# Democratic Watchman.

# Bellefonte, Pa., January 23, 1925.

# WRITERS DIFFER ON **REAL "ROUGHNECK"**

# **One Explanation Does Not** Seem to Satisfy.

The Klondike poet, Robert W. Service, who has a prodigious reputation among American university graduates, hundreds of whom can quote pages and pages of his verse, has finally launched a work of prose fiction called "The Roughneck."

I have often meditated on the origin of that word, and the paper jacket, which incidentally is full of other interesting information, gives Mr. Servvice's explanation: "I think the origin of 'The Roughneck' dates back to the time when to shave the back of one's neck was a sign of sartorial grace. In my early Alaskan days every barber would ask you if you wanted a 'neck shave,' and not to have one. put you in the category of those who were indifferent to their appearance. or too unsophisticated to conform to the fashion of the day. You were a man with hair on his neck; in brief, a roughneck. The fashion soon passed but the expression remains."

Now when I was a boy, my virgin aunt, who, like all virgin aunts, knew far more about the world and was far more in sympathy with it than one's mother, said to me emphatically: "Don't you ever allow any barber to shave the back of your neck." She knew. Whatever may later have been the reversed dynamics in Alaska, she knew that a man whose neck was shaved was outside of the pale of po lite society.

I was particularly interested in Mr. Service's explanation, for during the last 20 years in these United States, my observation proves just the opposite. I have never seen a genuine tough who did not have the back of his neck shaved. And I divide all barbers into two classes-those who, without asking you, attempt to shave the back of your neck, and those who would no more perpetrate such a monstrosity than they would shave of your ears.

It is, as Barrie's policeman would say, a test absolutely "infallible." No New York or Boston barber has ever am alert, I get a large dose of lather under the cerebellum.

But how in the world did Aunt Libble know this test 45 years ago? That was some time before Mr. Service was born .- William Lyon Phelps in Scribner's Magazine.

Who Am I?

I have scattered bread crusts, egg

# **Comfort and Elegance** in Revolutionary Days

Those who are under the impression that our Revolutionary ancestors spent their daily lives without the comfort which helps to make life more worth while are in error. The articles of household ware, for instance, used by them were abundant, various and servceable.

The bed and all that appertained to it were the pride of the mistress of the house. It was almost invariably of sweet, soft and downy feathers; its

sheets were of fine "homespun," the blankets and rugs of "spotted woolen" and flannel; and the towering posts at either corner of the bed were garnished with snowy curtains of dimity. For table use they had napkins of linen and tablecloths of diaper; "diaper-wove huckaback," kersey and 'damask plain and flowered."

The household goods and furniture of those simple times were in strong contrast with those now in use. China was as rare as gold and as highly prized, most commonly three china cups and saucers comprising the entire outfit of a respectable family, though the numbers rose sometimes to six, but seldom to a dozen.

Pewter and copper were the ornamental, and iron, then as now, the serviceable metal. Of the two former were made basins, ewers, mugs, porringers, ladles and tea and coffee kettles.

There was little glassware in use, and the few "jelly glasses, half pint and gill glasses," salt cellars, punch goblets and tumblers of glass were considered unusual elegancies.

Clocks and "looking glasses" embelshed the houses of the wealthy, and the size of the "looking glasses" corresponded with the degree of its owner's social standing.

Stoves were not in general use, and coal was unknown except for blacksmithing purposes; wood, charcoal and turf were the only fuel. Wood was just beginning to be burned in "franklins," but generally was used in fireplaces, which were provided with dogs and andirons, and in kitchens were huge saverns garnished with a forest of chains, pothooks and trammels. swinging on iron cranes or "smoke jacks" over fires that were fed by great logs.

# **Civilizations** Compared

"Nations and individuals are judged by two factors-their virtues and their vices," writes Achmed Abdullah, disdone any necking on me; but in every tinguished novelist and playwright small town west of Buffalo, unless I from the Orient, comparing the East and West, in Hearst's International. He says:

"I asked myself: Did the Europeans five up more to the altruistic teachings of Jesus than we to those of Mohammed, Confucius, Buddha and Moses? Were the teachings of Jesus more apt to lead His followers in the golden path than those of the other

great Prophets? Did the Europeans ave finer loyalty than the Arabs s, tine

# **PROTESTS AT YOKE** IMPOSED BY COLLAR

# Writer Demands Justice of Makers of Neckwear.

Styles change faster in collars than anything else that men wear. The collar trust evidently figures that sales can be increased by rapid alteration in names and shapes.

