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Cruel Humor of a Statesman

COUNCILMAN CHARLES SEGER in too busy to look at pictures showing typical scenes in the sium district, for Councilman Seger, it seems, is a humorist and a wit, as his acquaintances would have discovered long ago had they not taken him so seriously,

Yes, Mr. Seger is a humorist de luxe. Listen to him while he explains without cracking a smile that the Legislature of Pennsylvania did not know what it was doing when it passed the housing law, and the Governor was deluded when he signed it; wherefore, that the dignity of government may be preserved, he and his fellow Councilmen, statesmen extraordinary, will modify the measure and see that its "drastic" provisions do not

A law which provides that every living room must have a window is obviously "drastle." And who are the poor that they should expect their roofs, when they have any, not to leak? Really, tenement dwellers might be able to resist tuberculosis in habitable quarters, and what would life be without funerals to break in on the dull monotony? Mr. Seger roasons like a buzz saw and an undertaker's

How different from Mr. Seger is Mr. Ransley, president of Select Council! Mr. Ransley had time to look at two pictures, but "refused to be drawn into print." The avoidance of publicity has become one of the greatest problems with which our public men have to contend. They will not "leak" even if tene-

ment houses do. A gentleman suggests that if some of the Councilmen spent a few days and nights inside of the houses in the slums they might quickly change their minds. Such an experience would be instructive, of course, but orders from the Organization, we surmise, would be ten times more effective.

Fair Play for City Employes

THAT the interest of Mayor Blankenburg In the city's employed is equal to his interest in the unemployed of Philadelphia is shown in a message to Councils. The Mayor seeks the passage of an ordinance providing for the payment of the regular wages of per diem employes whenever they are absent from work on legal holidays, or on account of injury or sickness, and providing also for a week's annual vacation under pay.

In a further message he requests legislation d relieve the Se ing Charity of the financial burden of conducting the two Wayfarers' Lodges. In support of this recommendation he urges that the municipality has done too little in aid of those temporarily out of employment.

Calling upon Councils to pass the ordinance providing for the substitution of gas for gasoline lamps, the Mayor includes among the reasons for immediate action the fact that digging the trenches and making the pipe nnections would give employment to a large number of men now out of work. In a variety of ways he has shown the same con-"sideration for the laborers who need jobs, or, having jobs, need fairer treatment.

Osborne: Warden Instead of Prisoner TROUBLE-RIDDEN Sing Sing is to be put I in the hands of a practical student of prison reform. From gross mismanagement which has brought rebellion among the prisoners, and very nearly complete demoralization, it is to turn to a regime of enlightened prison management under Thomas Mott Osborne.

No great prison in America has yet been given such a trial of the "new penology" under so well reputed an advocate of prison reform. Mr. Osborne is more than an academician. Last fall he put himself through a week of imprisonment at Auburn to learn the practical effects of discipline and punishment as then dispensed. He makes no concealment of his intention to alter a great deal of the antiquated and cruel routine of Sing

In the face of the demoralization in Sing Sing at present, it will be no surprise if Mr. Osborne falls. Yet the fact that the "new penclogy" is getting anything but a fair trial will mean only the more credit for it if it mucceeds.

Suffragists to Play the Game

Now and then a political result is obtained by a spontaneous uprising of the people. birt as a rule organization is essential to success. Mala reformers have not yet learned that they must meet system with system. and that great ends are seldom achieved and rarely retained by spasmodic or hysterical

Baguetous plans have just been made by the Suffragists of Pennsylvania to create an organization as thorough and effective as any that the politicians have ever made. They will raise \$100,000 and assign duties to 50,000 women. The State will be divided into 13 districts with 13 leaders. The 67 countles will each have a chairman; every city, borough, township or rural district will be under an executive; each ward and even each polling district will have a worker; indeed, the entire mails voting population will be divided into onies of 10, and each 10 men will have a suffrustst attached whose duty it shall be to educate the individuals and secure their cutes. If this plan is carried out the issue counst be in doubt.

