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REPORTING TRIALS.

POSITIONS THAT DEMAND THE BEST SHORTHAND WRITERS.

To Do Good Work the Stenographer Must Know Something of the Case In Advance—Grave Responsibilities That Accompany the Employment.

There are thousands of shorthand writers, but of first class, gilt edged stenographers who can go into court and report a trial with accuracy and a thorough understanding of the situation the number will not exceed a score. Out of these there is one woman who is thoroughly competent.

As a musician who aspires to be called such should be able to read at sight and play any music that may be set before him, so the first class stenographer should be and is capable of following literally the speech of the most rapid talker and can read his notes afterward as easily as he could read the letters on a signboard. In court work there is much that makes the work partake of a technical nature. The law terms, the peculiar phraseology of the courts, is something which it takes years for men to familiarize themselves with, and a great many of the lawyers are men who pour out a perfect torrent of words in their arguments to the court or jury.

The first thing that a stenographer must do when he starts in to report a case is to get the theory of both sides as to the case. Often one stenographer is engaged to take the case for both sides, and he must familiarize himself with the case from the different standpoints in order to report the case intelligently. It is not merely manual dexterity that is required. There must be quickness of apprehension to a marked degree and an unwearied and keen attention paid to the case in all its details.

In taking down what goes on there is considerable that should be omitted from the proceedings, and this is where the stenographer's judgment comes into play. The lawyers do not wish to have the record lumbered up with the little side remarks of witnesses or interpolations of the court, and yet they do not want anything omitted on which a possible objection could hang.

A judge may make a remark which does not have any particular significance in a trial, and a witness is apt to follow up an answer by a subsequent qualification which may have much to do with the matter in hand. The wary stenographer and the good one separates the wheat from the chaff, and what is relevant and important he sets down. What is immaterial he ignores. Of course in the evidence he takes the questions and answers literally. And in the taking of the testimony he must always be on the alert, for here the lawyers may get into a dispute as to what a witness said in regard to some other point in the testimony, and it may be necessary to go back several pages to find out the truth of the matter. This the stenographer must be able to do without the slightest hesitation, remembering just about in the testimony where the matter came up and reading the notes without the slightest hesitation or inaccuracy. Perceptive faculties of a high order are necessary to the success of a stenographer and an active brain and excellent memory.

Given the intellectual foundation to begin with, and it is possible for a man to become a fairly good shorthand writer in five or six years. Constant practice is necessary to keep in trim for court work, and in spite of the fact that so much legal business is done, the demand for experts is always in excess of the supply. The court stenographer's work is coupled with not only a sense of great responsibility, but a very high degree of confidence in the necessity placed in him by the men who employ his services. The appealing of cases to the appellate and supreme courts, necessitating the working over of all the evidence and the arguments in the case, must depend, as far as the ground for argument and the true status of the case is concerned, on the stenographic reports. It is one of the professions where the hand and the brain combine to produce results, and the first class expert is more truly born than made.

It is one thing to be able to write down the report of a trial and quite another thing to dictate correctly from the stenographic notes to a typewriter. Some men are only fair at reporting a trial, but get out excellent transcripts of the evidence, while others are "chain lightning" at the trial, but uncertain when they get back to their offices and commence to make copy. The case hardened expert will take a trial, put away the report for six weeks and then take the shorthand books and read off the contents without a break as fast as a typewriting operative can drum it off on the machine.

A great deal of work is done at night by the shorthand men. So much of what is

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taken down at a trial on one day is needed, on the succeeding day that the lawyers generally keep up with the evidence as it is brought out, and this keeps the shorthand people on the move. Work in the courts is done at a high tension of the nerves and brain, and not an instant is the stenographer's mind permitted to indulge in day dreams, for any form of mental "wool gathering" would be fatal to faithful work. Concentration is an indispensable requisite to success.—Chicago Chronicle.

Monkeys That Wear Shawls.

In certain districts in east Africa, especially in the forest of Kilimanjaro, there is a race of monkeys which have actually developed the wearing of shawls. They do not steal them, however, and wear them through having seen men do this. On the contrary, these shawls are a provision of nature and are merely another exemplification of the law that animals develop certain peculiarities in accordance with their need to become less conspicuous in the forests or places in which they live.

These monkeys belong to a group of thumbless apes which are to be found only in Africa and are called by the natives gorilla. They have a black tail, from which depends a beautiful white brush, while the whole of the hair of the back of the animal, which is long and silky and white, hangs over the sides of the body and over the front and hind legs as well, thus giving it the peculiar appearance of wearing a shawl.—Strand Magazine.

Didn't Like the Saw Edges.

When the government issued the first perforated stamps a few of the good folk living in the country were so bound by conservatism that they placed the stamps on their letters only after they had clipped off the perforations. They had been using smooth cut stamps for many years and they did not propose that any newfangled arrangement should have encouragement from them. They were so accustomed to seeing the trimmed stamps that the perforated ones did not have the proper appearance.—Chicago Record.

Valuable Land for Sale

To be sold by Public Auction, on Tuesday, the 9th November next, immediately after the sale at Sidmount, about 17 acres of land, situate in the Common and Royalty of Charlottetown, and adjoins, and is to the north of the properties of the Hon. Fred Peters and George Lewis, and extends from the North River Road to the North River.