Many men find this a nuisance, as they often cannot buy ready to order the collars which they like best, Girard remarks in the Philadelphia Inquirer I wonder if the collar trust is right in its figuring?

Some things which are deemed most essential change once where a silly collar name or eighth of an inch ip width may change fifty times.

Take cigars and cigarettes. A man will smoke one brand ten years and never desire a change.

Only a simpleton would try to improve a beefsteak by calling it some thing else.

Leading bakers may hold to a certain recipe for bread for a generation. Your favorite salad dressing may be forty years old, and I suspect the makers of fine cheese would hang anybody who meddled with their formulas.

The highbrows in art crave only old styles in pictures, furniture, rugs, por celain.

Collar-trust ethics would have it Chippendale today, Reginald tomorrow and John Smith the day after if it made furniture after the collar pattern. Snuff is a big industry and there are snuffmakers in Pennsylvania whose formula has been a family secret for a century. Not a change in all that time. Yet the snuff users evidently want it just that way.

Men who swear at all, doubtless swear oftener at their collars than anything else in the world.

There-is no such thing as getting ot. familiar terms with collars. They change too often. Men who in olden times stepped up to the same bar and ordered an identical brand of liquor every day for 20 years can scarcely hope to have affection for collars which differ every morning.

The trust won't let us get used to a collar before it is outlawed off the merchant's shelves.

Candy and ice cream and chewing gum go on forever in the same old way-vanilla being as familiar as the tax collector-but people also like them in that same old way.

Old styles and famous names are most valuable assets in almost every trade except collars. There it was Artie yesterday, Bertie today and Gertie tomorrow, with changes just enough to make the wearer rave.

Once in a while a galley slave es caned, but there seems no way to throw off this dreadful yoke around every man's neck.

#### Modern Literature as well confess that

iterature by and large is increasing

New York Times. Our novelists do

No deep rhythms sweep through our

stories, as in those of Thomas Hardy,

tossing the mere details of craft like

Our humorists get no farther than

manners; Dickens dug up the whole

foundation of London. Comparisons

might be copied out to fill an agate col-

umn, all showing that our standard-

gauge literature has become narrow-

gauge, and that we are drawing in

rather than spreading out. To many

readers this may sound catastrophic.

but it need not be so unless the cur-

rent era, too, is catastrophic. For rou-

tine literature can be no greater than

the age it serves and only a Shake-

speare can tower above his time like

**Proper Care of Goldfish** 

Jwners of goldfish may be interest

ed in the following advice that an

employee of the New York aquarium

gives: "When a goldfish begins to

'cluck'-that is, to come to the sur-

face and make strange sounds-it is

suffering. The best thing to do is

to dip some of the water from the

bowl and let it drip back into the aqua-

rium slowly. In that way the water

gets a new supply of oxygen, which

is what the fish need. Never change

the water too rapidly. If you do, the

fish may die of chills or a cold. The

water should be kept at a temperature

of about seventy degrees .-- Youth's

Preserving a Tree

The oldest oak tree in New Jersey,

if not in the United States, is very

expensive to preserve, according to

the pastor of the Presbyterian church

at Basking Ridge. In his financial re-

port at the celebration of the two hun-

Companion.

the Colossus of Rhodes.

cockleshells.

not stretch broad canvases nor rush.

#### "SCRAP OF PAPER" Work for Humanity FATAL TO CRIMINAL

Every day science is performing

ments" such accomplishments are

Typewriting is almost as personal as

penmanship sometimes, due to certain

typist has developed, says Loren C.

Horton, typewriting expert of New

Some time ago an office of the De-

having been in longhand. This type-

characteristics that the copyist might

inserted a second dash at the begin-

With such personal characteristic:

as a guide, finding the seller of the

letter was a matter merely of elimi-

nation among those who had access to

A very slight difference in the length

of the cross bars of the "t's" once helped

expose as a forgery an alleged will

offered for probate in an estate involv-

ing many hundred thousands of dol-

lars. The company that made the

typewriter on which this document

with a dash.

probate.

the copied letter.

merely in the day's work.

