

TOO OLD AT FORTY?

Man's Richest Years.

The man who has entered his fortieth year is in the prime of life. He is then at the height of his intellectual power. His knowledge and experience of men and things are just ripe enough to draw on. The minds of most great men have grown, and deepened, and widened with age.

It has been said that after the age of forty the brain receives no new impressions. But this has been disproved over and over again.

Macaulay says that "of all the good books now extant in the world, more than nineteen-twentieths were published after the writers had attained the age of forty."

Lord Lyndhurst, we are told, on the night that he entered his ninetieth year, addressed the House of Lords in a speech of incomparable clearness, lucidity and ability.

Statesmen, Scientists and Authors. Lord Palmerston, who died Prime Minister in his eighty-first year, was an "old boy" to the last. Dr. Priestly knew nothing of chemistry until he was forty years of age. Writing to Sir Humphry Davy when in his sixty-eighth year, Priestly said: "As old an experimenter as I am, I was not forty before I made any experiments on the subject of air, and then without, in a manner, any previous knowledge of chemistry."

Goldsmith was not far from forty when he brought out "The Traveller" and "The Vicar of Wakefield." "The Deserted Village" was not published until his forty-second year. Then he became famous. Previous to that he was laughed at and called an "inspired idiot."

Johnson said of him after his death that "he was a plant that flowered late; there was nothing remarkable about him when he was young."

Some of the greatest poets of imagination and intellect have produced their best works about the age now said to be too old.

Wordsworth wrote his "Excursion," which has been said to exhibit the culmination of his genius, when he was forty-four. Pope wrote his stinging satire, "The Dunciad," at forty and the "Essay of Man" at forty-five.

Millon finished his "Paradise Lost" at fifty-seven, and Cowper was far beyond thirty before he knew of his own powers. His "Task" was not written until his fiftieth year.

Benjamin Franklin, the common-sense philosopher, did not fully commence his philosophical pursuits till he had reached his fiftieth year.

Oliver Cromwell was forty before he experienced anything of warfare. He was made captain of a troop at forty-three, and he was colonel at forty-four. He was fifty-four before he was chosen Lord Protector of England.

Handel had reached the age of forty-eight before he gave any assurance to the world of his musical genius. When he wrote "The Messiah" he was fifty-seven.

Dr. Johnson and James Watt wished to test whether their mental faculties had become impaired with age. Johnson learnt Low Dutch at seventy-one, and Watt learnt German at seventy-five. Both mastered these languages and found that their faculties were unimpaired.

Words.

How I love the mere words, the picturesque and dear words, Romy and Patteran and Caravan and Chal—
Mow they lit and sing to me; flame-lit, how they bring to me
Heathered moors and bending skies and gypsy carnival.

The sun-swept and the wild words I dreamed of as a child, words Like Lariat and Chaparral, Coyote, Pinto, Sage;
How they flung a dare to me of life without a care to me;
How the flying hoofbeats rang across the printed page!

The lantern-lit, the old words, the scarlet and the gold words, Palfrey, Jerkin, Yeoman, Falcon, Globe and Glade;
Minstrel, Lance, and Tourney—what an age-long journey
Through the posterns of the Past, alone and half afraid.

The wind-blown and the sea words, the lawless and the free words, Spindrift, Dougloos, Cutlass, Jib, Consair, Yarmark, Crew;
Whispering wild tales to me—ah, how each unveils to me
Palm-fringed islands rising green against the ocean blue.

The balsam-scented North, words that call untamed hearts forth, words Like Wampan, and Mackinow, Duffel, Tumline, Trail;
While the languid South to me turns a lever-mouth to me
Jasmine-scented, passion-flowered, by the Bayou pale.

Some may live their fair dreams, costly, jewelled, rare dreams;
Some may rove the burning world as trees as homing birds;
But still I'll find my all for me, close waiting at my call for me,
In my printed palaces, bright tapestries with words!

—Martha Haskell Clarke.

Plants Thrive in Darkness.

Queer green plant algae that live and thrive in complete darkness nine feet deep in the soil are being investigated by Dr. George T. Moore, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis. In spite of the fact that millions of them inhabit a clump of earth, their true function in life is unknown. One species of these subterranean algae is surprisingly ubiquitous. Dig a hole three or four feet deep in any part of the world and there the algae can be found.

The Chinese usually open a conversation with "How old are you?" instead of "How do you do?"

Measuring the Oceans.

Ocean depths of three or four miles are comparatively common, and the measuring of them is a matter requiring skill and some patience. To fathom these depths, special service ships, such as cable-laying vessels and surveying ships, are equipped with an ingenious machine upon which is wound six or seven miles of wire similar to that used in the making of pianos.

