

BY THE WAY

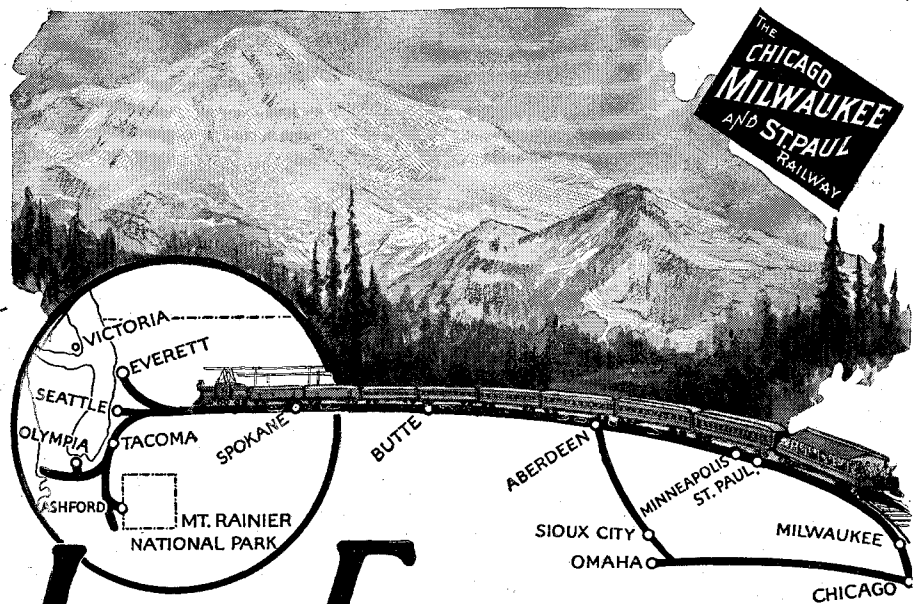
THE word "chapel" is used by printers to denote the body of journeymen employed in a composing-room. This special use of the word is apparently unknown in some other trades. Recently a contribution from The Outlook's composing-room was sent by the chairman of its chapel to workers in another line who needed assistance. The contribution was gratefully acknowledged in a letter addressed thus: "The Rev. George Wright, The Outlook Chapel, New York City."

A Baptist minister who practiced immersion was asked, according to "Judge," to tell what was his most awkward experience. He said: "One Sunday afternoon I was to have an immersion in the river on the outskirts of town. A great crowd had assembled. There were two candidates for baptism. One was an extraordinarily tall woman, coming almost up to my own six-feet-three in height. The other was a little runt of a man hardly five feet tall. When it came time for the ceremony I took the towering lady by the arm, intending to immerse her first, and told the little man to follow us. The lady and I had gone into the water until it was about up to our waists, when I heard very improper tittering among the spectators. Looking back to discover the cause of this untimely levity, I beheld the little candidate for baptism coming along—swimming!"

"When, years ago," says Dr. G. Stanley Hall in the "Atlantic," "I first heard the picturesque word 'Flapper' applied to a girl, I thought of a loose sail flapping in whatever wind may blow, and liable to upset the craft it is meant to impel. There was also in my mind the flitting and yet cruder mental imagery of a wash, just hung out to dry in the light and breeze, before it is starched and ironed for use. I was a little ashamed of this when the dictionary set me right by defining the word as a fledgling, yet in the nest, and vainly attempting to fly while its wings have only pinfeathers; and I recognized that thus the genius of 'slanguage' had made the squab the symbol of budding girlhood."

Specialization in the shoe trade is indicated by this sign over the front of a New York City store: "Shoes for Boys, Youths, and Little Gents."

Few people realize the vast extent of the Dutch empire in the East. The Netherlands, the home country, is only about 13,000 square miles in area, and trains go from its eastern to its western boundary in a few hours. But the journey by sea from Sabang, north of Sumatra, to Merauke in New Guinea—the extreme limits of Holland's island empire—covers about 3,000 nautical miles, or more than the distance from the United States to England. The total area is about 735,000 square miles. One of the islands, Java, about as large as New York State, contains a population



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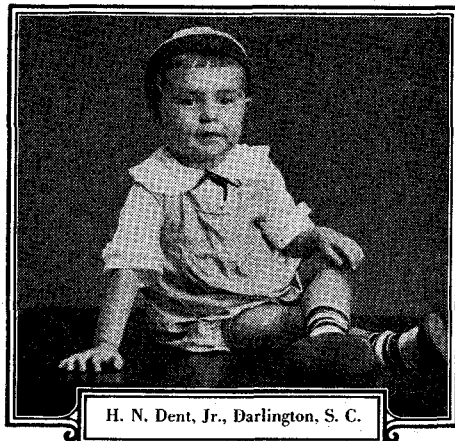
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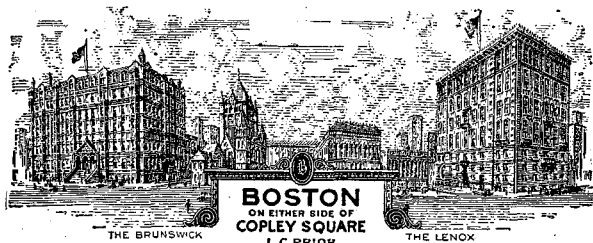
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BY THE WAY—(Continued)
of 34,000,000—three or four times
great as that of our Empire State.

Here is a clever indictment of o
lingual inconsistencies, headed in
contemporary's column as "The San
Old Slam on Our Language."

When the English tongue we speak
Why is break not rhymed with freak?
Will you tell me why it's true
We say sew but likewise few,
And the maker of a verse
Cannot cap his horse with worse?
Beard sounds not the same as heard;
Cord is different from word;
Cow is cow, but low is low;
Shoe is never rhymed with foe.
Think of hose and dose and lose,
And of goose and yet of choose.
Think of comb and tomb and bomb;
Doll and roll and home and some.
And since pay is rhymed with say,
Why not paid with said, I pray?
We have blood and food and good,
Mould is not pronounced like could.
Wherefore done and gone and lone?
Is there any reason known?
And, in short, it seems to me
Sound and letters disagree.

An incident that Sir Ernest Shack
ton always repeated with glee was t
reply one of the Irish members made
him when Shackleton asked: "Can y
imagine the enormous extent of thos
vast Arctic snow fields?" "Yes," repli
the Irish member, "I had the same si
sation the first toime I appeared in pu
lic wearing a dress shirt."

"Some of the neighbors are making
howl about the items we are sending
in," says a contributor of local news
items to the Columbus (Montana)
"News." "So I believe that as soon a
my supply of stationery runs out, I wi
quit writing. Let some one else take th
job if they think they can do so muc
better. I am getting tired of beif
bawled out every week, and would lik
to sit back and criticise some one el
writing for a while."

To this the Editor, not wishing to los
an able writer, brackets a comfortin
and finely independent reply:

"Stay with 'em, kid! Don't let th
jabbering of a few kickers unveil th
cayuse in your disposition. If an edito
or writer takes the scare that easy, w
would have swapped our pen for
Fatima ten years ago, and each an
every issue since then. If our patro
don't like what you and I write, let
them stop taking the darned News, and
then they will surely have no kick com
ing."

From "Punch:" Boy at car window
(to father, seeing him off to school)—
"If you like, daddy, I'll introduce you to
Binks's father. He's the sort of man
it might be rather useful for you to
know."

From "Judge:"

Between an optimist and a pessimist
The difference is not so strange;
The optimist smiles at the cashier
girl,
The pessimist counts the change.