#### In a new country where the natural conditions of plant and animal life Identification by Typewritare changed, the balance of nature is likely to be upset. The value of bird ing Not Uncommon. life is perhaps greater in checking »

plague in its incipient stage. In parts of the Middle West there feats that overshadow those of the were serious outbreaks of the Rocky famous detectives of fiction. Take, for mountain locust or grasshopper many example, the seemingly impossible task years ago, says Nature Magazine of of identifying a man by his typewrit-Washington, D. C. Prof. Aughey of ing-running down a machine-made the University of Nebraska carried on ·lue. a series of observations showing that That a criminal can be traced, capthe birds of these localities were helptured and convicted through a scrap ing a great deal to check the insect numbers.

**Birds** Constantly at

Thrushes, kinglets, chickadees, nuthatches, warblers, vireos, swallows, crows, bluejays, blackbirds, kingfishers, cuckoos, woodpeckers, hawks, owls, pigeons, grouse, quail, gulls, and even humming birds and water birds

peculiarites or mannerisms that the Fifty-one locusts were taken from the stomach of a single yellow-headed blackbird. A tiny ruby-throated hum-York, in Popular Science Monthly, ming bird had four small locusts in Such clues may be found in spacing, its stomach. Six robins had eaten spelling or punctuation. 265 locusts. Sixty-seven locusts were found in the stomachs of three blue partment of Justice was astonished to birds, and one little ruby-crowned find a confidential letter from its files kinglet had eaten 20. Many of these printed in a magazine. The letter that and other birds were feeding their had been sold to the magazine was obyoung on locusts. tained, and was found to be a type-

One barn owl had eaten 39 locusts. Five screechowls had caten 219 locusts. Six of the nine burrowing owls had eaten an average of more than fifty locusts each, the magazine article concludes. Hawks, as a class. were scarcely less active, for of the eleven species listed as having been examined by him, five were found to have eaten locusts.

A grasshopper pest in southern Oregon was something like the plague of grasshoppers that came upon the early Mormon settlers in Utah during the summer of 1848. The crops of the Mormons were partly saved by the great flocks of gulls that came in and settled over the fields, gorging themselves on the insects.

### The Trying Fascists

capitalist, was talking about the Fascists in Italy. "The Fascists think," he said, "that whatever they do is right. This attitude on their part is certainly very trying.

Mortimer Schiff, the noted New York

"The Fascists remind me of the lady who wished to open an account with a department store. They asked her for a reference, and she gave the name of Charles M. Schwab.

"But Mr. Schwab, It turned out, didn't know the lady, and so, when she called at the store again, the credit man said to her:

"'I'm sorry to tell you, madam, that your reference is unsatisfactory.' "'Well, now, that's a surprise to me,'

cross bar on the "t" by grinding it down with an emery wheel. He sucsaid the lady. 'I always thought ceeded, but only partly, for in doing Charles M. Schwab's financial standing the work he accidentally shaved the was above reproach.'"

# Son's Failure Led to

Lincoln's Great Effort

James L. Ford, in "Forty-Odd Years in the Literary Shop," tells that when: he was five years old children began to hear from the lips of their elders. mention of a man named Lincoln, whose speech in Cooper Union hall, New York, provoked much discussion. Many years after Mr. Ford chanced to learn that this speech, whose consequences were so far reaching, was the result of his son's failure to pasa scholastic examination.

Robert T. Lincoln had come from his Illinois farm with the intention of entering Harvard college and had failed in his examinations, says the Detroit News. His father was much distressed and, though money was by no means plentiful with him, he determined to go to the boy's assistance, and accordingly made the jour ney to Cambridge.

