

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1930

HOCKEY

Here's some news straight from Bunker Hill. It's about a big hockey game. Hockey is fairly rough at best, and the game last night between the Boston Bruins and the Philadelphia Quakers was just about the roughest on record. The climax came when both teams stoppped playing for a minute and went at each other with their fists. A story on the sports page of the New York Evening Telegram tells of the wild scramble there on the ice--eyes were blackened, and noses flattened out. The police butted in and that only made the battle bigger and better. The referees went to the aid of the cops and they got swatted too. When it was over, there were as many black eyes and swollen jaws as you might have seen at an old time battle royal.

1 ~~Well~~, I'll bet the fellow in this
2 next dispatch is going to get himself
3 a spelling book and start in from the
4 beginning:--c-a-t, cat; r-a-t, rat; and
5 go right on through to T-h-e-r-m-o-p-y-l-æ,
6 Thermopylae. He's a kidnapper out in
7 Kansas City, and they got him because he
8 wasn't so good at spelling.

9 The Associated Press informs us
10 that the police had him do a bit of
11 writing, and he misspelled two words.
12 He wrote s-t-r-e-a-t for street. And
13 when he came to the word curbing, he
14 spelled it c-u-r-b-o-n. Well, those
15 two same words were misspelled in a
16 letter which had been sent by the
17 kidnappers ~~in~~ demanding a ransom. The
18 evidence was so strong that the bad
19 speller ~~confessed~~. *broke down and*
20 *confessed.*
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1 Well, we won't see Abe Martin any
2 more, and we won't listen to his homely
3 philosophies. Because Kin Hubbard, the
4 creator of Abe Martin, is dead. Newspaper
5 readers all over the country are familiar
6 with the daily cartoon of the old
7 homespun wise man standing there against
8 the village pump and propounding some
9 gem of hayseed wisdom.

10 The New York Sun informs us that ^{Kin}
11 Hubbard always said he got Abe Martin's
12 peculiar philosophy from an old, small
13 town livery stable. When ^{Kin} Hubbard was a
14 shipping clerk out in Logan County,
15 Ohio, he used to stop in at that livery
16 stable and listen to the wise remarks
17 of the old fellows hanging around there.
18 He never forgot their sage sayings; and ^{later}
19 ^{he} embodied them in the personality of Abe
20 Martin.

1 Today's fashion note from Paris
2 states that next year the styles will be
3 colonial. No, don't think that this is
4 a return to the hoopskirts and powdered
5 wigs of Martha Washington's days. When
6 those Parisian designers of fashions say
7 "colonial" they're thinking about the French
8 colonies in Asia, Africa, and the South
9 Seas. And what they expect is that the
10 ladies will be wearing the Moroccan
11 burnoose, the Anamite umbrella hat, the
12 sari from Pondicherry, the hula-hula
13 skirt from Samoa, ^{everything but} and the birthday clothes
14 of the Sengalese.

15 The United Press tells us that the
16 reason for all of this is that there's
17 going to be an international colonial
18 exposition in Paris, and the Parisian
19 fashion designers ~~say it will only be~~
20 ~~right if colonial styles prevail for the~~
21 ~~time~~. *are advocating a vogue of*
22 *good old French colonial styles.*
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SAN SALVADOR

A political note from the Central American republic of San Salvador comes next, and it strikes a new note. It tells of a lady running for president, and that's an oddity -- especially in San Salvador.

They say they're going to have a Free Election down there and, according to the New York Sun to the surprise of everybody a woman has been entered as one of the candidates. It even surprised the lady. She is Senorita Ayala, and she's a suffraget of the fiery Mrs. Pankhurst School. She announced that she was going to run for president, but she never expected to get her name on the ballot. The government, however, said it was going to be a Free Election, and listed the Senorita among the other candidates. Political experts in San Salvador say she hasn't got a chance. Victory is predicted for the man who has control of the army; for the man who controls the army is the man who gets elected in Central America. You can bet your last bunch of bananas on that.

MONTE CARLO

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1 More news ^{has been coming in telling about} ~~comes flashing about~~
2 that comic opera ^{over} revolution ^{at} Monte
3 Carlo. Prince Louis, the ruler of that
4 little principality ^{which} devoted to gambling,
5 has taken up the reins of ~~the~~ government.
6 The people have been rioting against
7 him, and he seems to be trying to use
8 the iron hand. He has suspended ~~the~~
9 parliament in his tiny country and,
10 according to the International News
11 Service, ^{he} ~~has~~ proclaimed what ~~virtually~~
12 amounts to a dictatorship.
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1 From far off romantic Rangoon more
 2 news came in today regarding a native
 3 uprising that is causing British officials
 4 ~~in Burma~~ a lot of sleepless nights. Troops
 5 are being rushed up the Irrawady River
 6 from Rangoon and Mandalay. An important
 7 British official has just been killed by
 8 the Burmese villagers, who then fought a
 9 pitched battle with the police. The ~~xxx~~
 10 police are reported to have won. ~~and~~ The
 11 villagers have fled from their homes and ^{have}
 12 taken refuge in the hills and jungle. They are
 13 ^{hiding in the region} where the elephants bring those great
 14 teak logs ^{from} ~~out of~~ the Burma forest.

