

Yesterday's humor

Bethinking of Olde Orleans

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"A little nonsense now and then, is relished by the wisest men." (Anonymous)
There was a time back during the second and third decades of the 20th century that high school yearbooks included a section of jokes. I assume many of these were made up by the students as well as the illustrations that accompanied them. The picture of jokesters is taken from the 1918 Medina High School Mirror. The following random selection of old jokes are taken from either the Mirror or Albion High School Chevron.



JOKES

"A clergyman who had united in marriage a couple whose Christian names were Benjamin and Annie, on being asked by a mutual friend how they appeared during the ceremony, replied that they appeared both annie-mated and benefited." (1912 Chevron)

"The daughter of Ephraim Crider
Went out for two gallons of cider
She found that the jug
Was too heavy to lug,
So she brought home the
cider insider." (1912 Chevron)

"Mr. Standish" "When I go to Heaven I am going to ask Shakespeare if he really wrote all those plays."
Mr. Knickerbocker: "What if he isn't there."

Mr. Standish: "Well, then you ask him." (1914 Chevron)

"Why are you scratching your head?
Because I'm the only one who knows where it itches." (1914 Chevron)

"A skeleton is a person with his insides out and his outsides off." (1914 Chevron)

"Miss Johnson: 'When was Rome built?'
Bright Student: 'At night.'
Miss Johnson: 'Whatever gave you that idea?'
Bright Student: 'Why, I've often heard people say that Rome wasn't built in a day.'" (1918 Mirror)

"Stone and Wood were talking on the street. When a pretty girl went by, Wood turn to Stone and Stone turn to rubber." (1918 Mirror)

"A young girl went into a drygoods store and was waited on by the proprietor's son. She looked at muslin and asked, 'How much is this a yard?' 'One kiss' replied Hubert sweetly. 'All right,' said Donna, 'I'll take three yards and grandma will be in to pay you this afternoon.'" (1918 Mirror)

"How was iron discovered? I heard someone say it was smelt." (1918 Mirror)

"All I want is A's. All I expect is B's. But all I ever seem to get is C's and D's." (1918 Mirror)

"Why does Doc plant his onions and potatoes so close together?
Well he says that the onions make the eyes of the potatoes water and irrigate the soil." (1918 Mirror)

"I wonder one thing Mama," "What is it my

child?
"Do the Mermaids make up the oyster beds with sheets of water?" (1919 Mirror)

"Miss Lawrence: 'In order to live we must have air. Every day we breathe oxygen. What do we breathe at night?'
Student: 'Nitrogen.'" (1920 Chevron)

"They had met B4,
But what was she to care
She loved him 10derly;
He was a 1,000,000aire," (1921 Chevron)

"What an awful gash you have on your forehead!
Oh next to nothing — next to nothing." (1921 Chevron)
"Mummy, I'm sure the curio dealer down the street

is untruthful!
"Why dear?" "Because he's got something in the window marked "Two thousand ear: old" and it's only 1921 now!" (1921 Chevron)

"Unlucky motorist (having killed the lady's puppy); 'Madam I will replace the animal.'
Indignant Owner: 'Sir, you flatter yourself.'" (1923 Chevron)

"Bill, you don't know how I miss that cuspidor.' 'You always did miss it. That's why I threw it away.'" (1925 Chevron)

"Miss Gardner: 'How can one tell imitation pearls from real ones?'
Salesman: 'Oh, miss, one does not tell; one keeps it to oneself.'" (1925 Chevron)

"Indignant landlady to tenant: 'This building looks absolutely deplorable.'
Tenant: 'So would you if you hadn't had any paint on you for six years.'" (1925 Chevron)

"Benevolent old lady to man about to be hanged; 'Don't you wish you were a child again so you could enjoy innocent play?'
Man: 'Well, I'd like to skip the rope.'" (1926 Chevron)