Democratic Watchman. Bellefonte, Pa., October 17, 1913.

Silly Side of It.

How an Aspiring Society Girl Was Taught a Lesson in Slumming.

By CLAUDINE LISSON.

It was strange that Jack Ashton should be bored. He was a young man of wealth and social privileges, college educated, a member of four or five clubs, rather a favorite with the fair sex, always invited everywhere-baseball, football, regattas and the races, with a trip here or there every few months. It seemed like a arime to be bored.

And what does a young man when he is bored?

There is Africa with its big game and mosquitoes.

There is Mt. McKinley to elimbed There are theatrical companies to

be "angeled."

There is the chorus girl to be won and divorced again.

Young Mr. Ashton thought of all these things and rejected them. He went to a Sunday newspaper editor and had a talk with him, and the result was that he did just what no friend of his would have looked for him to do. On the next Sunday, and on every succeeding Sunday for many weeks, there was an article signed "Toff." It was descriptive of life in the underworld. The underworld said of them:

"Believe me, dat guy is surely one of us!"

There was no remarks made about the sudden appearance of a "strange guy" in the hang outs of the underworld. He might be a yeggman, pickpocket, burglar or what, so long as he was not a detective. He didn't talk too much. He didn't listen too closely. He made few inquiries. He played poker with murderers and pool with burglars. He spent his money just as the others did-not too freely. He hinted at a prison term or two, but did not go into particulars. After being watched for a spell to make sure that he was not a stool-pigeon for the police, he was in a way admitted to the underworld. That is, he was not blackjacked or robbed as a slummer, and now and then he was offered a partnership in a "job" to be done.

The articles of "Toff" made a sensation. They were were read and com-1.ented on by the under as well as the upper world. To get the local color they said the writer must speak from personal observation and experience. Was he a Raffles taking a vacation from crime? Was he some young man not yet so hardened in crime that he could not be saved if he could only be identified and wrestled with?

Among those who hoped so was Miss Clara Converse. She had long been interested in and had taken some

est hat on her head and a raincoat to, cover her clothes, and she hadn't be ter mention her errand to any one. It was Blank street and the number was

\$26. She was to go right up to the fourth floor and knock on the door on which he had chalked a cross. He would be there to answer. It was a trap so simple that a girl

of ten ought to have suspected it. Through eight or nine blocks of dirty and wicked streets to find Blank street! Then two block down to reach 426! It was an old tenement with broken windows and rickety stairs, and there was not a terant on any floor. A policeman would not have mounted the stairs without first making sure that his revolver was in order, but Miss Converse scarcely noticed anything and certainly felt no fear.

Up the dirty stairs to the dirty fourth floor, and there was the chalk mark on the door. Her knuckles had scracely touched the panel when the door was opened by "Toff." It was a back room and the windows were lamp on a table. As for furniture,

there were only two chairs. "Is this the place?" asked Miss Converse as she peered about her. "It is, Miss," was the reply of the

young man as he locked the door and pocketed the key.

"But where's the dying burgiar?" "He's put off dying 'till after the Panama canal has been finished!" "Sir, I want to leave this place instantly!" exclaimed the girl as she realized that she had been lured into a trap.

"Take a chair and make yourself at home. I want to talk to you a bit." "Unlock that door or I'll scream!" "Go ahead."

She cried "murder!" and "help" a dozen times, and "Toff" only grinned at her and replied:

"You'll crack your voice and do no good." "But what do you want with me!"

was demanded.

"That's more sensible. I want to ask you, first if you can't see the silly side of this thing? You and others come down to the slums and pose as reformers. Reform nothing! All of us regard you as bug-house and easy-marks. We live as we live and do as we do. and a thousand like you couldn't change us in a hundred years. We prefer this sort of life to any other. The idea of reform makes us laugh. Do you get that?" "I-I don't know!" stammered Miss

Converse as she looked around and shivered.

"Then take my word for it. It's throwing time and money away. If you pull anybody out of this sort of life it's somebody that wants to make a stake out of you. You'll simply make a liar and a hypocrite of him." "But you will please let me out of here!" appealed the girl. "Oh, certainly. Got any money with

you?' "Two or three dollars."