15 Burma, by the way is one of the most
 16 fascinating and glamorous countries in
 17 the Orient. It is inhabited mainly by
 18 Mongolians. ^{who} Peoples ~~that~~ came over the
 19 Himalaya mountains ^{from China} in successive waves
 20 long centuries ago. ~~Each wave was of~~
 21 ~~somewhat different Mongolian stock and~~
 22 ~~today you find many varieties of the xxx~~
 23 ~~yellow race in Burma. In the south, ^{raising rice} in~~
 24 ~~the Irrawady delta you find the so-called~~
 25 ~~pure Burmese. A little farther north you~~

One of the reasons why the British have been able to rule as long as they have in Burma is because the various races; the Karens, the Was, the Chins, Kachins, and so on are unable to unite against any enemy. They have no national feeling, and they would as soon be under the British as anyone - in fact most of the peoples of Burma prefer the British and quite often a Britisher takes unto himself a Burmese wife. The women of the country are particularly lovely.

Usually the white man leaves his Burmese wife behind when he gets ready to retire and say goodbye to the Orient. But before he has a chance to leave sometimes his little, dainty Burmese lady goes into the jungle and brings back a deadly secret herb. She slips a bit of it in his tea - and then with great pomp the white man is buried within sound of the temple bells of the Pagodas on the Road to Mandalay. But Burma is a gorgeous land, just about the most charming on earth. If you ever take that voyage around the world be sure and make a side trip up the Irrawady River on one of those side-wheelers that go a chunkin' from Rangoon to Mandalay.

I've been getting some fascinating letters
1 ~~One thing that I have been enjoying~~
2 ~~lately, letters~~
3 ~~the last couple of months is the letters~~
4 from radio listeners which tell ^{ing} stories
5 of curious happenings, strange tales
6 that have never been printed, the news
7 that never gets into the papers. Here's
8 one from Clarence P. Wilson, of Brookline,
9 Massachusetts. Mr. Wilson tells of the
10 time when he was working with a government
11 survey party down in the Arizona desert,
12 near the Mexican border. He was out
13 chopping some wood at dusk, when he saw
14 a polecat right in front of him. He
15 backed away and pulled out his gun and
16 fired several shots at the animal. Then
17 he went back to camp.

18 The next morning he went out to the
19 place where he saw that polecat and there
20 it was, dead, but it had not been hit by
21 any bullets. A few feet away from it was
22 a great big rattle ⁿ ~~snake~~, with its head
23 shot off. The polecat had been bitten
24 by the rattle ⁿ ~~snake~~. And it was a small
25 tragedy of nature. Apparently the
rattle ⁿ ~~snake~~ had been disturbed by the

1 wood chopping and had blamed it on the
2 polecat and had struck the animal. Then
3 when Mr. Wilson fired he hit the rattlesnake^u
4 ~~snake~~.

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1 Now for a question out of the
2 weekly questionnaire in the current issue
3 of the Literary Digest. The Digest ~~asks~~
4 asks:--WHEN DID CONAN DOYLE PLAY THE
5 DETECTIVE? In other words, when did the
6 creator of Sherlock Holmes play the part
7 of Sherlock Holmes in actual life? Well, *I*
8 *happened to* know that Conan Doyle had done a
9 Sherlock Holmes act in the famous Slater
10 case in England, *simply because I knew Conan Doyle* He did a magnificent
11 bit of amateur sleuthing, *once* and proved that
12 the man Slater, who had been sentenced to
13 prison for life, was innocent. ~~and~~ As a
14 result of Doyle's subtle work the man
15 was released.

16 I turned to the Digest story just
17 to read once more about the ingenious
18 way by which Doyle proved the innocence
19 of an innocent man. It makes a great
20 detective story. But that Digest article
21 gave me a surprise, because it told of
22 another case in which Doyle had played
23 the real-life detective. And the story
24 is a strange one.

