

"I—er—want to go to the Corporation electric light station," he murmured.

The youngster eyed him sourly for a moment.

"All right," he said. "Trot along!"

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

NO BABY IN THE HOUSE.

No baby in the house, I know

'Tis far too nice and clean,

No toys by careless fingers strewn,

Upon the floors are seen.

No finger marks are on the panes,

No scratches on the chairs;

No wooden men set up in rows,

Or marshalled off in pairs;

No little stockings to be darned,

All ragged at the toes;

No pile of mending to be done,

Made up of baby clothes;

No little troubles to be soothed,

No little hands to fold;

No grimy fingers to be washed,

No stories to be told;

No tender kisses to be given,

No nicknames, "Dove" and "Mouse";

No merry frolics after tea—

No baby in the house!

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

SMILE RAISERS.

Comedian: "How much did Rome-o?"

Tragedian: "Give it up."

Comedian: "The bill for the dinner that Juli-et!"

✽

Mactavish (to tourists): "Aye, it's a wunnerfu' echo. When folk roond about here gang tae their beds, they juist put their heids oot o' the window an' shout an' the echo waukens them i' the mornin'!"

✽

"Do you believe in heredity, Nupop?"

"I certainly do. Why, for instance, is my six-months-old son always trying to get his toes in his mouth if it isn't because of his dad's constant struggle to make both ends meet?"

✽

"Oh, Mr. Mark, please buy a ticket for our entertainment. It is for a worthy cause, I assure you."

"Certainly, Mrs. Clatter! And what is that cause?"

"Paying the expenses of the entertainment we gave last week for a worthy cause."

✽

A private was shaving himself in the open air when his sergeant came along.

Sergeant: "Do you always shave outside?"

"Of course," answered the private. "Did you think I was fur-lined?"

✽

Waitress: "What will you have to follow, sir? Boiled mutton, pork sausages, roast beef, tripe and onions, and curried rabbit?"

Hodge (in town for the first time): "Yes, please, Miss."

✽

The Charwoman's Husband (at door): "The missis is very ill, ma'am, and won't be able to come this week."

Lady: "Oh, I am sorry, George. Nothing very serious, I hope?"

The Charwoman's Husband: "Well, ma'am, she was so bad last night I 'ad to go to the pictures by myself."

✽

"Father," said a youngster one evening, "teacher is very interested in you."

"How do you know?" asked father.

"Because when I got all my sums wrong to-day she said, 'I wonder what sort of a father you've got?'"

PILES

Can be instantly relieved and quickly cured by the use of BAXTER'S PILE OINTMENT. This excellent remedy has been a boon to hundreds of sufferers all over New Zealand. Sent post free on receipt of 2/6 in stamps or postal notes by WALTER BAXTER :: CHEMIST, TIMARU.

SCIENCE SIFTINGS

By "VOLT"

TELLING THE TIME AT SEA.

The sailor's day is divided into watches of four hours each.

These begin at four, eight, and twelve o'clock, day and night, and every half-hour of the watch is signalled by the striking of the ship's bell.

By night or by day, four o'clock, eight o'clock, and twelve o'clock are known as eight bells. Then, beginning at the next half-hour, one bell is struck; the following half-hour two bells are struck; at the next, three; and so on up to eight bells, when a new watch begins.

For instance: eight a.m. is recorded by eight bells, half-past eight by one bell, nine o'clock by two bells, half-past nine by three bells, ten o'clock by four bells, half-past ten by five bells, eleven o'clock by six bells, half-past eleven by seven bells, and twelve o'clock (noon) by eight bells.

During the next watch (from midday to four p.m.) this formula is repeated, beginning with one bell at half-past twelve, and so on.

CUTS THAT MEANT CASH.

"The days of our age are threescore years and ten," said the Psalmist, showing that our forefathers reckoned by scores, a system of keeping account of figures based probably in its original form upon the practice of counting upon the fingers and toes.

The word "score" itself comes from the Anglo-Saxon, being nothing more than the word "scoren," which is the past participle of "sceran"—meaning to cut. It indicated a notch or incision made upon a tally-stick for the purpose of keeping a record of financial transactions.

The "score-mark" was the twentieth notch upon these primitive "account books"—a cut which was longer and deeper than the others. Hence the expression, "to pay off old scores," means not only the repayment of old debts, but the revenging of grievances which have cut deep and left a lasting impression.

It is for the same reason, that of reckoning, that we speak of the "score" of a game—meaning the record of the points made—and the "score" or musical record of an opera.

WHEN THE SEA BULGES.

The rise and fall of large bodies of water—a phenomenon to which we have applied the name of tides—is the result of the influence exerted upon the earth by the moon and sun.

Both pull or attract the earth in varying degrees, the power of the moon being about two and a quarter times as great as that of the sun. This attraction is most evident in the fluid portion of the earth's surface—the oceans and larger lakes, which are so affected that they bulge outward, forming a rising of the water on the side of the earth nearest the moon, and also on the opposite side, with corresponding low water between.

The reason for extreme high tides at the times of the new and full moon is because the moon is then in a line with the sun, and the water reacts to the combined pulls of both bodies. At the time of the first and third quarters of the moon this influence is divided—the single-unit pull of the sun acting at right angles to the two and a quarter unit pull of the moon, thus diminishing materially the attraction exerted upon the earth and producing tides that do not rise nearly as high as the ones occurring during the times of the full or new moon.

As the moon appears to revolve about the earth once every 24 hours and 48 minutes, two tidal waves continually sweep around beneath her, causing two high tides and two low tides in each approximate day.

THE MOST OBSTINATE

Corn must quickly yield to BAXTER'S RUBY CORN CURE. Once this remedy is applied there is no escape for the corn—it must give in. Price, 1/- (post free) from BAXTER'S PHARMACY, Theatre Buildings—TIMARU.

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