The Crime of Being a Commuter

IF CHARLES LAMB could write an immortal easily upon "The Inconveniences Arisar Avum Being Hanged," what could be not we dive upon the subject. "The Crime of are been empelled to flore out into the Hagrisburg.

and ruined digestions, or because of the frailty of their wives, or the need of fresh air and space for exercise for their growing children. Even where physical necessity has not been laid upon them, a temperamental constraint has led them out where they can hear the birds and see green grass, and grow flowers and know that there are still stars in the sky. For years the rallroads have encouraged this trend.

Now the necessities of the men who need the healing of God's great unspoiled world will be fined or their preference penalized, No wonder they feel the increase of rates to be unjust, and that they stand in revolt against the imposition. For many of them, particularly those who have children who must come into the city to school, the increase is big enough to blot out the blue sky, wither the flowers and drive them back to the imprisoning tenements of the noisy, narrow and beautiless streets. The country may linger in their dreams, their hearts may hunger for it, but the railroad toll will be an insurmountable barrier.

The City Holds the Club DHILADELPHIA is now in a position to establish adequate rapid transit facili-

tiers-Director Taylor. The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company cannot survive the rulnous competition of an

independently operated and city-owned highspeed system. Such a solution of the problem would wipe out the value of the Union Traction Company, destroy the large revenue yield to its stockholders and leave its property a white elephant on its hands.

To prevent so calamitons an issue, the Union Traction Company, through the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, is offered terms that protect it absolutely. The stockholders are not being asked to sacrifice anything; on the contrary, they are being urged not to commit hara-kirl.

So obvious are the benefits to be derived by the Union Traction Company from the arrangement, and so apparent is its helplessness in case the city goes ahead with the program anyhow, that the reluctance of certain stockholders to participate in the propossil can be based only on the assumption that in some way the entire rapid transit scheme may be defeated and Philadelphia left for another decade with wholly inadequate transit facilities.

Such an assumption is absurd in view of the status of public sentiment. No Councils would dare fall to meet the people's wishes on this issue. By the very force of circumstances the city holds a club over the Union Traction Company, a club not of its making, but none the less real on that account. The Union Traction Company faces the alternative of coming in or being frozen to death on the outside. Progress and prosperity are forcing

themselves down its throat. But why delay? The Union Traction has had ample time in which to decide. There should be no further hesitation. The city is restive. It wants to see the dirt fly; it wants to see the beginning of the Greater Philadelphia. If the Union Traction Company does not act within; a specified period, Councils should ignore it entirely and get down to

Put a Full Cargo in the Orn

CENTRAL committee in New York an-A nounces that 17,000 tons of food have been sent to Belgium, that 30,000 more are now affoat, and that 40,800 are in sight. And yet "in spite of the subscriptions to the Belgian relief funds, the efforts of the Rockefeller Foundation and of many other organizations at work in the West, Belgium cannot be fed at this pace."

The terrible fact stares America in the face that the stricken country will need half a million tons of food before spring. It is no time for lying back on the cars. One ship is gone, but the second should be filled quickly and made ready for sea. Philadelphia must be true to its traditions of two centuries of wholesome generosity.

Saving the Saloon From Within

THE saloons must reform from within or be I so drastically dealt with by statute as to suffer something very close to confiscation. Nobody knows this better than the sadoon men themselves. While California wine interests plan a "clean-up" campaign, the National Brewers' Association, in annual convention at New Orleans, speaks as unmistakably for measures of reform to save the beer

traffic. President Schmidt, of Philadelphia, struck the keynote of the meeting in his plea for the "bier halle" of Europe. The selling of malt liquor is a very different matter from the "booze business"; the drinking of beer and ale, from the drinking of spirituous liquors. President Schmidt wants to see the shutters, the blinds and alley entrances torn away, the saloon made as open and friendly a place of general refreshment as a soda fountain. Nothing else will save it.

Joy-takers From Fun-makers

Happiness is the inalienable right of every one. Sorrow, sadness, gloom, pain and misfortune must come, but it was never the intention of the Creator that they should dominate life. The capacity for happiness, always found in little children, should persist through each succeeding age. Men and women who accept a melancholy theory of living and only snatch a furtive joy now and then are wronging themselves and others. To take the ills as exceptional and to bear them bravely, but believing always that happiness belongs by birth to all and is obtainable by all, is the spirit each should cultivate.