At the end of this wire a tube about two inches in diameter and two feet in length is attached. It has trapping doors at its base, so that when striking the bottom of the sea they open, and the tube becomes partially filled with "sea-floor."

But although weighing about ten pounds, this tube is not sufficiently heavy to reach the bottom with desirable rapidity, so that three detachable weights, about 150 pounds in all, are attached to the tube in such a manner that when they reach the bottom they are automatically released.

It is necessary to slip these weights, because, from a depth of three to four miles, or even less, the wire would not be strong enough to haul the tube and weights to the surface again. If, without weights, the nature of the composition of the bottom would be lost. This "bottom," as it is called, is of great value to scientists, and is preserved in bottles and sent to them.

The ship is manoeuvred over the spot where the sounding is to be taken, and the machine brake released. The wire runs out at the rate of about 600 feet a minute.

A dial on the machine records the amount of wire out, and as the tube reaches the bottom, the springs, being relieved of the weight of the sinkers, automatically bring the brakes into final action and prevent any more wire running out.

At various distances along the wire special thermometers are attached, so that the sea temperatures at various depths can be ascertained; and it is of interest that at great depths the sea is always very cold.

Had No Effect.

A minister was eating dinner with his host before the afternoon service, at which he was to speak. He ate little or nothing, explaining that it was not good for a preacher to eat heavily before a sermon. The housewife could not attend the service, as she had to stay at home and prepare supper. When her husband came home, she said: "Well, how was he?" The husband, drawing a sigh, replied: "He might just as well of."

Some women are busy little bodies, while other women are little busy-bodies; but it was an old bachelor who told us so.

Mining for Wood.

Mining is generally associated with minerals and the getting of these substances out of the earth, but there are some places where mining for timber is an important and lucrative industry.

In a wide swamp near Chicago quantities of white oak logs are being recovered, the remains of a great forest that was submerged seven or eight thousand years ago. Although the outer layers of wood have decayed, some chemical agent in the soil has made the remainder hard and durable and given it a delicate color, for which it is much prized.

Gold prospectors on the Charlotte Plains in Australia recently discovered in the bed of a river long since dried up a valuable deposit of timber known as the she-oak. Many of the logs unearthed had the appearance of having been cut and trimmed by human agency. This wood is also noted for its toughness, and is employed in the manufacture of ornaments and toilet articles.

In the peat bogs in Ireland deposits of bog-oak are frequently encountered. This substance is jet black and exceptionally hard, and provides a profitable industry for the inhabitants, who fashion it into ornaments, pipes, crosses, and so on.

Certain New Zealanders obtain a livelihood by digging for kauri-gum, and amber-colored, resinous substance derived from the kauri-pine, and used in the preparation of special varnish. The fossilized vegetable resin known as amber is also dug out of the earth, and in some parts of Germany and in Jutland there are pits made specially for finding the substance.

In British Columbia there are peculiar mines from which a kind of soap is obtained. The origin of the substance is a mystery, but it consists of borax and some fatty ingredient blended by Nature into the semblance and consistency of soap.

A Poem You Should Know.

The Donkey.

If Gilbert K. Chesterton had never written anything except the following short poem he would have done enough to immortalize his name. The poem is probably the only first-rate piece of literature entirely devoted to that humble servant of man, the donkey.

When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood,
Then surely I was born;

With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
Of all four-footed things.

