

heard of it—no? No, certainly not goatees. Nor goats. No—Goty! Dear me, what a dull young man, or else he's deaf!

'Try Go-eth,' suggested one director. 'I always used to call it Geethe,' said another. 'Perhaps he's a French-Canadian—try Go-tay,' proposed a third.

'Gertha,' announced the president, 'is right; and my policy would be to keep right on with Gertha till he understands it is Gertha.'

That is what they did, they thought. When the corrected programme finally reached the members of the club, paragraph two, page two, read thus:

'February 4—Lecture with stereopticon, Gerty's Feast.'

### WORDS WITH ODD HISTORIES

I hope that when you are older you will be able to take up the study of words, for you will learn some very interesting things about them. For instance, long years ago people thought that a certain little flower looked very much like the sun, for they saw that it had a golden centre like the centre of the sun, and that its pretty white petals looked like the brilliant rays of light shining out around the centre of the sun.

Now, in those days the glowing light of the sun seemed to the people looking up at it like a great eye watching all day long, so they called it the 'day's eye,' because it watched only during the day. Now I wonder if you have guessed what the little flower's name is because it looks so much like the sun? Well, then, I will tell you. It is 'd-a-i-s-y.' But its long-ago name was 'day's eye.'

I know another story about the history of a word that I think you will like also. Once upon a time a long while ago there lived a wise man named Duns Scotus, a queer name, I am sure you will say. Well, this man was the leader and teacher of a certain school of great learning.

But after a while another school of learning grew up in that same city, and the men who went there to study thought differently from Duns Scotus' way of teaching, and often made fun of it. The rivalry between the two schools became so unpleasant that when the students met on the streets they would mock each other and say unkind things.

When a student of the new school met a student of the old school he would say: 'Oh, there goes a Dunsman!' which meant a man who studied with Duns, the leader of the school. Then, too, they would cry: 'Oh, there goes a Duns!' Well, now, have you guessed what word was born then? It was the word 'd-u-n-c-e!' That is a strange history for a little word, is it not?

### OF COURSE NOT

Johnny, aged four, went into a near-by grocery and asked for a box of canary-seed.

'Is it for your mother?' asked the grocer.

'No, of course not,' replied the little fellow. 'It's for the bird.'

### AN ACCOMMODATING CUSTOMER

'Everyone asks foolish questions more or less, I suppose, and once in a while there comes the proper rebuke. I was in a chemist's shop one night in Sydney when a man asked for a dozen quinine pills. Smilingly the clerk took them from a drawer and then turned to the customer and asked:

"Shall I put them in a box, sir?"

"No, no," quickly replied the customer, "I intend to roll them home."

### ANY WAY YOU PLEASE

'Mamma, I wish you'd call the baby in; he's so cross we can't play!' cried Robert one day as he was playing in the yard with his sister and the baby.

'I don't think he would be cross if you were not

cross to him,' said mamma, coming out. 'He does just as he sees you do. Just try him and see. Put your hat on one side of your head.'

Robert did so, and presently the baby pushed his straw hat over on one side of his head just as Robbie had done.

'Whistle,' said mamma.

Robbie did, and the baby began to whistle too.

'Stop mocking me!' said Robbie, giving baby a push.

Baby screamed and pushed Robbie back.

'There, you see,' said his mother, 'the baby does just as you do. Kiss him now, and you will see how quickly he will follow your example.'

Robbie did not feel exactly like doing this, but he did, and baby hugged and kissed him back very warmly.

'Now, you see,' said his mother, 'you can make a cross or a good boy of your little brother, just whichever you choose. But you must teach him yourself.'

### A PROBLEM

Little Elizabeth and her mother were having luncheon together, and the mother, who always tried to impress facts upon her young daughter, said: 'These little sardines, Elizabeth, are sometimes eaten by the larger fish.'

Elizabeth gazed at the sardines in wonder, and then asked: 'But, mother, how do the large fish get the cans open?'

### THE STATION HAD GONE ASTRAY

Chinaman: 'You telly me where railway station is?'

Auckland Citizen: 'What's the matter, John? Are you lost?'

Chinaman: 'No; me here all light; station lost.'

### WHAT HE WAS WORKING FOR

The workman was engaged in excavating operations—i.e., he was digging. The wayfarer of the inquisitive turn of mind stopped for a moment to look on. 'My man,' said the wayfarer at length, 'what are you digging for?' The workman looked up. 'Money,' he replied. 'Money!' ejaculated the amazed wayfarer. 'And when do you expect to strike it?' 'Saturday,' replied the workman, and resumed operations.

### FAMILY FUN

**Saltpetre Magic.**—Dissolve saltpetre in water until the water will take up no more. Then take the 'wrong' end of a penholder and, dipping it in the solution, draw in thick strokes some name or device on a piece of light paper, taking care not to break the continuity of the writing anywhere. All words, that is, must be joined. When dry, the device will be invisible. Fold down half an inch of each end of such a paper after it has been allowed to get quite dry, and stand it on something that will not burn. Apply the tip of a lighted cigarette or cigar to some spot touched by the device (you can make an ink-mark before applying the saltpetre to serve as a guide), and a tiny glow-worm of fire will travel all along the lines traced, and end by leaving the device burned out of the paper, no other part of it being destroyed.

**BAXTER'S COMPOUND PILLS.**—Invaluable for toning up the nerves and digestive organs. Each pill is in itself a tonic, and a box completely braces and regulates the whole system. For moody fits, 'nerves,' and stomach disorders, keep a box always at hand. See that those pills are silver coated. None genuine otherwise. Price 1/6 from all chemists, or post free J. Baxter, chemist, Christchurch.