"No good. I want your check for a thousand dollars!" "But-but-"

NO TAXES ON REAL ESTATE QUESTION HAS BEEN SETTLED

Farmer Escapes, While Nearly All of Under State Highway Law Now in the Interest on the Proposed Bond Issue Will Be Paid by Corporations and Automobile License Fees.

Reasons for voting for the Good Roads amendment to the constitution and building the roads, exist in almost infinite variety; but of reasons to the contrary no valid or even plausible ones have been shown. In this connection a few facts may be interesting:

With nearly seven billion dollars' worth of property, Pennsylvania real estate pays no state taxes, and the State has no debt. Sixty-eight per cent of its population live in its cities, boroughs, and other centers, leaving but 32 per cent on the farms. The State has an area of approximately boarded up, and the light came from a 45,000 square miles, 100,000 miles of roads of different classes, or about 2.2 miles of road to each square mile of land.

The revenues of the State, out of which will be paid the interest and sylvania. amortization charges on the Good Roads loan, are derived mainly from a tax on the capital stock and the gross receipts of corporations, some licenses of various kinds, a variety of fines and penalties, the automobile registration tax and some other items. The farmer, therefore, nor the real communities may be served. estate owner, will pay a dollar of the cost of carrying a road loan, and the people who will pay it all are highway building, the State is always very greatly in favor of the proposiat a disadvantage, by reason of the tion. Their taxes will increase, but fact that the original impulse must not in rate. The great enhancement come from the local community. of business, caused by the improve-Counties and townships rarely, if ment of the roads, will naturally inever, are known to act concurrently crease the gross receipts, on which the corporations will quite cheerfully

pay the added tax. On the other hand if the constitu-

tional amendment be defeated at the polls, the defeat is almost certain to be followed by the levy of a direct property tax. The absolute necessity for the improvement of the State Highways will force action on the subject; and while no additional taxation will be necessary to pay the carrying charges on an issue of bonds. in case of the failure of the bonds the only recourse will be to direct taxation to get the amount of money necessary to go ahead with the work of highway construction.

This danger is not one to be poohpoohed, nor laughed at. Last fall the voters of Ohio defeated a constitutional amendment providing for a bond issue for road purposes; whereupon the Legislature at the following session, responding to the insistent demand for highway improvement. enacted a law levying a direct tax on real property for road purposes for a series of years. If the constitutional amendment had been carried at the polls the extra direct taxation would not have been necessary.

The proposition should appeal to ity; taking into consideration present the business intelligence of every travel now and what is likely to decitizen of Pennsylvania. With the roads improved over the State so that heavy traffic predominates one type every producer can haul his products of construction is necessary; if light to market at a minimum of cost, and vehicles or automobiles predominate when it suits him, the agricultural in- and heavy loads are rare, other types terests of the state will prosper and may be employed as a matter of orgrow rich; both on account of the money saved in the haulage and by reason of the fact that the farmer can market his products at his own inclination, instead of being obliged to haul when the roads are passable; and this invariably occurs when there is a shortage of cars, a congestion of markets and low prices. Among the corporations which pay revenue to the State of Pennsylvania the Pennsylvania Railroad Company stands as the leader. It makes the largest individual payments of any firm or corporation. Since its organization the company has stood uniformly in favor of highway improvement, and has many times assisted, with influence and money, in their construction. It has always been and still is the view of that corporation that the development of commerce, by reason of highway improvement, is an important factor in the material progress of a state and its institutions. In the fourth annual report of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, page 9, dated December 31, 1850, occurs the following paragraph: "The plank roads from Bedford to Hollidaysburg, and from Somerset to Johnstown, with numberless kindred improvements under construction or in contemplation, will aid in swelling the receipts of the mother work (The Pennsylvania Railroad) to which they owe their existence, and in developing the dormant wealth of Pennsyl-

FATHER OF PHRENOLOGY.

Force All Counties Alike Will

Be Benefited By the Pro-

posed Bond Issues.

nity converge.

right to expect.

has become so common.

Dr. Gall at One Time Had the Whole of Europe In a Furore.

