

The seven Great Powers of Europe are gravity, electricity, steam, gas, flywheels, and motors, and Mr. Lloyd George.

### PUGILISTICALLY INCLINED

Wilkins was an enthusiastic golfer, and when his friend Johnson met him coming away from the links a day or two ago he was in a terrible frame of mind. 'What's happened, old fellow?' asked Johnson amiably. 'Everything's happened!' growled Wilkins. 'It's enough to make one give up golf and go in for fishing. That ass Fitznoodle has been running all over the course, and actually crossed my tee just as I was about to make a lovely drive. What would you have done had you been in my place?' 'Well,' he replied, with a smile, 'seeing that he crossed your "t," I think I would have dotted his "i."'

### VERY SUDDEN

A young lad presented himself at a butcher's shop, and when the burly proprietor appeared gave a small order.

'You don't buy so much meat now as you did,' remarked the butcher.

'No,' responded the lad, 'it's because father has become a vegetarian.'

'Well, my lad,' came the grave retort, 'you give your father warning from me that, as a rule, vegetarians come to a violent and untimely end. Take a bullock—'e's a vegetarian. Wot's the result? Why, 'e's cut off sudden—in his very prime!'

### A MODERN READING

The teacher asked: 'When did William the Conqueror invade England?'

After the silence had become painful, she said: 'Open your history books. What does it say there?'

A boy answered: 'William the Conqueror, 1066.'

'Now,' said the teacher, 'why didn't you remember the date?'

'Well,' replied the boy, 'I thought it was his telephone number.'

### A SERIOUS CHARGE

'Excuse me,' said the detective, as he presented himself at the door of the music academy, 'but I hope you'll give me what information you have, and not make any fuss.'

'What do you mean?' was the indignant inquiry.

'Why, that little affair, you know.'

'I don't understand.'

'Why, you see, we got a tip from the house next door that somebody here was murdering Richard Strauss, and the chief sent me down to work up the case.'

### A HINDU ON THE SUFFRAGETTES

Here is a quaint letter by a Hindu, published in the *Times of India*, on the Suffragettes:—'If Suffragists allowed in House of Parliament they make the world topside down,' he says. 'First of all they make Mrs. Pankhurst Viceroy of India and Mrs. Pethick Governor of Bombay. Your St. Paul is very clever fellow. He knows all the foolish things of the womans. He says very strongly womans must shut the mouth. No talking about business or anything. Everything must ask to the husbands and he will tell you. Shame, shame for womans to talk. But what the womans care for St. Paul. He is poor fellow and not passing M.A. and B.A. like them and their husbands, perhaps only passing fourth or fifth standard.'

### A MISAPPLIED TERM

A good Parliamentary story is told of the Secretary for War, Colonel Seely. In the early hours of one morning 'there was a very heated discussion in the House of Commons on the proposal that school children should be fed. A very thin member attacked the proposal, and after he sat down Colonel Seely rose and

supported it. 'I cannot understand,' he remarked, 'how honorable members who are themselves well-fed can come down to the House and oppose the feeding of half-starved children.'

Up bounced the thin member in a state of wild excitement to inquire whether the expression 'well-fed' was applied to him. Colonel Seely eyed him keenly, and paused long enough to attract all eyes to his opponent's spare figure. 'No,' he said; 'nothing was farther from my thoughts than to apply the term "well-fed" to the honorable member!' Everybody, quite irrespective of party, broke into a yell of laughter.

### A WOULD-BE WIT

'Well, George,' said Witty William, as they met in the street, 'how is Arthur going on now?'

'Oh, much better,' replied George. 'He has been in the country for seven days to regain his strength.'

'That's funny! I should have thought seven days in the country would have made one week!'

### THE RETORT COURTEOUS

This anecdote portraying the biting side of Mark Twain's wit comes from *Little Stories About Mark Twain*. The humorist once asked a neighbor if he might borrow a set of his books.

'You're welcome to read them in my library,' replied the neighbor ungraciously, 'but it is my rule never to let my books leave my house.'

Some weeks later the same neighbor sent over to ask for the loan of Mark Twain's lawn-mower.

'Certainly,' said Mark, 'but since I make it a rule never to let it leave my lawn, you will be obliged to use it there!'

### DULY ISOLATED

Here is a poultry story which comes from the Midlands. While away on a holiday a fancier who owns some valuable specimens instructed a servant—a rather raw country girl—in the feeding of the birds, and gave strict directions that she was to communicate with him immediately in the event of any of them showing signs of ailment.

One day he received a letter stating that a bird of which he had had great expectations as a prize-winner was unwell, and from the symptoms described the fancier concluded that it was a case of roup—a very infectious trouble. Accordingly he wired to the girl:

'Isolate bird at once. Important. Home this evening.'

'Where did you put the bird, Mary?' he asked, as soon as he arrived.

'It's in the coal 'ole, sir,' said she.

'You isolated it at once, of course?' he added.

'Well, I didn't,' replied the girl simply. 'I got Jim to do it. 'E just gie it one whack wi' the broom-stick, an' it was all over in a twinkling!'

### FAMILY FUN

Telegrams.—Give out a ten-letter word, from which a 'telegram' of ten words is to be formed, each word beginning with a letter of the original word, and the whole sentence having reference to it. Take p-h-o-t-o-g-r-a-p-h, which may be put into this telegram: 'P-hotography h-as o-pened t-o o-ur g-aze r-ealistic a-rt, p-ictorial h-onesty.' Or this: 'P-rinting h-astily o-bjects t-errestrial, o-ptical g-enius r-enews a-rt, p-ictures h-umanity.' Suggested words for 'telegrams': Adventures, Santa Claus, Wordsworth, mercantile, benefactor, New Orleans, California, journalism, physiology, friendship, New Zealand, politician, workbasket, grandmamma, literature, aristocrat, Washington, Montenegro.

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