**Selective Hearing**

**A child's ear can't hear a parent's bellow from the next room, but picks up the faintest far-off jingle of an ice-cream cart. *(Southern Textile News)***

**Men are three times more likely to cut into conversations than women. So report those psychology researchers who monitor general discussions with hidden microphones. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Incidentally, you can tell the dogs to go, but not to stop. They won't mind any stop word. So you have to set the sled's brake or dig your heels into the snow. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor had him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100 percent. The gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again." "Oh, I haven't told my family yet," the gentleman replied. "I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times." *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Son: "I want to be a SOMEBODY! I just don't know how!" Dad: "Son, you become a somebody by trying to do the right thing, work hard, treat people well, listen to your parents and obey the law!" Son: "I've got it. I need to win an award of some kind!" Dad: "Did I mention listening to your parents?" *(Kevin Fagan, in Drabble comic strip)***

**A young man was having some money problems, and needed $200 to get his car fixed and roadworthy again. But had run out people to borrow from. So, he calls his parents, via the operator, and reverses the charge and says to his father, "I need to borrow two hundred dollars," he says. At the other end, his father says, "Sorry, I can't hear you, son, I think there may be a bad line." The boy shouts, "Two hundred. I need two hundred dollars!" "Sorry, I still can't hear you clearly," says his father. The operator cuts in, "Sorry to butt in, but I can hear him perfectly clearly." The father says, "Good. YOU send him the money!" *(Tidbits)***

**The kids had been driving me nuts, asking me to buy them a talking bird, until I finally got them a parrot. We named him Wilbur and tried to teach him some words, but all he would say was, "Hello. Hello." Over and over again my older son tried to get Wilbur to say, "Jeff is the greatest." Nothing. My husband tried with "Give this guy a raise." Nothing. I took a turn with "Clean your room." Still nothing. Yesterday Wilbur finally started talking. During dinner all we heard was "He did it. No, he did it," and then "Get out of my room!" *(Felice R. Prager, in Reader's Digest)***

**Porpoises can hear boat whistles, but not foghorns. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**An old man was wondering if his wife had a hearing problem. So one night, he stood behind her while she was sitting in her lounge chair. He spoke softly to her, "Honey, can you hear me?" There was no response. He moved a little closer and said again, "Honey, can you hear me?" Still, there was no response. Finally he moved right behind her and said, "Honey, can you hear me?" She replied, "For the third time, Yes!" *(Tidbits)***

**We may be willing to tell a story twice but are never willing to hear it more than once. *(William Hazlitt, English writer)***

**You can hear about one word out of every four spoken to you, if your pattern is typical. So say language teachers. That's how we listen, evidently. Our ears are like radio scanners, rejecting far more than they log on to. *(L. M. Boyd)***

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