25 The Church of England pastor of the

parish of Great Wyrley was a Parsee. That is, he was a member of that curious Persian race in India, the fireworshippers, the followers of Zoroaster. Well, it is a curious thing to have a Parsee for a pastor of an English parish. And the Parsee pastor was married to an Englishwoman. It was a strange situation and it provoked a lot of bad feeling in the parish of Great Wyrley. The Parsee and his wife had a son, and that half-caste boy was accused of being the guilty person in a curious crime wave. Somebody was maiming the horses in the parish, slashing the horses with ^a knife. And they blamed the half-caste boy and he was sent to prison.

Then Conan Doyle came upon the scene. And he used the detective methods he made famous in the person of Sherlock Holmes. He solved the case and proved the half-caste boy innocent, and had him released from prison. And if you'll turn to your ~~are~~ new Literary Digest you'll find a fascinating detective story related there about that episode in the life of the creator of Sherlock Holmes.

1 For the News Item of the Day I've
2 picked what might seem at the first
3 glance ^{to be} a bit of society news. It's
4 about clubmen. But the club happens to
5 be the Caterpillar Club, and that, as
6 you know, consists of aviators who have
7 had to make parachute jumps to save
8 their lives.

9 The New York Sun informs us that
10 the Caterpillar Club now has 326 members.
11 It seems to be quite a popular club,
12 because new members are joining at a
13 rapid rate. 55 new members have joined
14 the club since last August.

15 Well, there's a tremendous amount
16 of adventure packed into that mention of
17 55 new members. It means 55 parachute
18 ~~jumps~~ jumps made in the nick of time ^{at}
19 in the last desperate moment ~~of~~ of danger.
20 For example, out in Hawaii there was a
21 regular parachute jumping party. A big
22 army transport plane went wrong, and in
23 it was a cargo of student fliers.
24 Everybody went over the side, and parachutes
25 were scattered about ~~in~~ the Hawaiian sky.

1 All six men came down safely.

2 Then there was Captain Juelson,
3 an air mail pilot. His plane got into
4 trouble near Cleveland. And when he
5 decided to jump he found he didn't have
6 his parachute strapped into place. It
7 was on the seat beside him, and it was
8 opened. It was just a loose bundle of
9 cloth. Well, he managed to push it out
10 of the plane and get it fluttering, and
11 he held on to one rope and jumped. He
12 got clear of the plane, all right, but
13 found himself tangled up in the parachute
14 lines in such a way that he was hanging
15 head downward! And that's no way to
16 land with a parachute. He managed to
17 get straightened out just in time, and
18 landed on his feet.

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METEOR

Remember that meteor swarm that swept through our skies last November? And then that big meteor that came flaming down to earth yesterday out in Idaho? Well, the scientists tell us that the Christmas meteor was just a big straggler drifting along on the tail end of that November meteor swarm.

Meanwhile, no traces of yesterday's giant meteor have been found. Scientists think it may have burned up before it actually hit the ground. At least so the International News Service reports.

Near Philadelphia they had a meteor that turned out to be no meteor at all. A farmer in a field heard a whistling sound and just as he ducked he saw something hit the ground in a cloud of dust. He telephoned that a big meteor had fallen. An expert hurried to the spot and found that the meteor was nothing more than a monkey wrench that had dropped from an airplane. The airplane was flying at an altitude of some 10,000 feet they found. The boys will have to be more careful about

dropping meteors like that. If you got crowned by a monkey wrench dropped from two miles in the air you would think you were hit by a meteor -- and the effect would be the same, so they tell me.

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1 I don't know what we can do about
2 this next bit of news. It concerns the
3 misbehavior of a planet. British
4 astronomers are said to be thrown into a
5 veritable scientific conniption because
6 the tiny planet Eros has strayed from its
7 regular beaten path. In fact, the
8 wandering Eros is said to be millions of
9 miles off its course. Yes, and, according
10 to the International News Service, it's
11 much nearer the earth than it ought to
12 be. Maybe it's heading this way.

13 Well, I think I'll dash out now
14 and have a look for myself. If Eros does
15 get fresh and bump into Old Mother Earth,
16 I suppose we'll all be taking a winter
17 holiday-cruise along the Milky Way with
18 Professor Einstein for our guide. But if
19 the wayward planet ~~Eros~~ misses us on his
20 mad careen through space, I hope you'll
21 be on hand at this hour tomorrow evening.
22 I'll not be here, because the editors of
23 the Literary Digest have very graciously
24 suggested that I have my postponed turkey
25 dinner at home on the farm tomorrow. And

1 that's where I'm bound for now. My
2 place tomorrow night will be taken by
3 Ben Adams, who many of you already know.
4 He is one of the editors of the Digest,
5 and he'll be here tomorrow night with
6 all the latest news.

7 I'll be off now. So, so long and
8 good night.

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