The first public notice of the "Father of Phrenology" appeared in Weiland's "Dutch Mercury" on Aug. 14, 1798. Gall was a practicing physician of Vienna, and early in his career he became a firm believer in the idea that

the talents and disposition of men are The terminal points are the imdependent upon the functions of the portant factors in determining the value of an improved road. A good brain and, furthermore, that they may be inferred with perfect exactitude road that begins nowhere and ends and precision from the external apnowhere may be a matter of pride to those who live along it, but its pracpearances of the skull.

tical value is determined by the con-Gall was an able man. He set forth his theory in a graphic, unctuous mandition of the highways which connect the improved section of road with the ner, and in a very brief period he had city or town where the commercial all Europe at the top notch of exciteand social interests of the commument. The idea spread like wildfire, and in all grades of society people

In many states it is not unusual were discussing "the greatest of all to find isolated sections of lotick, discoveries." The new theory had to macadam or gravel roads which have meet the customary opposition from been constructed by the local authorithe custodians of truth and the preties with the expectation that the adjaservers of morality, but the opposition cent township would continue the imonly increased the popularity of the provement to the county seat, or to theory, and Gall's celebrity increased some other desirable center. This by leaps and bounds. His lectures is particularly true of Iowa and Inwere interdicted, and he was threatendiana, and also unfortunately of Penned with the direst penalties unless he ceased his "immoral and atheistical" This question was settled in our teachings, but he kept on with his state by the Legislature of 1911, propaganda, visiting all the large towns when a system of State Highways of Germany and the continent, and by was adopted, so that the benefits

1805 all of Europe was interested in will reach all counties alike, and that the Vienna doctor the great interests of through travel In 1828, the year of Gall's death. as well as the convenience of local phrenology was in vogue everywhere. But after a great and glorious flood-With State aid to counties and tide of popularity it began to wane. townships as the dominating factor in and today it is but seldom heard of .-

BANISH THE RATS.

New York American.

They Are Not Only Disease Carriers.

in highway matters, the result being but Thieves as Well. that one county may be well supplied Almost unbelievable are some of the with improved roads, while the adthings done by the rat-the squealing, joining counties are seriously lacking filthy, gluttunous all pervading, all in that respect, leaving the more endestroying brown rat. Rats often guaw terprising community, which has done the hoofs of horses until the blood its full share, cut off from important comes. They have been known to atcenters of population and with only tack fat hogs and eat holes in their a portion of the benefits it had a bodies, causing death. They will fight human beings if cornered. They often Our system of State Highways corsteal valuable articles to use in buildrects this situation. The state takes

ing nests over the main roads, improves and The following were found in a sinmaintains them at state expense. gle nest: Three bedroom towels, two These State Highways, connecting all serviettes, five dust cloths, two pairs county seats and all principal centers, of linen knickerbockers, six linen pocknot only correct the inequality in the et handkerchiefs and one slik handkerdistribution of public benefits but chief This same rat, which was a provide for that wider travel which model of industry and thrift, had carried away and stored near its nest a Uniform improvement of the Highpound and a half of sugar. a pudding. ways is imperative in a great State a stalk of celery, a beet, carrots, turlike Pennsylvania. But uniform imnins and potatoes.

provement does not mean that all In the last dozen years over 5,000. roads must be built of the same width 000 human beings have died of plague or the same material. It means that in India alone. The India plague comwith all the facts before it, the Highmission, after careful inquiry, found way Department can determine what that bubonic plague in man is entirely type of improvement should be given

dependent on the disease in the rat! Marvelous in its destructiveness is the common house mouse, closely related to the rat, and. like it, imported from Europe. The field mouse, too, is highly destructive. the most destructive to agriculture of all the rodents .-Farm and Fireside.

Missed the Bird and Lost.

The Glasgow News records a singu lar incident during a lawn tennis tie. The two players, who may be termed A and B. were very evenly matched. The game was long, and sometimes one and sometimes the other narrowly led At length when A was within a stroke of defeat he returned a ball softly, and it looked as if his fate was sealed. So it would have been, but just at that moment a bird flew across the court in a line parallel with the ball

As all good tennis players can well understand. B mistook the bird for the ball and "smashed" at it vigorously. It swiftly rose and he missed it by a feather's breadth, and ere he could recover his balance the ball had dropped on his court.

