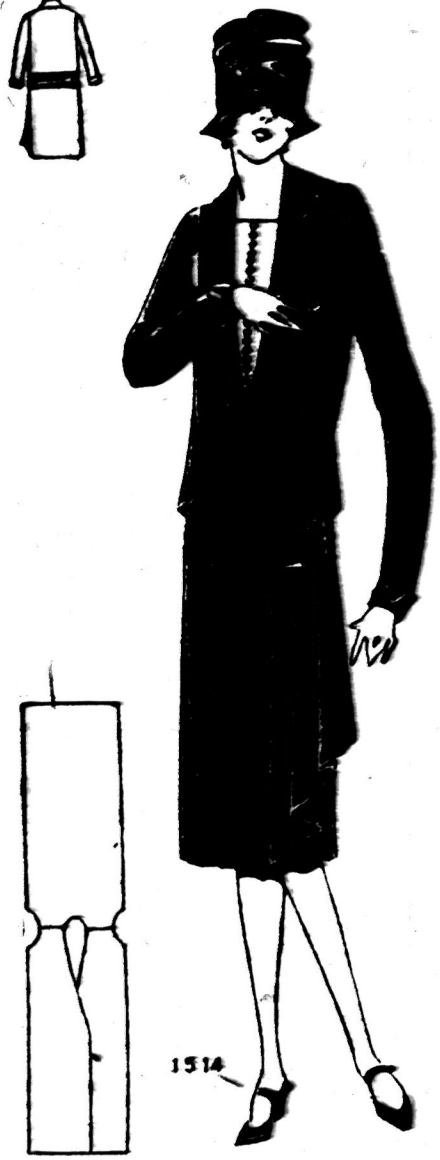


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What is a Polygon?

A selection of schoolboy "howlers" is given in the "University Correspondent." In the general section are the following:
Guy's Hospital was built to commemorate the Gunpowder Plot.
Joan of Arc was canonized by Bernard Shaw.
Lipton is the capital of Ceylon.
William III, on his way to Hampton Court, stumbled over a mole and broke his collar-stud—which was fatal to a man of his constituency.
Sir Walter Scott wrote "Quentin Durwood," "Ivanhoe," and "Emulsion."
A talleman is a man who calls every week for the furniture money.
A prospectus is a man who finds gold.
The Old Gentleman means Gladstone.
Examinations may be written or vice versa.
Fallacy is another name for suicide.
Under the heading of Mathematics and Science the following appear:
A polygon is a dead parrot.
A triangle with equal sides is called equatorial.
Sodium nitrate is the chief chilly source of nitric acid.
Early Hours.
Employer—"Now that I have decided to give you the job, I must tell you that early hours are the rule in this establishment."
New Clerk—"That's good. You can't close too early for me."
Athletes use Ward's Liniment.

Out of Life.

Not mine to do the brilliant deed,
Nor mine to come to fame,
But mine to fill some humbler need,
Its lasting love to claim.

What matters it that fame goes by
And fades to notice me?
The twinkle in my baby's eye
Is still a joy to see.

Could richer friends be truer than
The ones along my street?
And could I be a happier man
If monarchs I should meet?

What though I keep a humble post
Where praise is little known!
I've many a splendor I can boast
Which greatness may not own.

I've friends to share my fire at night,
Good neighbors dwelling near,
I gather many a sweet delight
Throughout the passing year.

I walk the woods and wade the streams,
Love birds and flowers and trees,
I have as many golden dreams
As rich men, if you please.

Stripped of the pomp of wealth and fame
This life we live on earth
Gives to us all about the same
Few lasting things of worth.

—Edgar A. Guest.

"Counting Your Chickens."

A story is told of a dairymaid carrying a pail of milk on her head and thinking: "This milk will sell for ten shillings; with this money I will buy three pullets and a cock; in a year's time I shall have thirty chicks; these I shall sell for three golden sovereigns, with which I will buy myself a new dress. Green suits my complexion best, and green it shall be."
At the thought of her coming splendor she tossed her head, and down comes the milk—and all her ruy dreams.

