

# The Centre Reporter

CENTRE HALL, PA.

WAR IN THE TIPPING NUISANCE

If the commercial travelers of this country really do go after the tipping system with all the power they possess, they can nearly, if not entirely, destroy it. Their national president avows his determination to rally the organization to an assault upon this graft, which, he says, costs up to \$50,000,000 a year in the United States. If those figures even approximate the facts, tipping is more than a nuisance to individuals, it is an enormous tax upon business that should not be tolerated. It has made parasites not only of a horde of servants, but of certain lines of business, which thus, through underpaid employes, prey upon other businesses. Tipping might find some plausibility if it amounted only to gratuities to a faithful servant seeking to please, but everybody knows that it goes far beyond this, says the Omaha Bee. The tip is more often given, not for extra service, but to get any kind of service at all. It is not surprising that commercial travelers think of organizing a united attack upon tipping. The surprise is that they have not done so long years ago. They practically live on the road, in hotels and trains a good part of the year. That sort of life is hard at best. To make the most of it they pay tips that they may obtain a living existence, so to speak. The commercial travelers can destroy the tip if they will. They can get no-tip hotels when they unitedly demand them and they can get, at least, some improvement in conditions even from the sleeping car company. If they succeed they will have the thanks of everyone who ever travels away from home.

Theoretically, says a jeweler, the best watches of today are perfect, but actually they both gain and lose time every day. Even if the good watch does not vary one second at the end of the 24 hours, the expert insists, it has both gained and lost in that time. If it is wound in the morning, it runs fast, and toward the next morning runs slow, thus equalizing the time. He says the best watches should be wound twice a day and then at only two-thirds of the capacity of the mainspring, thus preventing either binding or extremes of strong or weakened spring. The balance wheel was expected to equalize differences of mainspring tension, but really this is not the case to what is called perfection.

The utility of the all steel train as a life-saver was demonstrated in New Jersey last week when such a train taking a crossover switch at 50 miles an hour was completely derailed and overturned. Here would have been a horror involving the crushing and burning to death of imprisoned passengers had the coaches been of wood. But the steel coaches did not collapse and did not burn, and the only casualties were the deaths of the engineer and fireman. The passengers were not even injured.

It seems that Sappho has been misunderstood all this time. Instead of being a pale poetess of purple passion, she was merely a calm and classical schoolteacher. We will learn next that Cleopatra was only a circus snake-charmer with the P. T. Barnum of the times.

Now that an English inventor says that he has been successful in inventing an apparatus for telephoning through water without wires, perhaps telephoning across the Atlantic may soon be an accomplished fact. There's certainly enough water there.

In 1915 the centennial observance of peace in the English speaking world will be observed, and it is proposed that every person in the countries interested should be quiet five minutes. The kind of a celebration would not be appreciated by the children.

The turkeys still living have formed a survivors' association, and they propose to adopt some plan that promises to keep their heads on their necks.

One astronomer says the earth will cease its revolutions in 5321. Another gives it ten million years. If it doesn't stop until astronomers agree it is destined to go on forever.

A college professor charges that college influences tend to make women prefer to be old maids. At which assertion one little Dan Cupid, who has more than all the wisdom of the colleges combined, laughs immoderately in his wing.

There is a new street car device intended to enable the conductor to call off the names of the streets without opening the door. But what's the use, it will sound the same anyway.

## BANDITS ACTED AS MAIL CLERKS

### Loot the Oregon Express of Registered Mail.

### POSSES SEEKING BANDITS

#### Gag the Government Clerks and Bury Them Under Sacks of Postal Matter—Leave the Train When It Slows Down.

Redding, Cal.—The mail car of the Oregon express, on the Southern Pacific, was robbed of all Eastern registered mail by two unmasked men. Three mail clerks were bound and gagged by the robbers, who entered the car while the train was between Red Bluff and Redding. The train pulled into Redding at 6.40 A. M., and the robbers, carrying their loot, dropped off and escaped.

The train left San Francisco at 8.20 P. M. When it stopped at Red Bluff, 35 miles south of this place, mail sacks were thrown out and others taken on. One of the three mail clerks was about to leave the car when the two bandits moved past him into the car and closed the door.

"What's up?" exclaimed Charles J. Ryan, a clerk.

"This is a hold-up," coolly responded one of the men, covering the trio with a revolver. Ryan, Robert E. Warner and their assistant, were bound and gagged by the second bandit.

When the train reached Cottonwood, 17 miles north of Red Bluff, the bandits acted as clerks in exchanging mail, without arousing suspicion. At Anderson, five miles further, they repeated the performance, showing familiarity with the clerk's duties.