This stroke proved the turning point in the tie, as A thereafter played up strongly and ran out winner

The Sheep In the Grass.

Lord Palmerston once inspected 'Summer in the Lowlands." a picture by Sir John Watson Gordon "Look here," said Lord Palmerston to the artist, "why should the grass in that field be so long when there are so many sheep in the field?"

"My lord," replied the artist, "those sheep were only turned into the field last night!"

Lord l'atmerston bought the picture at a high price.

Penny Gone! No Warts.

Maurice, aged six, was weeping bit terly, and mother inquired as to the cause of the deluge.

"I bought two warts from Vincent for a penny." he wailed. "and Vincent hasn't given me the warts and won't give my penny back."-Indianapolis News

Round and Square.

"The mode of expression plays a very important part in diplomatic negotiations

"Yes. but there is not much use of trying to make a well rounded sentence take the place of a square deal." -Washington Star

Entertaining.

One of the most entertaining sights in life is to see two people who know t all attempting to instruct each other -Puck

A moral, sensible, well bred man will not insult me No other can -Cowper

Dry Goods, Etc.

part in mission work. Indeed, she had, as she fondly supposed, been the direct means of reforming several and ink." hard cases. She had furnished them money to go west and make a new start and grow up with the country, and the police, not wishing to hurt her feelings, had concealed the fact that they had gone to Sing Sing instead.

It was on account of her mission interest, and in the hope of interesting others that Miss Converse made one of a slumming party one evening. They saw just what they were intended to see and no more. The un- ness." derworld doesn't do any safe-cracking or blackjacking before the eyes of slummers. Miss Converse had a mental photograph of "Toff," and she looked for him.

At length, in a den frequented altogether by men who had shed human blood, as the guide solemnly assured the party, the man was discovered. He looked intelligent and almost respectable. Met in a walk along Fifth avenue, he might have been taken for a rising young lawyer, hoping that some workman might be killed and his widow bring suit for damages.

The only crime "Toff" was committing just then was that of beer drinking. This greatly astonished the slummers. They looked for blood on his hands, but they were cleaner than a trolley car conductor's. Miss Converse spoke to him, and he talked in a gentlemanly way. In fact, she boasted afterward that he "almost used as good grammar as a floor-walker in a department store." She did not want to preach to him before his wicked companions, and so she quietly left him her card. In return she received a look which she interpreted to mean: "For heaven's sake, don't betray my identity here!" and she heeded the request. After she had passed out, "Slippy," the pickpocket lifted up the card with a laugh and showed it around and said:

"Another of the sex gone bug-house over saving us from ruin! Why didn't some of you pinch her diamond breastpin?

A week later, one rainy afternoon, Miss Converse received a caller. The butler who brought in the written card said that the owner appeared to be a bill collector, but he was admitted, and after a moment was recognized as "Toff." He hadn't come to pay a social call. He had come at the request of a dying burglar who wanted to make a confession to her and say how sorry he was that he had not started out in the ministry instead.

"I will go with you at once," replied the impulsive and enthusiastic young lady.

But "Toff" suggested that she come by herself, so as to escape observation and remark. She must wear her old-

rou've got an account at the Third National bank. Here's a blank check, and here's pen

husing

"And then I may go?" "Yes, at 11 o'clock tomorrow forenoon I've got to draw the cash first. We don't take any chances on you swell people. You'd beat us as quick as we'd beat you."

"But I can't stay here all night!" wailed Miss Converse.

"You'll just have to." "but my parents!"

"Oh, the flunky will tell them that

you are out on the reforming busi-

The girl stood up and screamed. Then she went over and beat with her fists on the door. Then she realized her helplessness and sat down and began to sob. "Toff" turned to cigarettes and had nothing more to say.

There was no further appeal to him. The time drifted to close on midnight. Then a key was so softly inserted in the lock of the door that no sound was heard till the door was flung open. A young man appeared and pointed a revolver at the guardian and quietly said

"Get out of this!"