Among the indispensable benefactors of humanity, not the least are the fun-makers. We can ill afford to lose one of them, especially when his humor was so clean, healthy and invigorating as that of Robert Burdette. His gental wit filled multitudes of homes with wholesome merriment, and he pricked many a bubble of human vanity with good-natured satire. The man who teaches others to see the beauty and feel the joy of living has made a distinct contribution to his age.

If Mr. McAdoo is elated over the new currency system, isn't that satisfaction enough for the rest of the country?

Anybody can guess which part of Napoleon's career Villa is thinking of as he marches on Mexico City, taking in Carranga's ex-soldiers on the way.

The weather of the past 24 hours has been spectacular-from the professional point of view, at any rate. The South went in for a freezing spell, and, while Philadelphia suffered with her, Eastport, Me., shot up to 44 and Denyer to 56.

Chairman Crow thinks the Republican Organisation seeds strengthening in Pennsylvania. Destor Brumbauga replies by asking his Citisens' Committee to continue in office in order to give him the backing of a edite a Commuter"; Thousands of city men, strong independent force. He may need it in

## SUBURBIA, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE,

Living in the Open a Professorial Cure for Slums and a Pleasant Personal Dissipation-Will the Future See One Big City or One Big

farm with the passion of a denizen of the Main Line. Luxurious as it was, it rejoiced in no more of "all the modern conveniences" than any dwelling in Jenkintown or Cynwyd. Yet he did not desert it daily for the marts and theatres of Rome. And so there was no commuters' crists in those days over s

But if the commuter and his problems are a very modern matter, they are important and absorbing in inverse ratio to their age. While the ordinary citizen feels that he wants a bit of open air and acts on that feeling, the professors are busy backing him up with the best of reasons. University students can take no course in city government without a lengthy disquisition on the evils of urban housing conditions and the necessity of drawing the poor out into the suburbs by lowering the transit rates and increasing the facilities. Some of the professors find themselves indorsing municipal ownership as a means of bringing down fares and directing, deliberately and wisely, the planting of the human saplings out in the open where there is a real chance of life.

At this point, however-as the professors are forced to admit-the real estate man steps in. If he owns property in the slums, he objects to the city "going in for rank paternalism." If he owns property in the suburbs, he puts up his price when rapid transit brings his land into habitable range. Meanwhile the city has to face the fact that It has reduced the assessed value of its own urban area, and increased that of outside villages. Not every city is so fucky as Philadelphia in having large portions of the "suburbs" within its own limits.

Comfortable Country Life

But what does the commuter care? The man who discovers that he wants a little clean air to breath or a bit of garden to chase the bugs off, sets himself down by the side of a rallroad or the end of a subway, and enjoys life. His is the pleasure of green things and a look-off. He can mess round with a bit of land and produce a string bean crop or a tennis court. Over there a mile away he has a golf course. If he owns a car, the inviting country roads run right up to his door. And at night he sleeps-after he gets used to the unearthly quiet.

Just now sleeping porches are stylish as well as hygienic. But this time the style seems to be the result of a genuine liking, and the ends of science are secured by the ordinary prejudices of man for making himself comfortable. The suburbanite tries the screen perch some hot summer night, and after that he is an open-air victim. His resistance to the bad atmosphere of the average bedroom is so broken down that one night indoors means a "head" in the morning. Even the city fellow is beginning to try it. The result in health-well, ask any specialist in lung troubles.

less person took time by the forelock with a Utopia that pictured something very close to present suburban development. He had airships ornamenting the skies and supplementing the trains, and he didn't dream, with Director Taylor, of high-speed subways. But in the main his outlines were right. He drew present-day Philadelphia.

In the same way, a lot of people newadays are busy with the future of suburbia. The results are delightfully and encouragingly diffuse. Some of them see a reaction to the cities again. Water-made electricity will

Suburb?—The Endless Joys of "Roadtown."