When the train stopped at Redding George Westlake, the local clerk, was waiting to receive the mail. The bandits threw open the doors of each side of the car and walked off in opposite directions. Westlake thought they were regular mail clerks. He threw a sack into the car and was surprised that no one received it. A moment later he heard a feeble cry and discovered the plight of the clerks. Mail sacks had been piled on them, but Ryan had managed to loosen his gag.

Strewn over the floor were the wrappings of hundreds of mail packages. Every sack of registered mail had been looted. Posses are seeking the bandits.

### SEEK TO SAVE WOLTER.

#### Betterment League Pleads For Ruth Wheeler's Slayer.

New York.—Despite the fact that the crime for which Albert Wolter is condemned to die is one of the most brutal in the annals of this state, the Betterment League sent to Governor Dix a plea that his sentence be commuted to life imprisonment. The league is opposed to capital punishment.

Wolter lured Ruth Wheeler, a 15-year-old girl, to his apartments, assaulted and murdered her and burned her body in an open fireplace.

### DIED FROM MOUSE BITE.

#### Dr. Simon, a Noted Bacteriologist Of Switzerland.

Zurich, Switzerland.—Dr. Simon, the bacteriologist, died here Friday as a result of having been bitten by an inoculated mouse, with which he was experimenting in an endeavor to find a serum for blood poisoning.

Dr. Simon was a son-in-law of Herr Bebel, the Socialist leader in the German Reichstag.

### SHOPS BLOWN UP.

#### Explosion Wrecks Southern Pacific Plant At Los Angeles.

Los Angeles, Cal.—The Southern Pacific Railway shop here was blown up Friday night.

One man was killed and five injured, according to reports turned in to Chief of Police Sebastian. It was the boiler of a locomotive that exploded.

### KAISER AND HAITI.

#### Emphatic Denial That Coaling Station Is Planned.

Berlin.—The German Foreign Office authorizes the most absolute denial of the statement in an article in the Temps, of Paris, that Germany is contemplating the establishment of a coaling station in Hayti, in view of the opening of the Panama Canal. The article intimated that France should act in a similar way.

### Unique India Pageant.

Calcutta.—King George and Queen Mary Friday witnessed a great pageant in their honor. There were two processions—Mohammedan and Hindu—in which 50 elephants, hundreds of camels and horses and elaborate state cars participated. Many of the contingents had retainers equipped with ancient weapons. There was a gorgeous display of jewelry. Hundreds of thousands of natives gave Their Majesties an ovation.

## OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS



## MANCHUS WILL NOT YIELD

### Declares the Prospects For Peace in China Have Been Willfully Nullified By the Manchu Government.

Shanghai.—Referring to representations contained in the identical note from the foreign Powers, comprising the United States, Great Britain, Japan, Germany, France and Russia, which was presented by the consuls on December 20, Wu Ting Fang addressed a note to the consuls explaining the present situation. He says:

"The republic, confiding in Tang Shao Yi's credentials, continued friendly negotiations until they were broken off by the action of the Manchu government. Tang Shao Yi in refraining from making counter proposals, said that he acquiesced in the reasons which justified the establishment of a republic in the interests of a peaceful settlement."

Wu Ting-fang expresses surprise and regret at Yuan Shi Kai's long delay in agreeing to refer the decision respecting the form of government to a national convention. Reviewing recent events he accuses Yuan of trying to render abortive the agreements already signed by Tang Shao Yi, thus jeopardizing all chances of arriving at the substantial peace desired by the powers.

"Therefore," continues Secretary Wu, "it is with extreme regret that the republican government is compelled to say that the prospects for peace have been willfully nullified by the Manchu government, upon whose shoulders will rest full responsibility for a long period of disturbing incursions, possibly the resumption of hostilities."

Secretary Wu asks that his representations be submitted to the respective governments.

The identical note from the foreign powers was read to both Tang Shao Yi, the representative of Premier Yuan Shi Kai, and to Wu Ting-fang, representing the Republicans. The note did not go much further than to express the good will of the governments represented and the hope that the peace conference would result in bringing the revolution to a close.

The imperial government in Peking has sent orders to all the generals in command of the imperial troops that they are to resume hostilities.

This step has been taken, it is assumed here, as a result of the refusal of the revolutionaries to continue the negotiations with the Peking authorities by telegraph in accordance with the demand of Premier Yuan Shi Kai.

### 53 MONKS DESTITUTE.

#### The Monastery Of the Trappists in Manitoba Destroyed.

Winnipeg, Man.—The Trappist monastery at St. Norbert, Man., was destroyed by fire Thursday. The fire was spectacular, and the magnificent building went down in half an hour.