While there one of the committee then arranging for the great Cooper Union meeting, suggested the propriety of inviting Mr. Lincoln, whom he had once listened to in the West, to address the assembly and the invitational was promptly sent. So little was Mr. Lincoln then known in the East that William Cullen Bryant, the presiding officer, introduced him in the follow ing words:

"We shall next have the pleasure of hearing from Mr. Abraham Lincoln of written copy of the original, the latter Illinois of whom some of you have undoubtedly heard." There were inwritten copy had so many individual deed some present who had heard of Lincoln and his championship of aboalmost as well have signed his name lition and for several minutes a storm to it. In breaking a word at the end of howls and hisses prevented him from speaking. He finally did speak. of a line, for example, he invariably and that speech placed the Presining of the next line. Also he had dential nomination in the hollow of his a habit of following each semicolon hand.

### Better Than Average

Mayor Lunn of Schenectady, N. Y., said at a luncheon:

"The machine candidate, the machine politician-why do we always: support him?

"A machine candidate got elected: to the senate. Six month's went by. Then John Citizen met one morning the boss who had put the machine capdidate in.

"'Senator Swank,' sneered John was written only recently had length-Citizen, 'promised us great things if ened the cross bars of its "t's," while the we'd elect him, but what's he done? ask you-what's he done?'

"will" was typed on a machine with short cross bars. An attempt ap-"'What's he done?' yelled the boss. parently had been made to remedy this Why, he's got himself made special discrepancy by penciling over the typecounsel for the railroad trust, the light writing, but there were so many sustrust and the food trust; he's bought picious points connected with the dochimself a town house and a country ument that it was not admitted to seat, and he's started in collecting old masters. That's what he's done, darn In a somewhat similar case a man it-and all in six months, too !"-Los who tried to alter a document with a Angeles Times.

### Progress

"When I was learning my trade 1 served for a time in the German army." a Detroit barber remarked as he tapped his closed scissors. "They let me practice on the other soldiers. All were young men. I dle gest day's shaving once when I cleaned 150 faces of stubble beards. I hired a boy to do the latuering, and I seated my customers in the chairs. Then the latherer prepared the faces, and I started. Every wan had to wash his own face, and none got any bay rum, or any pampering. You see I was paid only a few pfennigs for the shave. With one good customer today I make many times what I got from the whole 150."

### of typed paper, which apparently is just like any other piece of typing in the world, almost challenges credence; yet to the expert on "questioned docu-

had all taken to eating locusts.

chells and paper plates from the Rio Grande to the Great Lakes. I have hacked trees and broken down farmers' fences from coast to coast.

I have hooked peaches from a Georgia orchard and pecans in southern California, apples from the beaucantaloupes from a Colorado truck

patch.

1 have thrown tin cans into the Grand canyon and empty bottles into Niagara's roaring tumult.

I have seen all, heard all and in my weak way have managed to destroy much.

I am the American tourist .-- Blaine C. Bigler in Judge.

Athletics for Babies

A gymnasium for bables has been opened in Berlin by a former physical instructor in a Potsdam military school. "Every six-months-old baby should do five to ten minutes' daily exercise with its mother or nurse.' said the instructor. "If my advice were followed, the appaling number of this curious fact in writing for Hycripples in this country would be greatly diminished. Regular graduated exercises ensure harmonious development, correct posture, and firm bones.' The gymnasium, with its furnishings of miniature swings, ladders and bars. is for the professor's older pupilsthat is, those from eighteen months to five years old.

### The Reason Why

there is an excellent reason why electric service companies build their steam-driven generating stations on the shore of a river, lake, bay or harsor. For every pound of coal burned in the furnaces of such stations, nearly a half ton of water is needed to condense the steam produced after it has passed through the turbine which ing station in the South all of the water of a sizable river is diverted

### New Safety Lamp

The United States bureau of mines has approved a new type of electric safety lamp for miners, which produces three times as much light as previous types, while the battery and lamp together weigh but a third as much as the older designs. A special lamp is used and if it is broken electricity from the two-cell alkaline battery is automatically cut off.

# **Coaling Big Liner** An idea of the enormous amount of

coal carried by the giant ocean liner the support of all parties and factions may be gained from the fact that 300 practically. He lost his sight in an men working from four to four and explosion about fifteen years ago. He one-half days are required to coal the | will keep his records in the Braille Olympic.

filial piety than the Chinese, finer family cohesion than the Jews, finer sex a pretty affair, concerned with the morality than the Jews, finer char- | petty affairs of daily life, observes the ity than the Parsees?