HORACE, so far as we moderns can learn, oust the smoke nulsance. Commercial life never commuted. He loved his Sabins will settle down to a less burried way.

threatened raise in railroad rates.

Social Sides

Of course there are drawbacks. Butchers and grocers and even department stores aren't so easy to get at. Schools and doctors are a little of a problem. Worse still, all that communal fellowship of the city goes glimmering. Man loses a bit as a social animal. Certainly, theatre-going is placed under a handicap. Museums and libraries are not to be so easily enjoyed. They are still accessible by long distance, if only the whole population doesn't move out or if those who remain are good enough to pay for these luxuries of the commuters. But it is such things, as well as the still laggard transit facilities, that give the city its charm, Back in Centennial days, some now name-

IN ALL ITS INFINITE VARIETY

By KENNETH MACGOWAN

There will be more time and appreciation for the theatre, museum, lecture hall and library, apon which so much of civilization rests.

Some, like Lady Warwick, building on swift and practically free transit in what they call the Great State of the future, expect the cities to disperse into many smaller towns, with a very close interrelation. By this means they expect to see the advantages of city life in education and amusement brought to every one's door, even to the farmer's, and the city population put within reach of the fields. Everybody will live in towns and everybody will live in suburbia.

Philadelphia With Forty Millions

Another "diffusist," H. G. Wells, goes even further. These "rallway-begotten glant cities" are "destined to such a process of dissection and diffusion as to amount almost to obliteration." Philadelphia, he thinks, will reach forty millions; but, by aid of wider gauge and much swifter railroads, as well as motor ways, it will be spread over some thirty thousand square miles. Factories will not congregate in one spot. Such business as book publishing and a hundred other smaller enterprises will be operated, by the aid of cheap telephone and messenger service, from suburban houses. The "city" that remains will be a centre for great stores and the fountain head of recreation: "essentially a bazaar, a great gallery of shops and places of concourse and rendevouz, a pedestrian place, its pathways reinforced by lifts and moving platforms, and shielded from the weather, and altogether a very spaclous, brilliant and entertaining agglomeration."

One can't help feeling, however, that there is a flaw in Mr. Wells' telescope. It produces an affect of magnification. Railroads of the future may run with the speed of 200 miles an hour, but that enforces, rather than alters, the fact that suburban life will ray out like the spokes of a wheel in long lines, spreading rapidly away from one another. High speed prevents branching: both by the impossibility of stops and slowings down and by the fact that there must be very thickly settled strips alorgside its terminals to make it pay financially. Every mile out from a city means great areas between the few spokes of transportation, and these great areas, if filled, become virtual cities in themselves. If men then find themselves living in the crowded life that they once left the cities to avoid, nothing on earth will prevent them from becoming permanent commuters to the Middle West.

The Shoestring City

Still another vision of future suburbla has come out of the last few years. More remarkable than any of the rest, and far more bigarre and impossible-appearing on the face of it, Edgar S. Chambless' "Roadtown" does take notice of that tendency of rapid transit to distribute population in straight lines. Indeed, his scheme seems to have gone mad on the subject. For it is nothing more nor less than a city one house thick and as long as a river. Yet Edison has donated his cement-pouring patents to Roadtown and the Boyes Monorail has offered itself as the means of transportation.

The practical part of the proposal is to bulld these Roadtowns out from the edge of a great city; the inventor's ideal of seeing it wriggle endlessly over hill and dale-a city in itself-may be dropped for the moment. Mr. Chambless proposes a sort of interminable row of houses end to end, with a high speed and local subway in the basement, along with sewage, water, gas and electricity, with factories, stores and common dining rooms on the first floor, apartments above. and on the long roof a promenade and bicycle path. With all the services of the city within, it will have the fields and woods of the country stretching beside it, clear to the next Roadtown. Mr. Chambless proposes. to wed the city apartment and the farm house. The hopes of suburbla cannot go farther.

Meantime, Philadelphia makes a dash for the 5:03 or hangs to a strap for three-quarters of an hour with a hopeful eye on Director Taylor.