The story is told to the text: "Don't count your chickens before they are hatched," and the man who first gave this advice was Samuel Butler, the famous wit who wrote "Hudibras." The original setting is as follows: Make fools believe in their foreseeing. Of things before they are in being; To swallow gudgeons ere they're catch'd, And count their chickens ere they're hatch'd.

Australia's Record Ranches.

The new State of North Australia is a quarter of a million square miles in extent, and, white, black, and half-caste, the population numbers only 34,000. Its capital, Port Darwin, is its only town.

It has the distinction, however, of including in its area the largest ranches in the world. For their size they do not carry many cattle, because of the long dry season.

Alexandria Station is 12,000 square miles in area, and carries 50,000 head of cattle; Brunete Downs, now widely known as a station on the Imperial Air Route, has an area of 10,600 square miles; whilst the Victoria River Downs Station, with 13,092 square miles, is the largest cattle station in the world, and can carry 100,000 head.



The Variety of Peach.
Bill—"She's a peach and I'm going to let her wear this diamond."
Jim (warningly)—"She's a clinging vine, my boy."
Early Parchment.
A factory for making parchment was started in the town of Pergamum in 200 B.C.
Lakes Rare in Warm Lands.
Most lakes are the result of glaciation, and consequently lakes are rare in warm dry climates.



BEGIN HERE TO-DAY.

Ben Darby, a prisoner, is examined in the presence of Governor McNamara by a famous alienist named Forest. The governor is convinced that the convict is a victim of amnesia and parries Darby to Ezra Melville, an old friend of the prisoner. The two men journey to Seattle where Melville unfolds his plans to Ben and shows him a letter from his brother.

Hiram Melville, written on the letter's death bed. The letter stated that while prospecting near the Yuga River he had come upon a pocket worth nearly a quarter of a million dollars. Hiram begged that his brother come immediately and take possession of the claim, the only condition being that Ezra should care for his pet, Fenris. Melville offers Ben a free partnership and Ben accepts with deepest gratitude. Ray Brent is in love with Beatrice. He meets her in front of a hotel and offers to escort her home.

GO ON WITH THE STORY.

Ray Brent's voice had an undeniable ring of power. It was deeply bass, evidently the voice of a passionate, reckless, brutal man.

The man fell in beside her, his powerful frame overshadowing hers. "You're just letting me because I'm going up there anyway, eh?" he asked.

The girl paused, as if in appeal. "Ray, we've thrashed that out long ago," she responded. "I wish you wouldn't keep talking about it. If you want to walk with me—"

"All right, but you'll be changing your mind one of these days," Ray's voice rang in the silence, indicating utter indifference to the fact that many of the loungers on the street were listening to his little scene.

They followed the board sidewalk into the shadows, finally turning in at a ramshackle, three-room house.

The girl turned to go in, but the man held fast to her arm. "Wait just a minute, Bee," he urged. "I've got one thing more to say to you."

"When I want something, I don't know how to quit till I get it. It's part of my nature. Your pop knows that—and that's why he's made me his partner in a big deal."

"The strong man gets what he wants—and I want you. And I'll get you, too—just like I got this kiss."

But she was a northern girl, trained to self-defence. As he freed her, her strong, slender arm swung out and up—with really startling force.

"You little—devil!"

The tempter of the forest was upon her, and her eyes blazed as she hastened around the house.

CHAPTER III.

BEATRICE NELSON'S FAITH.

Jeffery Neilson and Chan Heminway were already in session when Ray Brent, his face flushed and his eyes still angry and red, joined them. Neilson was a tall, gaunt man, well past fifty—from his manner evidently the leader of the three. He had heavy, grizzled brows and rather quiet eyes. Notorious as he was through the northern provinces he was infinitely to be preferred to Chan Heminway, who sat at his left, who, a weaker man than either Ray or Neilson, was simply a tool in the latter's hand.

