-passenger closed car.

Hebrew Holy Days Are Recognized

Men of Jewish faith in the Navy will be granted leave in the future when conditions permit, to observe their high holy days, Rosh Hashonah, and Yom Kippur. They will not be the less valuable to their country because they have a religious faith, and make it known.

HAVE YOU A RELATIVE OR FRIEND WHO HAS LEFT NORTH CAROLINA?

If so, you can help bring him or her back for the greatest gathering of former Tar Heels ever attempted in North Carolina. The State, through Governor O. Max Gardner and the HOME-COMING COMMITTEE, wishes to extend a cordial invitation to these strayed sons and daughters to "come home" for State and County celebrations, October 12-19, 1929. Every resident of North Carolina can help by providing names of former Tar Heels to whom these invitations may be sent.

Every person in the State is urged to fill in the blank below with the name and address of a friend or relative who has formerly made his other home in North Carolina and forward it to the Department of Conservation an Development, Raleigh, N. C.

(Person suggesting name) (City or town) (Name of former Tar Heel) (Full Address) (Native county) (Occupation)

OLD CONTROVERSY IS REVIVED

RELATIVE HEIGHT OF MOUNT MITCHELL AND CLINGMAN'S DOME AND MOUNT GUYOT UNDER FIRE.

Asheville, N. C., Aug. 22.—A controversy, three quarters of a century old, was revived here recently when it was discovered that Clingman's Dome, a high mountain in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park near Asheville, was on tentative barometric measurements, conducted by the U. S. Geological Survey, declared to be higher than Mount Mitchell in the Black Mountains east of the city. A similar controversy raged in 1848 when Thomas Clingman and Dr. Elisha Mitchell, after whom the two mountains were named, each claimed for his peak the honor of being the highest mountain in eastern America. Dr. Mitchell lost his life in scaling Mount Mitchell to prove the height of that peak. A third rival for the height above sea level supremacy has appeared in the little known Mount Guyot in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains wilderness. Mount Guyot, barometrical measurements show to be higher than either Mount Mitchell or Clingman's Dome. As the measurements completed by the Geological Survey were barometrical only and the actual height must be decided with surveying instruments there are many who still believe that lordly Mount Mitchell will not be dethroned from the position of highest mountain in the east. The elevation of Mount Mitchell is determined at 6,711 feet above sea level. The barometrical measurements show that Clingman's Dome is above 6,800 feet in altitude and the summit of Mount Guyot towers 7,025 feet above the sea. These latter two altitudes, however, are at present tentative, hence the controversy.

TROUT REARED IN ASHEVILLE PUBLIC SQUARE

Asheville, N. C., August 21.—Asheville is probably the only city in the United States where the angler, were he allowed to do so, could pursue his favorite sport in the center of the public square. Over 5,000 brook and rainbow trout disport themselves in the great electric fountain which is an ornament of the civic center, the fish having been placed there for rearing purposes. Baby trout were placed in the fountain early in the year by W. M. Smathers, local fisherman and conservationist. They were taken from the Balsam Fish Hatchery near Asheville while quite young and will be fed through the summer season, the food being provided by one of the markets of the city. Late in the fall they will be placed in the many trout streams near Asheville. Asheville has become a mecca for fishermen owing to the restocking policy which has kept the streams of this section alive with brook and rainbow trout. Hundreds of miles of good fishing waters are available in the mountains near the city, nearly 200 miles of which are in the protected Pisgah National Game Preserve in which fishing is allowed during a part of the summer months. The long fishing season which extends from April to September has been made possible through the conservation of the fish resources during the year. An attraction also is the bass fishing which has become more important with the creation by damming of streams of nearly fifty artificial lakes in the vicinity of the city.

COURT NEXT WEEK IN MADISON COUNTY

THOSE BACK SEAT BLUES The salesman calls it a rumble seat, To many it's a humble seat, To mother-in-laws a grumble seat, To tourists just a jumble seat, To sister it's a mumble seat, To grandpa it's a stumble seat, To wise gals, just a dumb belle seat. —The Pathfinder.

"O Brung Bacj Mu Typist T' M3" My typist is qway on hjer vacatuum Mu typosit ix awt fot a werk My ty'biat id away in her vaxatium While thesw keyns play hide anf serk.

Bjing back, bting bzech, brung bacj My typist tu me, to mr Bging bxej, brinf bacj, bting baxk muy rypist to mee. —The Pathfinder.

"WHOOZIT IN MADISON"

"ZEB MERRILL"

Once upon a time a horny-handed hillside farmer tied a plow line around a calf's neck, handed the other end of the rope to his young son and gave him instructions as follows: "Take this calf to town and sell him to the butcher. I want \$5.00 for the calf, but if the butcher will not pay five, you can back down, 50 cents at a step, to \$3.00. If the butcher will not pay you \$3.00, bring the calf and the rope back home." The boy set off on his errand and conducted the calf to the butcher's door, where ensued the following dialogue: Boy: "Pop sent me in to sell you this calf." Butcher: "How much does he want for the calf?" Boy: "Pop told me to ask you \$5.00 but said if you would not pay that much, I could come down to \$3.00." And the boy went back home with Three Dollars and the Rope!