CURIOSITY SHOP

The result of careful observations made at battlefield hospitals by one of the lead-ing surgical authorities of the French gives the relative frequency of wounds not in-stantaneously mortal as: Slight, 60 per cent; serious, 15 per cent.; very serious, 25 per cent. The experience of recent wars shows the head and the right arm as the most frequent lodging places of projectiles.

Collop Monday is the Monday before Shroye Tuesday. The name refers to the dinner which in some parts of England is almost universal on that day. It is cusomary to have collops of bacon and eggs for dinner. Go into some districts in Eng-land at dinner time on Collop Monday, and you will be sure to be saluted by the smell of fried slices of bacon and eggs.

The expression "sardonic smile" is as old as Homer. It means literally to "grin like a dog," and bears reference to the hideous contortion of the facial muscles produced by eating the sardonian, a plant of Sicily, which was said to screw up the face of the eater, giving it a horrible appearance. Mahan, in his "History of England," says: The island of Sardinia, consisting

chiefly of marshes or of mountains, has from the carliest period to the present been cursed with a noxious air, an ill-cultivated soil, and a scanty population. The convulsions produced by its poison-ous plants gave rise to the expression sardonic smile," which is as old as

"To meet one in the Duke's Walk." This is an invitation to fight a duel. In the vicinity of Helyrood House, Scotland, there is a place called the Duke's Walk, so called from its being the favorite promenade of the Duke of York, afterwards King James II. This walk is said to have been the com-mon rendezvous for settling affairs of honor, the site of the British Museum was in

THE COMIC SINGER

The Veil before the mystery of things shall stir for him with iris and with light; Chaos shall have no terror in his sight Nor earth a bond to chafe his urgent wings: With sandals beaten from the crowns of kings Shall he tread down the alters of their night. And stand with Silence on her breathless hallots. height To hear what song the star of morning sings.

With perished beauty in his hands as clay, shall he restore futurity its dream. Behold his feet shall take a heavenly way of choric silver and of chanting fire. "Fill in his hands mushapen planets glasm, "Mis murmurs from the Lion and the Live. George String in "Bayond the Breakers an Out of Passan."

HUM OF HUMAN CITIES

"The biggest business in Los Angeles" is what the Los Angeles Express calls the city government. The biggest employer, the biggest purchaser, the largest agency for promoting the health, safety and convenience of the people, the greatest educational institution, the greatest provider of recreation the greatest owner of land, buildings and equipment, the greatest builder of material works in this community is the city government itself.

Six million dollars from the general treas-ury and four millions more from special as-sessments were expended last year to fur-nish water, clean streets, inspect milk, construct sewers and perform the hundreds of other kinds of special service that make up what we vaguely think of as the government

To perform this service 4000 officials and employes are engaged in the 60 or more departments and bureaus. To arrange the work of this vast army: to assign definite duties to each employe and each group of employes; to relate properly the work of each to that of all the others; to prevent overlapping, duplication and confusion of duties and authority; to establish standards of service and distinct lines of responsibility these problems require the highest type of ability in management.
Such problems will not solve themselves

So long as they remain unsolved there will be lost motion, waste and inefficiency in the city's management. The fact is, however, that there is no central officer or authority whose business it is to make these adjustments; to insure the

smooth running of the municipal machinery The result is just what it would be in any The result is just what it would be in any business enterprise run without a well devised and well-managed business organization. Of the \$10,000,000 a year spent by the city, it is safe to say that 10 per cent.—\$1,000,000—is absolutely wasted.

In private business, a ten-million-dellar business would justify the employment of the highest ability obtainable in the management. The difficulties and technical problems involved in city government are in

problems involved in city government are in no way different from those commonly dealt with in private business. And yet the city's organization for doing business is unsys-tematic, incomplete and defective in most glaring ways.

