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## Picturesque Log Fires



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## BY THE WAY

THe fact that American initiative is still alive and going strong is evidenced in the career of the new President of the University of Arizona, Dr. Cloyd Heck Marvin. Twenty years ago he was a newsboy-but an ambitious one. He worked hard and studied hard, and in 1909 he graduated from the Riverside (California) high school and immediately entered upon preliminary legal studies in Stanford University. In 1915 he received a Master's Degree in Business Administration at the University of Southern California. Later he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Harvard. He is reported to have worked his way through all these educational institutions. Meanwhile he had done service in the Great War as captain in the Aircraft Service in Portland, Oregon, and commandant of the Officers' Training Camp in the State of Washington. At the age of thirty (he is now only thirty-three) he became Dean of the southern branch of the University of California at Los Angeles. He was born at Findlay, Ohio, but later moved to California, where he seems to have "made good."

One of the world's greatest literary undertakings never saw the light of print. This was the stupendous encyclopædia planned by the Chinese Emperor Yung Lo. It was completed in 1408, and consisted of the original manuscript and two copies. It covered the whole range of Chinese learning, and ran to nearly a million pages. The original and one copy perished at Nanking on the downfall of the Ming dynasty. The remaining copy, consisting of no less than 11,100 volumes twenty inches long, twelve inches in breadth, and half an inch thick and bound in yellow silk, was destroyed during the siege of the Legations in Peking in 1900.

A colored physician in one of the Southwestern States called up an oculist, according to a contributor to the "Journal" of the American Medical Association, and said, "Doctor, I have a patient that has been shot in the eye; would you examine him for me?" "Yes; you can bring him up now," was the reply. "Well, how much will you charge?" was then asked. "Oh, we can only charge what he can pay. What has he got?" the oculist inquired. "Doctor, he's got a family," was the appealing reply.

Under the head "Intelligence in Mules" a soldier of the World War tells in a recent book about an incident at the front illustrating his theme. "Tom, the older of my pair of mules," he says, "was an out-and-out Hun-hater, and whenever a German prisoner was loading my wagon I had to warn him to keep away from Tom or he would do damage. He used to watch out of the corner of his eye, and if an unsuspecting 'Jerry' came within striking reach he got it good and hard from Tom's iron-shod

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## BY THE WAY

## (Continued)

hoofs. He would even stop to kick at a convoy of prisoners who were marching past us on the road. Yet I never knew him to lift a leg to a French or American soldier, though he had plenty of chances."

An English weekly prints some "extraordinary questions" which ex-service men who wish to enter the civil service are asked in an examination paper. Here are samples:

Write here the name of the first drink in the following list, if it is only drink, but if it is not put a cross instead, and if it is, put an "E"' under it. Underline whatever you have put. (The list was: House, bean, sugar, paraffin, coffee, milk, cheese.)
"Earth, the, the, warms sun." Rewrite these words so that the word that would be the middle word if it were rearranged so as to be true now comes last, whilst the remaining words are in the right order, but the one now first is spelt backwards.
"One of the official excuses for the list," is the comment, "is that such questions have been tried with success in America and on children." A compliment to both!

The Rev. Joseph Fort Newton, pastor of the Church of the Divine Paternity in New York City, says in the "Atlantic" that when he first came to New York he "by happy accident" ran into Edwin Markham, and that the poet sat down and wrote a quatrain for him summing up the preacher's faith, as follows:

No soul can be forever banned,
Eternally bereft;
Whoever falls from God's right hand
Is caught into his left.
The Japanese constable, or country policeman, is ever ready to act as guide, philosopher, and friend to the foreign traveler, so an article in the "National Geographic Magazine" says. For the policeman's guidance in dealing with the tourist the police department some years ago issued the following counsels:
"No criticisms should be made, either by gesture or words, regarding the language, attire, or actions of foreigners.
"If a foreigner pulls out his watch and looks at it, you should think that he has business elsewhere, and that it is time for you to leave.
"It is a mistake to suppose that a foreigner will always respond to a request for a loan of money."

A serio-comic testimony to the absorbing interest of the books of a popular novelist is found in the reports in the New York newspapers of the recent electrocution of a condemned man at Sing Sing. "During the afternoon," the report says, "he occupied himself reading one of Robert W. Chambers's novels. After dinner he returned to his book, reading as rapidly as possible so that he might find out how it ended before he was killed. He did not learn, but a guard who had read the book told him that it came out all right."

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## IN DEFENSE OF PROHIBITION

IN a city located in northern Michigan with a population numbering between fourteen and fifteen thousand there were before the advent of prohibition sixtyfive saloons, all doing a flourishing business. The major portion of them were little other than "hell-holes." In that part of the country it is customary to pay the men their wages semi-monthly, with the result that with the advent of each pay day we were forced to prepare for at least two days' operations shorthanded, for a large percentage of our men would be incapacitated by drink. This was a pretty general condition among the workers in those parts. With the coming of prohibition this ended and stayed ended; and in its place came better clothes for the wives and families, phonographs, player-pianos, etc. (taking the place of whisky jugs and beer bottles), a large increase in attendance at the moving-picture houses, and many families buying Fords, and in a great many cases better cars.

Take again, as example, a small village in central New York State. This village before the coming of prohibition was more or less distinguished for the amount of drunkenness and unpaid bills which, taken together, sadly dptracted from the merits of an otherwi beautiful town. It is now, under proh. bition, a much more prosperous little town, still maintaining its original beauty, and with the added blessing of a main street free from drunks. I might add that they are seen occasionally; but where it used to be ten quarts of whisky to one phonograph record, one might be safe in saying it is now ten phonograph records to one drink of $:$ concoction called whisky behind some body's door.

The writer has always used liquc moderately, and has seen its use an abuse, with all the attendant sufferin and unhappiness; has seen it lead cleai characters into vice; and also on occa sion seen it change a dull evening intc a decent and enjoyable one. He has seen it at its work in two-thirds of the States in our Union, and is not hypocritical enough to try and convince any one that there are not occasions when he would like to fall back in something a little stronger than reminiscence; but, not being selfish, and believing that, after all, there are only a few of us who really miss it, he says to them and with them: Let us be broad-minded regarding this subject, acknowledge the good that the masses are deriving under prohibition at the present time, the greater good our posterity will derive, and if we who still look back upon the time when we could, under the law, take our glass must suffer the deprivation for our few remaining years, let us be men and make the sacrifice. Live as well as talk morals, and back up prohibition in the knowledge of the good we know it is doing. R. B. Goetschius.

Downsville, New York.