"Where's Beatrice?" Neilson asked at once. "I thought I heard her voice."

Ray searched for a reply, and in the silence all three heard the girl's tread as she went around the house.

"She's going in the back door. Likely she didn't want to disturb us."

Ray looked up to find Neilson's eyes firmly fixed upon his face. Try hard as he might he couldn't restrain a surge of color in his cheeks. "Yes, and what's the rest of it?" Neilson asked.

"Nothing—I know of."

"You've got some white marks on your cheeks—where it ain't red. The kid can slap, can't she—"

Ray flushed deeper, but the lines of Neilson's face began to deepen and draw. Then his voice broke in a great, hearty chuckle.

"Cool down, boy—wait till you hear everything I've got to tell you, and you'll feel better. Of course, you know what it's about—"

"I suppose—Hiram Melville's claim."

"That's it. You know he's always had an idea that the Yuga country was worth prospecting, but we always laughed at him. Of course it is a pocket country; but it's my opinion he found a pocket that would make many a placer look sick, before he died."

"But he might have got the nuggets somewhere else—"

"Hold your horses. Where would he get 'em? There's something else suspicious too. He wrote a letter, the day before he died, and addressed it to Ezra Melville. He must just about got it by now. He had the clerk mail it for him, and got him to witness it, saying it was his will—and what did the old hound have to will except a mine? Next day he wrote another letter somewhere too—but I didn't find out who it was to."

"I should say it was worth a trip," Ray agreed. "And a flat one, too. Ezra Melville will be showing up one

He sprang up, his eyes blazing. "I remember everything," an inaudible voice spoke within him. Then he whispered fervently to his familiar wilds. "And I have come home."

CHAPTER IV.

A BOLT FROM THE HEAVS.

Everything was as it should be, as he and Ezra made the camp.

"It's all come clear again," he told Ezra. He remembered now that Ezra had always been the most intimate friend of his own family; a spry old godfather to himself and young sister, a boon companion to his once successful rival, Ben's father. Ben did not wonder, now, at his own perplexity when Forest had spoken of "Wolf" Darby. That was his own name known throughout hundreds of square miles of forest and in dozens of little river hamlets in an Eastern province.

The journey ended at last. They saw the white peak they had been told to watch for, and soon after they came to a green bank from which the forest had been cut away. They pushed up and made landing on the banks of a small stream.

This stream, Ezra knew, was Poor Man's Creek, the stream of which his brother had written and which they must ascend to reach Spruce Pass. Only five miles distant, in a quartering direction from the river, was Snowy Gulch, the village where they were to secure supplies and, from Steve Morris, the late Hiram's gun and his pet, Fenris.

Before they were fully unpacked they made out the figure of a middle-aged frontiersman, his back loaded, advancing up the road toward them.

"Howdy," Ezra began pleasantly.

"Howdy," the stranger replied.

"How was goin'?"

"Oh, good enough."

"Come all the way from Saltville?"

(To be continued.)

For Colds—Minard's Liniment.

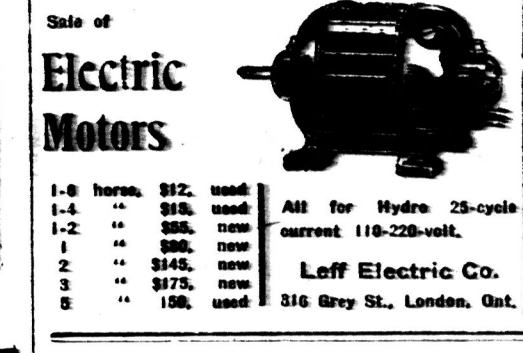
A Long Telephone Line.

The second longest truck telephone line in the world has recently been opened by the Australian postal department for public traffic between Townsville, in the north of Queensland, and Melbourne, capital of Victoria, a southern state. The line runs almost the entire length of the continent. It is 2,017 miles long, and the New York-San Francisco line is the only line of greater length known to postal authorities of Australia.

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ISSUE No. 2-27.



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