"My answer was-still is-'No!' and f challenge anybody above the level of like Victor Hugo, at mighty themes. tiful Genesee valley in New York and asinine bigotry to show me where am wrong.

"Looking at the other side of the medal: were the unwashed of Calcutta dirtier than those of Liverpool? Were the perverts of Bokhara more degenerate than those of Naples? Were the murderers of Canton more blood-thirsty than those of Paris? Were the saber-rattlers of Constantinople more arrogant than those of Berlin?

"Again my answer was-still is-'No !' "

# **Boys Chief Stutterers**

For every girl who stutters there are five or six stuttering boys.

Dr. James Sonnett Greene of New fork, medical director of the National hospital for speech disorders, explains gela, health magazine, published by the American Medical association. Girls, as a rule, talk more than Joys and, therefore, get more practice in speech production, Doctor Greene states. Although it is generally conceded that girls are more nervous than boys, yet the girl is more capable of maintaining her co-ordination under emotional strain because she is naturally more graceful and her co-ordination more complete. For that reason it requires an ex-

ceptionally severe shock to cause her to lose her standard, hesitate and stutter.

### Sure to Succeed

Original men are not content to be governed by tradition; they think turns the electric dynamo. At one for themselves, and the result is such steam-operated electric generat- that they succeed where others fail. Now, a certain photographer never says to a woman customer, "Look from the river bed and passes over the pleasant, madam, if you please." He condensing pipes of the plant's boilers. knows a formula infinitely better than

that. In the most natural manner in the world he remarks: "It is unnecessary to ask you to look pleasant; I am sure you could not look otherwise."

Then click goes the camera and the result is never in doubt .-- Philadelphia Ledger.

### Blind Ex-Athlete Elected Perry T. W. Hale, a Yale football

star twenty years ago, and an Allvery largely on microscopic research, American center at the time, but now which has made possible a number of vital changes in the making of totally blind, has been elected tax steel rais. The result is that, whercollector of Portland, Conn., getting as accidents due to broken rails were once fairly frequent, now they are seldom if ever heard of, the quality of the steel of which the rails are made system of raised letters and figures.

\$3,393.08.

The Change

Festus Pester. "In the good old days of yore, when a wagon broke down in the road we used to gather around it and put in several hours aplece inquiring how the contretemps occurred. sympathizing with the owner of the vehicle and recalling and describing in the most minute detail sundry incidents of similar character which had transpired in the past. But nowadays when a motorcar blows out a tire we go right on. Eh-ysh !-times have changed, and for the worse. Most people these days have no more sympathy than so many mapping turtles." -Kansas City Star.

Sir Peregrine's Prejudice Joe Coyne, the American comedian who has been for years a star of the London stage, had an adventure with a new-made knight last summer.

This knight-call him Sir Peregrine -refused to rent his cottage at Maidenhead to Mr. Coyne because the latter was an actor. "Sir Peregrine," the house agent ex-

olained. "rented to an actor once before, and there was a great deal of unpleasantness."

"Well, you tell Sir Peregrine," Mr. Coyne retorted, "that if he believes in condemning a whole class for one individual, he might remember that Sir Of this amount 11,300,000,000 lire Roger Casement, knight, was hanged."

Each Thought Other Dead "Dead" brothers met at Cardifi, Wales, neither having seen the other for twenty years, and each thinking the other dead. One enlisted at the age of nineteen in 1901, and was reported to have been killed during the seige of Kut. The other enlisted in the Cameron Highlanders in 1914, and was so badly wounded in 1916, he lost both arms. They met in the Union Jack club and looked at each other without speaking, and while friends were wondering what was the matter one of the brothers fainted. When he recovered, explanations were made, and the reunion was complete.

### Composes in Workhouse

Alfred Phillips, an inmate at the Dulwich (Eng.) workhouse infirmary, two weeks." has attained some merit as a composer of sacred songs, although he is past eighty-five years of age. He has been thirty years and I don't half know at the workhouse infirmary about four years, during which time he has written much sacred music.

