

## By the Way

**C**HINESE restaurants furnishing popular-priced luncheons and dinners together with music and entertainment are crowding out of business their American competitors. One of these Chinese-American restaurants in New York City is doing a \$100,000 monthly trade. A recent survey of these eating-places showed that the average cost to the proprietor of a \$1.50 Chinese dinner amounts to twenty-one cents. With cheap labor and such a large margin of profit they can afford to outshine their competitors in the grandeur of their cabaret features.

On the window of a book publisher's store was a sign "Porter Wanted." Just under this sign in the window itself was displayed a pile of books with the placard "Dickens' Works all this week for \$4."

A burly Irishman looking for work first read the sign and then the placard. He then blurted out: "Dickens may take the job! Dickens can wurk all the week fer four dollars if he wants to, but I'll not touch it. Ye'd better kape Dickens."

The British are laughing at Tom Mix, the pride of our Wild Western movies, who while on a trip to England recently spoke seriously of "your great novelist Charles Dickens."

The great popularity of the radio has not killed the sale of phonographs, as was predicted. The Department of Commerce reports an enormous increase in the export of records and phonograph machines. Talking-machine companies also announce greatly increased sales in this country.

The person who keeps us supplied with inside information from the broadcasting stations tells us that fan mail to radio entertainers has dropped off seventy-five per cent since the balmy days of spring set in.

A dear old lady, while walking along the road, passed two little boys and fancied that she heard one of them use a naughty word.

"Do either of you little boys ever swear?" she asked, severely.

"Well, mom," replied the elder, "I am not much of a 'and at it, but my little brother 'ere is a treat. Cuss for the lidy, Bill."

The "Japan Advertiser" reports the celebration of a Buddhist mass in the Gokoku Temple last month for the spirits of all the elephants which have supplied ivory for ivory carving in Japan. One thousand ivory dealers assembled for the ceremony. Their president, Mr. Kakichi Ikeda, said: "We feel that we are greatly indebted to elephants, which have been furnishing the materials for us to carry on our business. It is for this reason that we are going to comfort the spirits of the elephants by holding a mass for them."

José Costillo, a Los Angeles actor, has been donating his services free of charge several times a week to worthy benefit performances. Mr. Costillo now announces that he will find some other means of giving aid to charities. In one week Mr. Costillo appeared at three benefit performances. Upon returning to his dressing-room after the first show he found that a thief had taken his watch. After the second show his overcoat was missing. At the end of the third show he wished to change into his street clothes again, but found them all missing.

According to the Lyons (New York) "Republican," Wayne County farmers are waging a war to the death with wood-

chucks, using cyanide gas as the weapon of destruction. It is estimated, besides damage to clover and hay, each woodchuck absorbs seven dollars' worth of beans per annum. They evidently know beans, which is the up-State standard of knowledge.

Professor: "What's the most common impediment in the speech of American people?"

Freshman: "Chewing gum."

—Northwestern Purple Parrot.

We have heard many people decry the present jazz music and express a longing for the return of classical melodies. Paul Whiteman's new book, "Jazz," informs us that the majority of the jazz music we are now getting consists of revamped classical themes. He writes:

Pretty nearly everybody knows now that Handel's "Messiah" furnished the main theme of the well-known "Yes, We Have No Bananas." Perhaps it is not such general knowledge that most of the banana song which wasn't taken from the "Messiah" came from Balfe's famous "I Dreamt I Dwelt in Marble Halls." Chopin supplied "Alice Blue Gown." "Avalon" was Tosca straight. Chopin came into the limelight again with "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows," taken from the beautiful "Fantaisie Impromptu, Opus 66." The same master furnished the theme for "Irene." "Marcheta" is reminiscent of "The Merry Wives of Windsor." "Iola" came from "The Blue Danube Waltz." "The Love Nest" is Tchaikovsky. "Russian Rose" is a frank adaptation of "The Volga Boat Song." There is no legal limit to this kind of lifting.

The 1925 farm census shows that there are less than half as many hogs as people in the United States, viz., 51,842,425. The open-car season will supply the deficit with end-seat porcines.

A few needed inventions suggested by the Boston "Transcript":

A berry basket that will prevent all the best berries from staying at the top.

A telephone ring that will tell us who is on the other end of the wire before we answer it.

A golf ball with gramophone attachment that will sing out, "Here I am!"

An angler's scales that will corroborate the fisherman's story.

A piano that will sound the same to the girl playing as it does to the neighbors.

"Forbes Magazine" tells of a colored agent who was summoned before the insurance commissioner. "Don't you know," said the commissioner, "that you can't sell life insurance without a State license?"

"Boss," said the dinky, "you suah said a moufful. I knowed I couldn't sell it, but I didn't know the reason."

Gentlemen of the motion-picture industry have envied the style and character of the business correspondence of one of their prominent colleagues. As a matter of fact, the film magnate's letters were written by a recent college graduate, who acted in the capacity of secretary. This young man decided to enter a new business, and was succeeded by another collegian. The new secretary submitted the first letter which he had composed for the film boss, who now took great pride in his reputation as letter-writer. Looking over his new assistant's composition, he exclaimed: "Is this a letter? That ain't near up to my usual standard."



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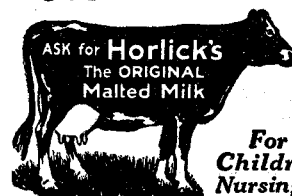
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