The 53 monks sought shelter in the new monastery, nearly completed. All of the winter's stores were lost, and the monks will be obliged to depend on the charity of the farmers for sustenance until next summer.

The burned building was erected 20 years ago and was the first built by the Trappists when they started operations, and was one of only three in America.

### Cigarette Cost \$200,000.

Winnipeg, Man.—Fire destroyed the Excelsior Motor Works and garage, 20 automobiles, a ten-house terrace and several small stores and other buildings, located in the southern part of the city, entailing a loss estimated at \$200,000. The flames were started by an employe of the garage smoking a cigarette over a can of gasoline. With the thermometer registering 30 degrees below zero, the firemen with difficulty subdued the flames.

### Beefy Men Criminals.

Paris.—Dr. A. Marie, famous criminologist, says that crimes of great violence are usually committed by large, muscular men who have grown up too quickly.

### For Cheaper Food.

Washington.—Under leadership of Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, housewives here are organizing to secure cheaper food through a consumers' club, which purchases supplies wholesale and sells to members at cost.

## REAR ADMIRAL EVANS DEAD

### Veteran Seemed To Be In Better Health Than For Some Time—Fell Into Sleep After Attack, But Woke Up Unable To Get His Breath.

Washington.—Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, "Fighting Bob" to an admiring nation, died suddenly Wednesday at his home in this city. Acute indigestion ended the career of one of the most popular officers of the navy. He was ill less than two hours.

Admiral Evans, born 65 years ago in Floyd county, Va., arose Wednesday apparently in better health and spirits than he had enjoyed in some time. For years a sufferer from old wounds sustained in the Civil War and from recurrent attacks of rheumatic gout, the aged fighter seemed to have shaken off the burden of his advancing days. He displayed high spirits at breakfast and ate a hearty luncheon at noon.

While in his library at 2 o'clock the Admiral was stricken. Instantly the family sent for Dr. S. S. Adams who, on his arrival, found the patient in great pain. After treatment Admiral Evans fell into a restless sleep and it was thought that the danger had passed. Shortly after 4 o'clock, however, he awakened and, raising himself with difficulty, announced that he was choking.

### Conscious To End.

"I cannot get my breath," he said, and sank back. At 4:45 o'clock he died, conscious to the end.

The news spread with great rapidity and caused a profound shock in official circles. President Taft was one of the first to express his grief and condolence. He said:

"I am shocked beyond measure at the sudden death of my lifelong friend, Admiral Evans," was all he could say.

Secretary Meyer paid this tribute to the officer's memory:

"By the sudden death of Admiral Evans the country loses one of its most brilliant and able officers. It was on account of his ability that President Roosevelt selected him as commander in chief of the fleet that cruised around the world. Although on the retired list he had kept up his active interest in the service and his unexpected death comes as a shock to the navy."



REAR ADMIRAL R. D. EVANS.

"Admiral Evans was one of the most successful squadron commanders we have had in the Navy for a long time. He was a rigid disciplinarian, of quick decision and admirably advised in the intricacy of the machinery of cruisers and battleships and skilled in drilling them. I am very sorry to hear of his death."

Admiral Dewey was so overcome that he could utter but a few words.

"I am shocked beyond measure at the sudden death of my lifelong friend, Admiral Evans," was all he could say.

Secretary Meyer paid this tribute to the officer's memory:

"By the sudden death of Admiral Evans the country loses one of its most brilliant and able officers. It was on account of his ability that President Roosevelt selected him as commander in chief of the fleet that cruised around the world. Although on the retired list he had kept up his active interest in the service and his unexpected death comes as a shock to the navy."

### FORGERIES FOR 1911.

#### Banks Of United States Lose \$15,000,000—Rules Adopted.

New York.—The banks of the United States were swindled out of \$15,000,000 in 1911 by forgeries, according to Albert S. Osborne, a handwriting expert, and because of the companies issuing forgery insurance have adopted the most stringent restrictions.

The most drastic of the new regulations is that no bank shall open an account with anyone not personally known to some officer of the bank or vouched for by a depositor.

### HIGH COST OF LIVING.

#### President May Ask Aid Of Congress In The Problem.

Washington.—President Taft may ask the assistance of Congress in solving the question of the high cost of living through legislative authorization for the United States to participate in a worldwide conference on the subject. Prof. Irving Fisher, of Yale University, who was delegated to press the matter by the American Economic Association at its meeting here last week for the purpose, laid the plan before the President. It has been endorsed by many senators and others prominent in official life.