We are relating this story, which is really an old one, simply to make it clear to you what kind of a boy Zeb Merrill WAS NOT! We know not much of his boyhood but from his present day reputation we would surmise that if Zeb had been the boy in the story, he would have held out for the top of the market, which in this case was \$5.00; that he would have closed the trade without budging from the price, and that if the butcher had given him a five-dollar bill the boy Zeb would have had it changed, turned over three dollars to his dad and salted down the other two dollars in Zeb's own pocket! For it is after this manner of doing business that some of our most successful Cow Traders have risen to prominence in their vocation, and we find Zeb rated as one of the best. Most of you readers know Zeb, know where he lives and how he lives—know more than we do of his past life, both as to the open and the darker phases of his career. Zeb has a nice home and a hospitable nature, but he has few or no chickens, for which his alibi is that something got among 'em one night and in wholesale manner killed off a hundred fowls. We believe this, although the number stated may be what you would call a round figure. And we do not want you to suspect that Zeb spirited away his own chickens at night and turned them into cash on a good market, for we can assure you that Zeb would not be the man to treat his own family in any such meanly way, Cow Trader though he is! We can now see that we will not be able to do justice to Zeb Merrill in one chapter or issue. We are willing to continue the story next week, if our readers find it interesting so far. We leave it to you: You may have it if you want it. . . . Old subscribers who are behind with us will please look at the label on their papers and send in some money. Otherwise we will have to cut you off, in which we are perfectly serious, for money is required even in a country print shop. Help us out, and incidentally let us know whether you are further interested in the life of Zeb Merrill, as we propose to write it. New subscribers are always welcome. The paper tells you of our big standing offer, including the News-Record, Progressive Farmer and Pathfinder. Here is where you get the worth of your money, right here at home. You scratch our back and we will see that yours does not go unscratched.

IN A LATER ISSUE: Hon. Geo. M. Pritchard Of Marshall, Asheville and Washington. Revealing for the first time how our George trained himself to keep discrimination in color and color—politically speaking.

THREE MURDER CASES MAY BE TRIED

Superior Court, which will be held in Marshall next week with Judge T. B. Finley, of Wilkesboro, presiding, may prove to be one of unusual interest. It seems quite probable that three murder cases will be for trial. The fact that Fred Shelton is dead, his wife, Mrs. Flossie Shelton, who is held without bond in a cell in the jail at Marshall will be tried for murder, as he is said to have died from shots fired by Mrs. Shelton. State vs. John Davis is on docket. Davis is said to have shot and killed Bunt Roberts on the Doe Branch section of Madison county in a quarrel. It is also possible, if not probable, that the case involving the two Landers brothers in the shooting of Albert King and Arthur Stanton, who are now in the county jail awaiting trial, will be heard. It seems that the case may be delayed on account of the little Stanton girl, now in an Asheville hospital, not being able to testify. This twelve-year-old girl will be an important witness when the case is tried, and if her condition is such that she cannot attend court, the case may be continued.

DID YOU KNOW—

That there are, in and near Asheville, 13 wood working plants, 11 textile mills, 8 flour and grist mills, 6 artificial stone plants and 2 stone cutting establishments, 4 sheet metal works, and 4 manufacturers of pottery, in addition to many other establishments manufacturing a wide variety of products? —The Asheville Times.

Stint On Feed; Lose On Eggs

Cutting down the poultry feed, especially the laying mash, in summer means that laying will be seriously curtailed not only for the present season but later. "Our experimental records show that to curtail or discontinue the laying mash to hens during late summer will result in poor yields of eggs later," says Dr. B. F. Kaupp, head of the poultry department at State College. "The body of the hen must be maintained first and if sufficient feed is not furnished, she will use that given for egg production to build up her body. Production of eggs will fall off and if the hen draws on her body supply of nutrients, she will suffer in vigor so that production later will not be satisfactory. If not sufficiently fed, the hen will draw on her body supply of fat to build the yolk of the egg and on her storehouse of minerals and vitamins to put into the egg. This drainage affects the condition of the body, says Dr. Kaupp, and undermines the health of the bird. He insists that the hen needs a mash feed along with the right amount of grain each day. When putting on the new growth of 8,000 feathers, she needs additional care and attention. White corn, fed alone, will not give a hen all the food nutrients needed. While the egg is 65 per cent water, it also contains 10 per cent of fat, 14 per cent of protein and 11 per cent of minerals, mostly in the shell. Therefore, laying hens must have a good laying mash and grain feed each day in the year. In addition to this, each bird must also have at least seven pounds of green feed to each 100 birds every day. If these requirements are met, there is no reason why some eggs might not be secured throughout the summer and the body of the bird suffer no diminution in vigor for future production. Youngsters will probably pass along the news that a New York father dropped dead while spanking his son. The new North Carolina Crop Improvement Association was definitely launched at the Farm Convention last week. It is no trouble to tell where corn has been planted after clover in Wilkes County. The growth is better.