# Ingenious Dutch

Freight and passengers both are hauled and an abandoned street car line is put to good use in Amsterdam by an ingenious combination "train" tace car traller.

little curl at the bottom of the letter. The odd appearance of the resultant letter aroused suspicion, and magni-"Times have changed," said old fied photographs of the type showed plainly the marks of the abrasive.

machine of later date than that with

which the original typing was done at-

tempted to change the length of the

# **Rust-Proof Wheat Found?**

A new variety of wheat which will resist all attacks of rust, a species of marquis which is said to yield from four to six bushels to the acre more than the ordinary variety, has been developed by Samuel Larcombe, a prominent grain grower of Birtle, Man. The new wheat, says a Winnipeg dispatch to the New York World, has been tried out in areas in western Canada infested with rust and came through without damage, according to Larcombe. Larcombe has been a Manitoba farm

er for 30 years and in that time has won 3.000 prizes on wheat at Canadian and American expositions. He won the world's championship for wheat at the Peoria International fair in 1917 and in 1918, the sweepstakes for the best individual farmer's exhibit as well as sweepstakes for wheat in the dry farming section of the International Soil Products exposition in Kansas City.

# Thrift in Italy

Savings deposits in Italy, according to the last report available, show a total of 25,500,000,000 lire. were in savings banks, 9,400,000,-000 in postal savings and 750,000,-000 in the pawn institutions called the Monti di Pieta. This total compares with a total of savings deposits of 500,000,000 lire in June, 1914. The increase in deposits at the popular postal savings office has been 342 per cent, which is vastly greater than the depreciation of the currency and is taken to show how greatly the lower classes have improved their standard of living .- From Thrift Magazine.

### Such Is Life

"Mother," said the fair young thing, with a simper, "Mr. Giggub has pro posed."

"I'm not surprised at that." "Would you accept him?" "Why not?"

"But, mother, I've only known him

"We must all take a chance, dearle i've been married to your father for him."-Louisville Courier-Journal.

# Embezzled to Help Firm

Pleading guilty to a charge of emoezzlement made by her employers, a eighteen-year-old girl in Scotland recently showed that she ran the shop, waited on customers and kepi the books, all for \$3.50 a week, and composed of a motor truck and a sur- took the money to make herself more presentable to customers.

### Beautiful and Historic

A project is afoot to make Blacksod: bay on the west coast of Ireland a blg trans-Atlantic port; with a view toshortening the time between British and Canadian and American ports. If this scheme materializes travelers arriving there will be repaid by some of the finest scenery in the British isles, since they will pass close to Achili island, with its wild mountains and magnificent sea precipices. A little farther north in Killala bay General Humbert landed in 1798 with 1,000 French troops, and proclaimed the French republic, marching afterward. to Castlebar and taking possession of the town.

### "All's Right With World"

Nearly every man believes the world is going to the devil, and that the next few years will show great changes. . . . And all are mistaken; the world will carry on in future as usual, with a few changes and improvements men learn from experience. History records a few violent. changes but in each case the people didn't like the change, and went back to the old, tiresome, but safer conditions. . . . Base the next twenty years on the twenty years you have lived and know about, and you wilk be right .-- E. W. Howe's Monthly.

### Magic

The subject under discussion by the grownups was Douglas Fairbanks in "The Thief of Bagdad." They were commenting on the magic carpet, particularly, and how well done were that mechanical effects of the picture. Thelittle daughter had seen the picture. also.

"Well, I wish I had a carpet like that," she said. "I'd just say 'Whit" and my 'rithmetic lessons would, beall done."-Indianapolis News

### Educational Obstructions

"Why are you wrangling over a ne" schoolhouse for Crimson Gulch? Thereare no goungsters in the community." "That's as it should be," answer 1 Cactus Joe. "We're workin' for the future, and so lor : .as the board or education keeps fightin' the way is does we may as well admit the terra ain't no place for children."

safety in railway travel depends having been greatly improved.

ed to fill the cavities. Thirty-five cables were required to brace it. The labor, concrete and cables cost Safety in Railway Travel

### dred and fourth anniversary of the founding of the church he said that the tree is 93 feet high and 23 feet in circumference and is 400 years old. It is decaying fast, and during the year three tons of concrete were need-