### Seltzer Bottle Explodes.

Washington.—Baron Von Hardenbrook, of the German Embassy, was the victim of an unusual accident here when a seltzer bottle exploded. His legs were painfully cut by broken glass.

### Poverty Saved Life.

New York.—Twenty-five cents stood between Frederick Eck and death. He turned on the gas to die, but the supply of gas ran out because of the quarter-in-the-slot-meter and Eck didn't have another quarter.

## ALL OVER THE STATE TOLD IN SHORT ORDER

Bethlehem.—While returning from the Moravian College, Rev. Samuel S. Warner, a retired pioneer Moravian missionary, fell dead in the street here.

Huffs Church.—Victor Baus, who last week attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat with a bread-knife in a bakery at East Greenville, died from the self-inflicted wounds.

Media.—A new cottage will be erected this year at the Girls' House of Refuge at Darlington at a cost of about \$36,000. The building will be known as Cottage No. 25.

Allentown.—William F. Neff received the Carnegie medal awarded him two months ago for saving his friend, Anno Sherer, from drowning in the Lehigh River last summer.

Bristol.—Thomas Barro, a lunatic, who escaped from the Byberry Insane Asylum, was picked up here by Chief of Police Saxton and turned over to an attendant from the institution.

Lehighton.—Mrs. Mary Bowers, seventy years old, was fatally burned when she tripped and fell while carrying a lighted lamp. The burning oil spread to her clothing and she was burned beyond recognition.

South Bethlehem.—As Mrs. John Miller was hastening across the street to greet a friend on the other side she was kicked in the breast and knocked unconscious by a vicious horse. Her injuries are painful, but will not prove fatal.

Media.—John R. Evans and his wife, Elizabeth Evans, of Chester, began a suit for \$15,000 damages against the George M. Dunlap Company, alleging that Mrs. Evans fell into a hole at a store of the defendant here in July last and was hurt.

Washington.—Rumors that the private funds collected for the Austin dam sufferers had been used by the State for clearing away the flood debris were denied in the House by Representative Olmsted, of Pennsylvania.

Chester.—While passing through Larkin's alley James C. Culbert, an installment collector, saw a bulldog attacking a small girl. He hurried to the child's assistance and the animal turned on him, biting him on the wrist.

Huntingdon.—The New Era Publishing Company, publishers of the "Daily New Era" and "New Era Journal," a semi-weekly, are financially embarrassed and the Court has appointed ex-Mayor George W. Fisher receiver.

Waynesboro.—Thieves who robbed High Constable George W. Gans' chicken house here were badly fooled. For their work they got two incapacitated fowls. One was a cripple and the other was sick with the roop, and these were selected from a flock of eighteen.

Coudersport.—Twenty additional damage suits, aggregating \$127,375, were filed by as many Austin and Costello flood sufferers against the Bayless Pulp and Paper Company, of Austin, Pa., and George C. Bayless, of Binghamton, president of the company. The claims run from \$1,060 to \$22,500.

Pottsville.—Carl Wagner, ten years old, figured in the first serious coasting accident of the season here. Young Wagner made the descent down a hill across Market Street and crashed into a heavy automobile truck. The youngster was thrown under the forward wheels and was critically hurt.

Carlisle.—The newly elected directors of the Cumberland County Agricultural Society have elected the following officers: President, Abram Bosler; vice-president, C. C. Kutz; secretary, W. H. McCrea; treasurer, J. E. Kinsteln. The date for the 1912 Cumberland County Fair was fixed for September 24, 25, 26 and 27.

Pottsville.—Mrs. Libby Rogers, of Shenandoah, was convicted in court of shoplifting and sentenced to two years in jail. The evidence showed that Mrs. Rogers trained three young girls, twelve years old, one being her own daughter, to visit department stores at Shenandoah, Mahanoy City and Pottsville and steal valuable goods.

Allentown.—In compliance with a resolution adopted last year, Secretary Harry B. Schall, of the Allentown Fair, mailed to all the stockholders in advance his report as well as the report of the auditors. Secretary Schall's report showed a total of \$24,792 expended last year for premiums. The entrance money received against this was \$10,085, the rest being expense to the society, which was, however, treble made up by gate receipts.

Lancaster.—As the twenty-four-hour St. Louis train of the Pennsylvania Railroad, going West, passed the C G block station just east of this city an axle on the rear truck of the dining car snapped. The engineer immediately applied the emergency brakes bringing the train to a sudden stop and throwing the passengers out of their seats. There was considerable excitement and alarm upon the train, but no one was hurt. The train was delayed one hour and fifty minutes.