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Dictaphun

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THIS IS OLDER THAN HELL BUT VERY GOOD (FOR THE EDITOR) AT THIS SEASON OF THE YEAR

By B. C. HILLIARD, JR.

Omar (Cassius) Garwood sent us this one but we substituted our heading for his, which read "Page the Federal Securities Commission!" Meaning Foster Cline, no doubt.

"Learning that you are always interested in a good, live business proposition and open for a good investment, we take the liberty of presenting a most wonderful opportunity, and perhaps you will write us by return mail telling us how much stock to reserve for you.

"The first 100,000 shares will be sold for \$1.00 per share, and after that they will take a big jump.

"The object of this company is to operate a large cat ranch at or near Golden, Colorado, where land for the purpose can be bought cheap.*

"To start with we shall collect, say 1,000,000 cats. Each cat will average 12 kittens a year. The skins run from 10 cents for white ones to 75 cents for pure black. This will give us 12,000,000 skins a year to sell at an average of 30 cents each, making our revenue about \$10,000.00 a day gross.

"A man can skin 50 cats a day for \$2.00. It will take 100 men to operate the ranch, and therefore our net profit will be about \$9,800.00 a day.

"We will feed the cats on rats, and start a rat ranch next door. The rats multiply four times as fast as the cats. If we start 1,000,000 rats we shall have, therefore, four rats a day for each cat, which is plenty.

"Now then, we will feed the rats on the carcasses of the cats from which the skins have been taken, giving each rat a fourth of a cat. It will thus be seen that the business will be self-acting and automatic all the way through. The cats will eat the rats, the rats will eat the cats, and we will get the skins. Are you with us?

"Awaiting your prompt reply and trusting you will avail yourself of this wonderful opportunity, we remain.

"Very respectfully,

"SKINDECAT COMPANY."

*From Art Quaintance, I'll bet. I mean, we'll bet.

ADVICE FROM GOOD OL' MISSISSIPPI

Mr. Heinemann of the District Court (Dunklee Heinemann, not McDonough Heinemann) called our attention to *Ashley v. Dalton*, 81 So. (Miss.) 488. He tells us its use in argument was very effective in his court not long ago but, alas, he failed to say on which side. A choice excerpt follows:

"It would perhaps be useless to offer suggestions or counsel to a man of the age of appellant, or to lay down any proposition that would carry caution to the minds of people of his age and class, especially when it comes from his junior in years if not in wisdom. Yet it might be proper to remind others of his type that he who would trip the light fantastic toe with the terpsichorean maid must contribute coin to the man who extracts mystic music from the violin strings, or, in other words, that pleasure must be paid for with the coin of the realm; and to remind them of the truth expressed by a minor poet when he said:

'When of "dough" we get a batch,
The women make us toe the scratch.
'And he who courts and does not wed,
She will pull his leg in court instead.'

"Beware of the grass widow when her eyes beam love and the shades are down low. She hypnotizes the reason, the soul escapes the prison bars of discretion, and 'you float airily on golden clouds to rosy lands of pleasure and joy.' Temporary bliss reigns supreme in the palace of love; but in the end it creates mournful memories, heartaches, remorse of conscience, and a burning desire to 'blot out the past.'

"Affirmed."

In the city of Cincinnati it is unlawful to throw confetti.

A Massachusetts law makes it illegal for a woman to appear in public with her face powdered or rouged.

A New York law makes it illegal to have a gate that opens outward.

A Wisconsin law forbids the use of the phonograph.