"Just as you say," replied the false Toff" as he went. "Oh, sir-oh-" began the girl; but

the man interrupted her with: "Let's get out of this!"

They were within a block of her nome when she asked:

'Won't you come in and help me to explain?

It was in the explaining that he had to give his true name and non de plume, and to admit that he was no longer a bored young man. He was in love

Mr. Jack Ashton has now dropped his "Toff" articles, and the late Miss Clara Converse is no longer a slummer or a reformer.

(Copyright, 1913, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Complete Briden Missing.

Dayton, O .- The ccunty bridge near the paper mill canal locks at West Carrollton, valued at \$600, is lost, strayed or stolen. Four years ago a contractor found it necessary to remove the bridge temporarily to put in the locks. The other day another contractor made a thorough search for the structure, but not even a bolt could be found.

Sounds Like It.

Mrs. Young-They say Mrs. Tubbs treats her husband like a mandolin. Mrs. Younger-How like a mando

lin? Mrs. Young-Picking on him all the time

-Have your Job Work done here.

vania." The company still maintains the idea that the construction of improved highways is in line with the development of Pennsylvania's dormant resources; and with this development must come more business for the rail-

roads, and a greater accummulation

of wealth by the people. Not only must the quality of the soil and improvements be satisfactory to the man who wants to buy a farm, but he first wants to know, before he will go to look at it that it has a telephone, and is along a rural mail route and a good road.

The traffic over the roads, both team and motor, is increasing beyond the wildest imagaings of two or three years ago. In 1908 there were 19,000 automobiles owned in this state; now there are more than 80. 000, including trucks. Next year there will be more than 100,000. A strong argument in favor of the vote for Good Roads.

-For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

velop after their improvement. Where dinary economy in construction and maintenance. The French government does not

each section of the State Highways,

so as to place all on an exact equal-

hesitate to state that its reason for keeping within the department the control of the location and character of the improvement of a road, is to "keep it from the distractions of local political interests." Only by centralized authority can this be accomplished in France, or in Pennsyl-

vania, or in any county or state. A centralized Highway authority is the only agency that can properly study the needs and requirements of all sections of a state; and while treating all counties alike, determine what particular roads should first be improved to accommodate the greatest number of people, and most rapidly develop the interests of the state as a whole. With the Constitutional Amend-

ment carried at the November election, the Highway Department may begin the preparation of plans for the improvement of Pennsylvania's State roads on a scale hitherto impossible. A year from now the Legislators for 1914 will make the laws putting the Amendment into operation and appropriating the money for the road

As these funds could not be made available for other purposes, there would be no uncertainty as to the amount for road building and maintenance, so that 1914 and the years subsequent should show great activity and Pennsylvania, among the most progressive of commonwealths in every other respect, will take its

place among the leading states in its mileage of improved highways. Idea for Poultry Raisers. Electric food and water heaters are said to increase hens' egg laying pow ers and to prevent poultry disease

due to cold food. Wants to Dress as Woman. Atlanta, Ga.-From a prominent South Georgian, who lives in Ware county, Controller General William A. Wright has just received a letter expressing a desire to wear woman's attire, and asking permission to do so. "I have very much the appearance of a woman, and when dressed as such and wearing long hair I look a

not be noticed as being a man. I wish to adopt this attire because it is more suitable for me than male attire." "It's the queerest letter I ever received," said General Wright. He withholds the name out of deference to the man's family.

LYON & COMPANY.

NEW SILKS.

Our Silk department is now full of the most popular Silks. All the new weaves and colors-crepe de chines, crepe meteors, brocades, poplins, charmeuse satin and messalines. These were bought before the advance in raw silk.

La Vogue Coats and Suits

are quality garments. We are showing new models every week. So satisfactory is t'is variety that the very suit or coat you want is doubtless among the number. The styles are in accord with the latest approved fashions; the fabrics of superior quality; workmanship flawless. Prices extremely reasonable. No trouble to show this complete line. We can fit the lady, miss and child. An early inspection will give you more satisfaction than all

Lyon & Co. 57-34-1y Bellefonte

descriptions. perfect figure of a female and would