CRISES IN GREAT LIVES

The career of Alciblades, the Athenian, is one of the most fascinating in all the Greek annals of heroes. Handsome and rich and ambitious he was, and undoubtedly arrogant and headstrong. But he attached to himseif the popular affection which was so
necessary at Athens, and even when he lost
it by his rocklessness he remained an imporiant figure in all Greek affairs. It was after
was closed by its governors

showed himself a great man.
He had gone to live with Tisaphernes, the Persian satrap. Still friendly to the Athenians, he arranged to help them by heaping Tisaphernes from attacking them. His secret negotiations were not kept in confidence; intrigue after intrigue threatened to place a price on his head among Persians and Greeks alike. Alcibiades was too gally impudent to worry about this. too gally impudent to worry about this.
Athens had, at his instigation, made itself into an eligarchy. Then it repudiated him.
It was enough to make a merely selfish man the enemy of his

the enemy of his country forever.

Not so with Alcibindes. He was called to Samos and asked to lead the navy against the Athenians. Suddenly exalted by the favor of the multitude, nothing would have been more natural than that he should lose his head and make the stisselt. But he rehis head and make the attack. But he reed. His whole future was at stake, but resolutely turned his face against the he resolutely turned his tace against the attack on his country. He knew that once he sailed he would disrupt Athens and make all Greece a prey for Sparta and Persia. It was Alcibiades alone who prevented such a disaster, and the fact that he did it against his own natural inclinations adds greater large to the course. glory to his name. Inaction was the course of Alcibiades in a crisis fraught with dire possibilities for all Greece. And inaction was better than any action would have been in that crisis.

## VIEWS OF READERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

Contributions That Reflect Public Opinion on Subjects Important to City, State and Nation.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-Goodwill and gratitude alone stir the hearts of the honest citizens of Philadelphia toward Mayor Blankenburg in his gallant crusade against corrupt municipal politics, and his term as Mayor of Philadelphia will shine resplendent in the annals of this city, a beacon light of hope to those who may in after years grow weary in the fight for honest govern-

It was loyalty to this sentiment and not any aser reason, as intimated by those interested giving a wrong impression of her address, high actuated Mrs. J. D. Thomas, president of the County Suffrage Society, when she asked for a conference of the Mayor, His Honor's Cabinet, clergymen interested in organized harities and members of Select and Common Councils to force the issue on the question which had been hurled by sinister influences In hypocritical reproachfulness at Mayor Blankenburg, viz., the forced unemployment of thousands, who, in all sense of civic responsibility in those who control municipal govhave the right to expect some action for speedy relief.

"I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke, But here I am to speak what I do know,

\* \* At the conference the County So-ciety's president expected to meet His Honor. the Mayor's Cabinet, Select and Common Councils, clergymen interested in organized charities and newspaper men. Nor did she reelve any information which would have made known to her the fact that there were not present representatives of all the bodies whom he had invited to be present. It was to this uddence her petition was addressed. For, out-ide of Mayor Blankenburg, Mrs. Thomas was not aware of the identity of the other gentle-men present. So it was not only unjust but untrue to construe her petition into an attack on the Mayor, and in this matter Mrs. Thomas was not "ill-advised," as one woman critic says, but seconcily persuaded she was in the right. She may be accused of ultra-enthusithe real allegory of the lute of Orpheus. nd without the agency of the surrounding atmosphere even the lute of Orpheus had ac-complished no magical result; but neither can moralists "with axes to grind" nor the merely vulgarly insolent sway the criterions of cour that the course she took was tonic to the apathetic state into which the question was drifting, the history of human achievement is the record of conflict.

would further add that in the action taken n the recent meeting of certain officers of the County Society on the only course left open for Mrs. Thomas by these misrepresentations, her letter of resignation, neither the sentiment of the majority of the Executive Committee nor the Society as a body was represented. Philadelphia, November 19. SUFFRAGIST,

ERRORS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger; Sir-\* \* \* It is a principle of true democ racy that a buyer should be as untrammeled as a seller. Yet Attorney General Gregory proposed a charge of "conspiracy" because cotton seed was selling at half the price of last year. Should cotton seed sell high because it is principally used by the people? The Jacobins of the French Revolution were the first to try —with wheat—to regulate price by law. The Standard Oll, in New Jersey, was to be pur-sued for lowering the price of oll-again in the interest of the people. Burke held that the interest of the people. Burks held that "lawyers are naturally bad statesmen." Mr. Wilson begun as a lawyer, and if he wishes to force the people to pay high prices it may be because, as Jeremy Bentham says, the "opin-fon of lawyers is that cheap justice is bad, and

dear justice good."