Land will be sold in acre lots. Terms made known at sale.

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FOR SALE

The subscribers have been instructed to offer for sale, part of Town Lot No 96, in the 2nd Hundred of Town Lots in Charlottetown, known as the "Jakeman" property. This Lot has a frontage of 70 feet on Grafton Street, and extends back therefrom 100 feet. It will be sold en bloc, or can be subdivided if required. For terms and other particulars, apply at the office of, DAVIES & HASZARD. Charlottetown oct. 1 2a w4i

Your cough, like a dog's bark, is a sign that there is something foreign around which shouldn't be there. You can quiet the noise, but the danger may be there just the same. Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil is not a cough specific; it does not merely allay the symptoms but it does give such strength to the body that it is able to throw off the disease.

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SECONDHAND SHOES.

Collected and Sold to Dealers, Who Fix Them Up to Sell Again.

New shoes were never so cheap as they are now, but there are sold nevertheless in this city many secondhand shoes, for there are many people who want to pay even less for shoes than the lowest price of new ones. There are many places where secondhand shoes are sold. They are found on the east side and on the west side of town, usually pretty well over toward the rivers.

Secondhand shoes are collected by peddlers and others, who sell them to dealers. Occasionally a man who has a pair of shoes that don't suit him or that he has worn as much as he wants to takes them to a dealer in secondhand shoes and sells them, just as he might sell secondhand clothes. In this way it might happen that a pair of fine shoes in good condition would be found in a secondhand shop. The great bulk of shoes, however, is made up of those collected by the people who make a business of it.

The dealer in secondhand shoes is usually a shoemaker and repairer and most likely to be found in a basement. He buys secondhand shoes of a collector, or it may be that if he gets out of shoes he buys of the larger dealers in the neighborhood of Baxter street. If the shoes he gets require it, he puts them in order, very likely to the extent of resoling and reheeling. The purchaser of secondhand shoes wants them very cheap. About the lowest price at which they are sold by a dealer is 70 cents a pair. Such shoes might be in fair condition, but they would perhaps be patched. From that the prices run up to \$1.25, at which figure the purchaser expects to get a very good pair of shoes, sound and whole and resoled and reholed and in good condition generally. Occasionally there is sold a pair of secondhand shoes for \$2 or \$2.50, but this is very exceptional.—New York Sun.

PIGEONS SHOW THEIR TRAINING.

Large Flocks of the Birds That Perform Wonderful Evolutions.

Remarkable as are the results of training as exhibited in the speed of modern pigeons, they do not compare with the wonderful evolution performed by these birds in the last centuries in Italy. There were at that time men who devoted themselves to pigeon training, and the art was supposed to find its perfection in certain families and to be handed down from generation to generation. The art consisted in training large flocks of pigeons to obey their owner and to perform certain evolutions in the air. In the earliest days in India birds were trained to fight opposing bands. When a pigeon tournament was in progress, the owners ascended some lofty buildings and conducted the performance by the aid of flags, and in obedience to their signals flocks of birds of different color would wheel, rise, dive and intermingle to separate again and go through a number of interesting movements that were remarkable for their beauty. Prizes were offered for the most beautifully novel figures.

In India, in early times, where the sport of pigeon flying originated, the object of the flights was often a sanguinary one, the owners of the various flocks endeavoring to accomplish the destruction of the others. Thus, the birds of one hand would carry bombs with a fuse hanging to their claws, and at the command of their masters would sweep down over their opponents and the bomb would drop among them and explode. Others bore sharp knives, two edged, suspended from their claws, and were made to dash among their antagonists and endeavor to cut them to pieces, an easy matter when birds were in rapid motion. Today the triangler, as they are called, of Modena devote themselves to harmless pursuits and are satisfied when watching the wonderful evolutions of the birds through the air.—New York Post.

The Snake in the Bible.

Mythology teaches us that the serpent was worshipped as a god, representing viciousness, deceit, the devil, guile and deception. By common consent it represents a liar or seducer or deceiver. Moses represented the snake as a liar. In persuading Eve to disobey God's command and injunction not to eat the fruit of life and knowledge it told a lie without benefit to itself and used its persuasive powers to mislead Eve, that she and Adam would be like God, although not sure or positive of that fact. The first pair only obtained some limited knowledge and that they must make the first advances in civilization and procure clothing to protect themselves against heat and cold.

Why the serpent was so hard punished for telling the lie, which was no benefit to it, can only be accounted for by the idea that Moses wanted to impress upon man that it is beneficial neither to self nor to others to promise a reward for doing a certain thing when no reward would follow. The second instance where the snake appears in history was when the Lord commanded Moses to go to the king of Egypt and deliver his message to release the Jews from bondage. Then Moses pleaded to be excused on account of his weakness in speech. Had the Lord tested Moses as he did Abraham?

Moses, full of faith, was ready to do what the Lord commanded. He was told to throw down his staff. It would become a serpent. Moses became frightened and scared. Still, when the Lord told him to take hold of the snake by its tail, he submitted at once and showed his perfect trust in God and his word. He was no more afraid.—Minorah Monthly.

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