**Same Old! Same Old!**

**Man: “What do you know? An internet auction for some old toy soldiers I always wanted when I was a kid, but couldn’t afford! Now they’re considered to be collectibles! Which means I still can’t afford them!” *(Art & Chip Sansom, in The Born Loser comic strip)***

**If you always do what you’ve always done – you’ll always be what you’ve always been. *(Josh McDowell)***

**Wife: “Do you know whose wedding anniversary is coming up?” Husband: “Ours!” Wife: “Right! And remember when you’re shopping for my gift, this is our diamond anniversary!” Husband thinks to himself: “That’s odd! She said last year was our diamond anniversary, too!” *(Art & Chip Sansom, in The Born Loser comic strip)***

**Husband: “Beans again!” Wife: “I don’t understand it. You liked beans on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and now all of a sudden you don’t like beans. *(Thomas LaMance, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**Doctor: “Now that spring is just around the corner, I guess you’ll be glad to shake your winter blahs.” Patient: “Yes, I’m looking forward to my spring blahs.” *(J. C. Duffy, in Go Fish comic strip)***

**Heart: “A new year! A new dawn! A new beginning!” Mom: “Brush your teeth.” Heart: “Same old same old.” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***

**The national budget must be balanced. The public debt must be reduced; the arrogance of the authorities must be moderated and controlled. Payments to foreign governments must be reduced, if the nation doesn’t want to go bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance. *(Marcus Tillius Cicero, 55 B.C.)***

**A group of American tourists was being guided through an ancient castle in Europe. “This place,” the guide said, “is 600 years old. Not a stone in it has been touched, nothing altered, nothing replaced in all those years.” “Wow,” said one woman, “they must have the same landlord I do.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**The problem with cats is that they get the exact same look on their faces whether they see a moth or an ax murderer. *(Paula Poundstone, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Husband: “When we were first married, you used to say you thought of me as your ‘Clark Kent’! Do I still remind you of him?” Wife: “Mm-hmm. You just never change into anything!” *(Art & Chip Sansom, in The Born Loser comic strip)***

**As my mother headed out her office door last election day, she announced, “Well, I’m off to the polls to cancel my daughter’s vote.” “You know,” replied a colleague, “it doesn’t matter how old they get. You still have to clean up behind them, don’t you?” *(Layna Reed, in Reader’s Digest)***

While cleaning out a desk, I found a childhood record book that my mother kept up for me. One entry caught my eye: “November 9, 1925, Billy is one today. He is a cross baby and does not sleep well.” Then I noticed an entry my wife of 36 years had made: “November 9, 1988, Billy is 64 today. He is still cross and does not sleep well.” *(William F. Smithana, in Reader’s Digest)*

**Excavators at the ancient city of Aphrodisias, in Turkey, discovered the following inscription at the entrance of a public bath: “The customer is held responsible for the loss of any money from purse or belt not previously checked with the attendant.” *(Martin Buxbaum, in Table Talk)***

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**Zoey asks Mom: “What are we having for dinner?” Mom: “Something yummy!” Zoey: “Oh yeah? What’s it called?” Mom: ‘Funny you should ask! I thought of a special name for it. It’s called ‘Eat it and like it, or else’.” Little brother asks Zoey: “What’s for dinner?” Zoey: “The usual.” *(Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

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**I’m really worried about my dog,” Ralph said to the veterinarian. “I dropped some coins on the floor and before I could pick them up he ate them.” The vet advised Ralph to leave his dog at the vet’s office overnight. The next morning, Ralph called to see how his pet was doing. The vet replied, “No change yet.” *(Mike Walt, Sr., in Reader’s Digest)***

# **“Now that you’ve won a major prize in the state lottery, what are you planning to do with all that money?” a reporter asked the lucky farmer. “Well,” the man replied thoughtfully. “I reckon I’ll just keep farmin’ till it’s all used up.” *(Herm Albright, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**Question: Why did Moses wander in the desert for 40 years? Answer: “Because, even then, men wouldn’t stop and ask for directions. *(Quoted on “The Larry Nelson Show,” KOMO, Seattle)***

**See if you can guess when the following was written: “What is happening to our young people? They disrespect their elders, they disobey their parents. They ignore the laws. They have wild notions. Their morals are decaying. What is to become of them?” You might be surprised to learn it was written by Plato -- more than 2000 years ago. *(Charles Reichblum, in Knowledge in a Nutshell, p. 129)***

**Of course, it’s the same old story. Truth usually is the same old story. *(Margaret Thatcher)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**First man: “So, do you have big plans for the weekend?” Second man: “I’m going to do what I do every weekend. I’m going to sit on a barstool next to you and wonder why I don’t have anything better to do.” First man: “What time should I pick you up?” Second man: “The usual.” *(Jerry Bittle, in Geech comic strip)***

**In times like these it helps to remember that there have always been times like these. *(Bits & Pieces)***

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**TV announces: “Welcome to Antiques Roadshow! Our experts are assembled inside the convention center! People have come from far and wide to have their antiques professionally appraised! Our first guest if Ralph Drabble!” Son: “I didn’t know Dad was into antiques!” Mom: “Are you kidding? He’s worn the same underwear since high school!” *(Kevin Fagan, in Drabble comic strip)***

**On cable TV, they have a weather channel – 24 hours of weather. We had something like that where I grew up. We called it a window. *(Dan Spencer, in Catholic Digest)***

**A reporter interviewed Sir Winston Churchill. “What do you say, Sir,” he asked, “to the prediction that in the year 2000 women will be ruling the world?” Churchill smiled his wise old cherubic smile. “They still will, eh?” *(Delia Sellers, in Abundant Living magazine)***

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