Monthigne says, "The world's errors are chiefly grammatical," and the Clayton anti-trust act is mostly remarkable for its "split infinitives." Yet the first administrative measure after its passage was a Government cotton pool. Thus confirming Montesquieu: "Of what use is law? Almost all cases are hypothetical and outside of a general rule." \* \* \*

LESLIE CHASE.

Atlantic City, November 18.

PAYING FOR THE RAILROADS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger; Sir-The commuters who are organizing to protest against the raise in passenger rates are wasting their time. They should not direct themselves to the railroads, but to that group of hard-headed individuals now sitting in Wash ington as the interestate Commerce Commis-sion. Let them go there and make their plea, not for restored passenger tariffs, but for an equitable freight tariff, which will permit the railroads to do their business on a profitable basis. If the Commission had shown sense last July and awarded the increase asked for, there would not be this intolerable condition of affairs. Some one has to pay for the rallroads

WANTS BETTER TRANSIT SERVICE

Philadelphia, November 19.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger. Sir-In connection with the proposed raise f railroad rates for commuters, it is distressing that Philadelphia should have such pomections with its suburbs. For a distance five and a half miles we must ride either 33 ininutes or more on the surface cars, or else take a train costing 11 cents. Compare this situation with New York, where you can ride a similar distance in the subway for 5 cenia within about 20 minutes. Would it be possible for Philadelphia to learn something from her neighbor, or might she not be a bit original and try a municipal undertaking as a real public service?

Wayne Junction, November 19.

AUTO LINES TO THE SUBURBS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger; Sir-in some parts of the country automo-bile busses are being operated in lieu of troileys or as competitors to trolleys. Would it not be quite feasible for some of the suburban places to establish such routes in competition with the railroads that have so unjustly raised

the commuters' rates? GRIPFITH THOMAS.

Open Wall Street

Open Wall Street
From the New York Sun.
There is good hope for the speedy opening of all the Exchanges. The first step has been taken and presently, when the success of the experiment is established, the financial world will be ready for another. The consummation to be reached is the resumption of trading on the Stock Exchange so that fluidity may be readyed to investment securities and the values that represent. Until this occurs business and finance must remain seriously hampered and entangled. The excit is now more nearly in alphi than at any time after the Exchange was closed by its governors.

## SCRAPPLE

Rello Learning to Work One day when Rollo was about \$ years old, his father said to Rollo's mother that it was about time that the boy was beginning to earn his sait.

When Rollo heard this, he was very much pleased, and so expressed himself. Because, if there was anything in the list of edible foods which he liked less than all the rest, it. if there was anything in the list of editions foods which he liked less than all the rest, it was sait. Therefore, he reasoned with himself, if his sait was all he was expected to earn, he could amass enough of that to last him all his life, merely by working between times, when he was tired of thinking what he would like to play at next.

Without giving all his reasons, therefore, Rollo said to his father that he was very glad indeed it was time for him to earn his sait, as he thought, perhaps, he might use less of it if he had to earn it.

His father looked at him earnestly for a moment, as though he was undecided whether to reply to his little son, or say something. He decided upon the alternative and bade Rollo accompany him.—From and bade Rollo accompany him.—From a Jester's Bells," by the late Bob Burdette.

The Siren

There was a man named Jacques De Hamm, Who same so very well, To hear his voice the festive clam Would crawl out of its shell.

Once, as he sang pathetic songs In earshot of the deep. An oyster ducked the catcher's tongs And came ashore to weep.

Bob Burdette.

Journal.

But still he sang in doleful tone, This operatic lubber, Until the ocean wave did mean And e'en the whale did blubber.

Double Trouble

"Spell your name!" said the clerk sharply

"Spell your name!" said the clerk sharply. The witness began: "O, double T, I, double U, E, double L, double —"Watt!" ordered the clerk: "begin again!" The witness repeated: "O, double T, I, double U, E, double L, double U, double O—"What is your name?" asked the judge. "My name, your Honor is Ottiwell Wood, and I spell it O, double T, I, double U, E, double L, double U, double O, D."—Ladies' Home ournal.