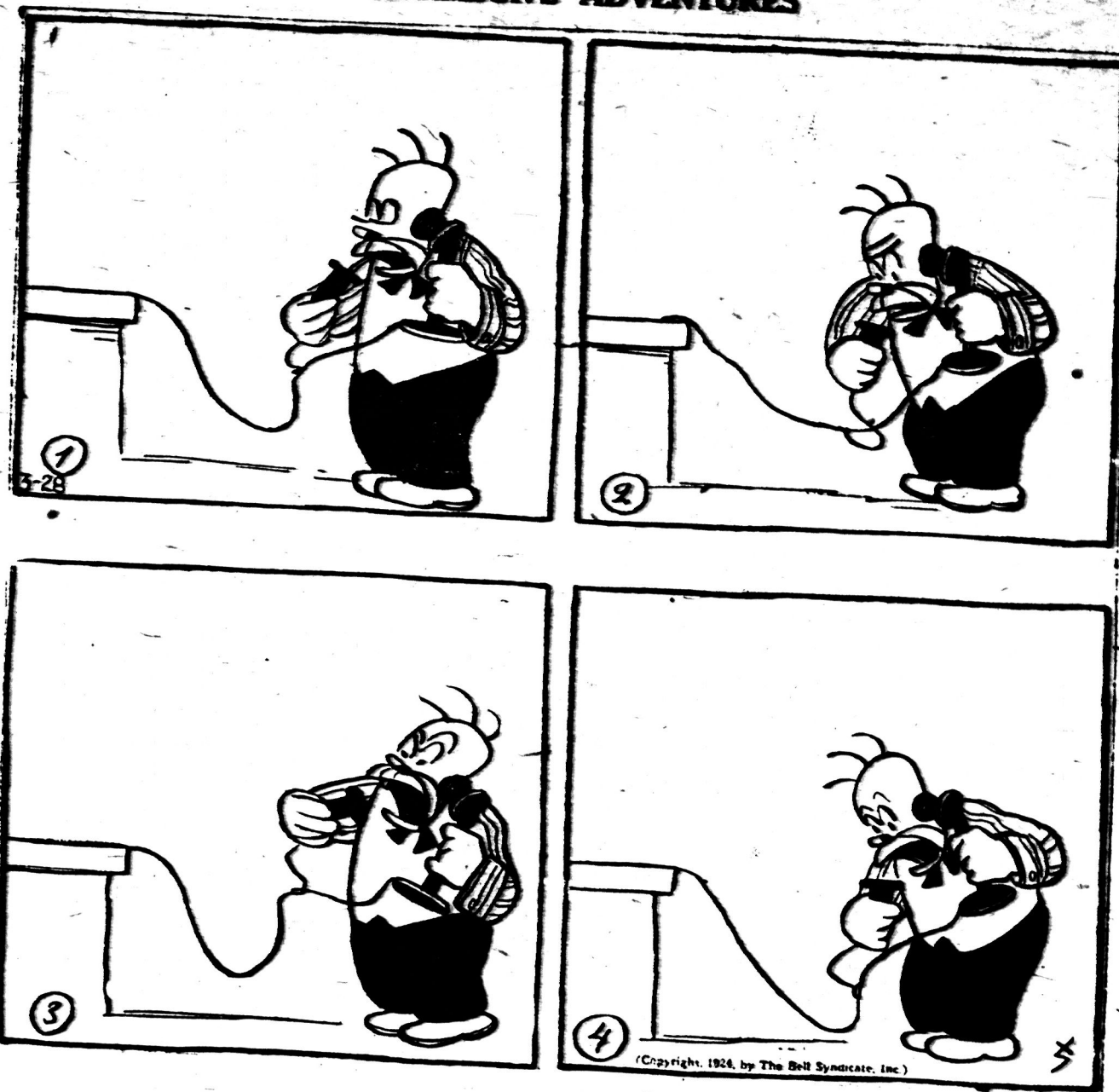
The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.

Choice of Evil.
"What does it mean, pa, by being
between the devil and the deep sea?"
"It means that there is a hot time
coming, even if you keep out of the
bet."

Volcanoes Should be Seen and Not
Heard.
The kindergarten lass was having a
lesson in elementary geography.
"Can any of you tell me what a volcano is?" asked the teacher.
"Oh, yes," answered one small boy,
"it is a high mountain that keeps on
interrupting."

ADAMSON'S ADVENTURES



He Can't Hear Out of the Mouthpiece

Blow That Revives Brain.

There would probably be considerable loss of consciousness if an unconscious patient, called on how he would proceed to restore the apparently drowned, should reply: "I should kick him in the small of the back." Yet that is the way they go about it now in Japan.

There is a spot in the middle of the back which they tell you is a very sensitive nerve-centre; a sharp blow there will stimulate the brain into immediate action. Speaking anatomically, the spot must be described as the base of the eleventh cervical vertebra; for the layman it would be simpler to say the eleventh knob of the spine counting from the large knob that marks the base of the neck.

This trick is part of the Japanese system known as "Katsu," or the restoration of life. Katsu was a natural and inevitable sequel to Jiu-Jitsu. Several of the tricky throws practiced by Japanese wrestlers, if they are fatal in their effects, are at least sufficiently dangerous to stop all the vital processes.

An actual kick in the small of the back is the last resort, however. The blow is usually struck with the second knuckle of the second finger. The smaller the striking surface the greater the stimulation of the nerve-centre.

At football and other sports players are frequently knocked out by severe blows or kicks. For this class of injury another katsu way of revival which may seem weird to our Western ideas is very good in its effects.

The patient is laid on his back, and one person holds down his shoulders, while the other removes one of his boots and pulls the foot strongly upwards. The operator then clenches his fist so that the second knuckle of the second finger protrudes beyond the others, and strikes a blow at the patient's instep just under the bones that form the arch.

Weapons of Antiquity.

The offensive weapons of the Aztecs consisted of bows and arrows, slings, clubs, spears, light javelins and sword. The bows were made of tough, elastic wood and were about five feet in length. For strings they used the sinews of animals or stags' hair, twisted.

The arrows were of light cane, with about six inches of oak or other hard wood inserted in the end; at the extremity a piece of flint (obsidian) was fastened with hequiquin fibre and further secured with a paste of resin or other adhesive substance.