A Certain Supply

"Why, man, you can't raise chickens on ground like this. It's all rocks."
"I know what I'm doing. Brown has clear-ed the adjoining lot for a truck patch."

Buy a Mine and Help the Consumer

Some of the Mayors at the recent conference tried to plunge their cities into such interesting occupations as buying ice cream teresting occupations as buying instead and peddle coal at something near producing Watson, the Needle and Thread

found a button in my hash, But when my ire I loud expressed. The walter said my words were rash, The beef the cook had used was dressed.

Well Done! It is told of a group of actors that they were once at the Lambs' Club on a rainy day and were feeling very blue. There wasn't a crule in the place

smile in the place.
Willie Collier, the comedian, came in, breezy and cheerful as a spring lady, and looked about. George M. Cohan was scowling. David Warfield looked like the third act of one of

"How are you?" Collier asked Leo Dietrich-"Rotten." "Rotten."
Collier went on and asked Richard Carle how he felt. "None of your business." was the reply. Seeing that the glooms had come for keeps Collier looked about and then with an air of profound relief he said:
"Well, I'm glad to see the ink-well."
Some days later an English friend was tell-

ing the story of this occurrence to George Arliss, and when he came to "Well, I'm glad to see the ink-pot," he didn't see why "Dis-

raeli" refused to laugh.

doctor.

Close on Its Heels First Father-What? Your son is an undertaker? Why, I thought you said he was

cond Paternal Relative-No; I said that he followed the medical profession.-Harvard Some notion of the harmony with which

Generals Joffre and French work together may be gained from the following discovery

:JOF FRE

That is, they work together, either offens vely or defensively .- St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The New Contraband Maggie Teyte, thry song-bird, is back from Europe—and without her riding breeches. The filling stretches, the same same was liem. Inrk to the press agent, gleefully gubbling, "Poor Miss Teyte is back from the war:

Back from the war and angrily bubbling, 'I can't go out riding-ain't it a bore?' Why did the Uhlans captu a her breeches? What had breeches to do with their fight? List to the tiny sengbird's screeches:

"They took 'em—they took 'em, because they were Teyte." The Torture of Silence "I did not think I should live to tell it."

Another Siamese Twins Evidently For Sale—An electric suitable for a lady with two bodies in good condition.—Sign on Woodward avenue, Detroit.

"How you must have suffered!"

The way of the transgressor's hard

(At least I've heard them say); The path's been packed down, yard by yard, By others on their way. A Rejection Slip The Editor's Daughter-No. Mr. Perkins, I can never be yours-but the rejection of a

The Popular Course

man does not necessarily imply that he is lacking in merit. Any one of a number of reasons may render you unsuited to my present uses.—Life. The Tailor Wins

Now, the careless young man's fancy Sadly turns back to the spring. When he bought a suit, and on it Paid the tailor not a thing. Now he needs an outer garment When the blizzard starts to blow; ut the tailor, when he orders, Mutters, "Pay up what you owe."

The Babbling Fool Emerson, who occasionally said things he hardly meant, once wrote an epigram to the general effect that Heaven forgives everything except awkwardness. This is a very true saying, because it indicates how much more important manners are than morals. Morals can be taught, but manners must be inherent in a man's soul.

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It is very easy to be good, but very hard to be graceful, if one isn't naturally possessed of grace. A man may lead a wicked life and reform, but there is no case on record where a man led a life lacking in beauty and reformed. Children often are "awful little liars" when they are young, yet grow up to be even stupidly truthfulthey can't tell a lie even when they should. Whereas children who do not knew how to stand like Greek statues, or who insist on walking bow-legged when they are young, never grow up to look like Apollo. This is very bad for morals, but it is true.

The consequences of this profound and overwhelming revolution in our ideas of what is and what isn't important in life, will be above all, that we will stop teaching our children to be good, and teach them to be as handsome as itiny can. "Se good, dear child, and let who will be clever" is a stupid bit of advice. If dear children ere good, who Will be clever to be good, who will be alever to be good, who will be clever to be good.