Sometimes instead of flint they used the bones of animals or fish. The bone of a fish called libria is said to have caused by its venomous properties a wound very difficult to heal.

It is well known that the Nahuas nations did not use poisoned arrows; such weapons would have defeated the object for which they often fought—namely, that of taking their enemies alive for the purpose of sacrificing them upon the altars of their gods.

The One Friend Left.

The man walked down the principal residential street of the town where he lived. And as he proceeded many trams glared at him and the fathers of small children pretended not to see him. Scorn met him on every side, accompanied by her silent companion, Contempt.

But at length he came to one gate where one woman did not heap disdain upon his pallid presence. She was there awaiting his approach, a child in her arms, a smile upon her face.

"Oh, Mr. Bixby!" she cried, "I wanted you to see little Mary this morning. She seems to know that she was judged the prettiest baby in Greenwood County yesterday, and I wanted to thank you again for your decision."

Not Even a Chip.
"He's a chip of the old block."
"Merely a sliver, I'd say."



FLIMERICKS



There once was a very young _____
(female juvenile)
Whose short hair would not stay in _____
(coiled spiral)
So to keep it in _____
(particular appearance)
She used glue and _____
(narrow cotton cloth)
Which gave it a buzz-saw-like _____
(rotary movement)

"Upon the line write the word that is defined below."

FAIR
Variations — Fair
Fairson, Beaufr
Racial Origin—An
man-French.
Source—Titles or

The most puzzling names to those of the ones which are of relationship—of "son" used as a der how such words father and the like designate or differ from another.

A proper understanding of the changes in the "Child," for instance, in those days, and various shades of words son "society," dressing people cloth.

All of the foregoing the exception of being which are not near day, have meanings. The word "bairn" is Scottish, the word "son" Anglo-Saxon, "born" it means.

Parents often call "son," "child," "brother." In many instances within the family a middle ages commoner, and speech was used, they sometimes used entire community, and in turn grew up the latter came to be child's-sons, "Fairer."

Later, shortening the word the ending "son" "Fitz," as has been fore, was the Norman of the Anglo-Saxons was formed through Teutonic tongues on the Indeed, even after the to England they preferred instead of as they preferred Beaufriz and "fair child" or "Fair."

are really met with in this country today.

On his ninety-ninth Seattle man gets too just inherited \$3,000,000. Answer it by asking would trade places with twenty or millionaire.

After all, life itself is wealth. Money is value contributes to the abundance. Youth and health are cause they contribute abundance. Age is v

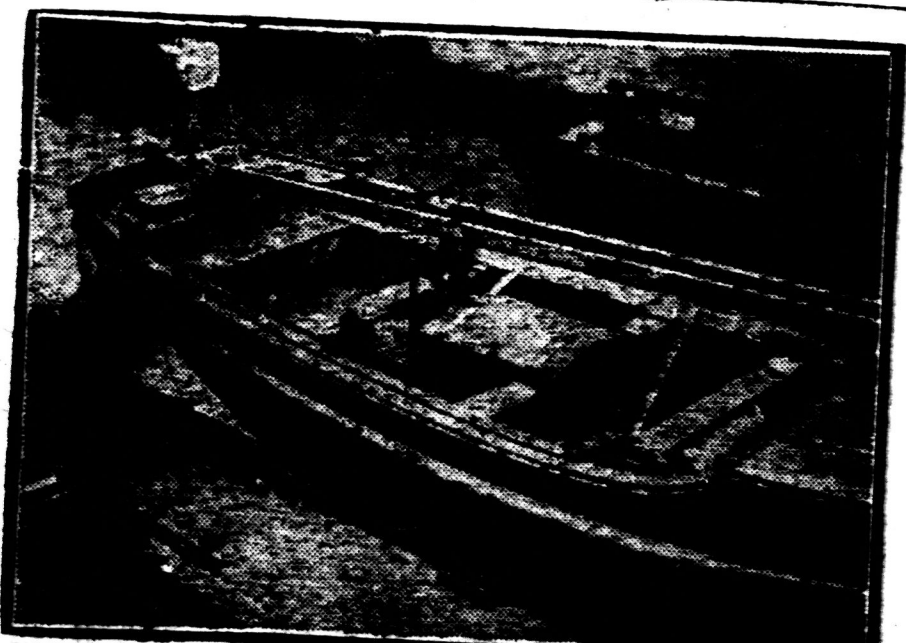
WE WANT CH

CREA

We supply cans and charges. We pay daily money orders, which can any where without any To obtain the top must be free from bad contain not less than Butter Fat.

Bowes Company Toronto

For references—Head On Bank of Montreal, or your Established for over th



Non-drinkable, self-bailing motor lifeboat, designed for the liners of an Atlantic steamship company.