

FIREMEN'S LIFE CONSTANT STRAIN

Idle Moments Few and Far Between in 21 Hours' Daily Duty

UNDERPAID, OVERWORKED

An "Idle Day's Routine" of Philadelphia Fireman

ON DUTY twenty-one hours out of every twenty-four. Answers every alarm truck. Must take turn at watch, four hours, day or night.

Does share of "house duty," which comprises sweeping, mopping, scrubbing and polishing of quarters and apparatus.

Sleep interrupted by compulsory response and preparedness to answer every box alarm in any part of city sounded during day or night.

After duty at fire ground must clean and replace used hose in fire tower and substitute outfit on wagon before changing water-soaked clothing.

If on fire prevention duty or detailed to training school, must return to station and do night duty after completing day's work.

This routine is maintained for five consecutive days, during which period no man may sleep in daytime, no matter whether on fire service all night or not.

Pending measure to increase pay and shorten hours would tend to check this "idleness."

Photographs illustrating this story appear on the editorial page.

Idleness in the Bureau of Fire exists only in popular imagination. No busier set of men shares in the municipal payroll than the 871 members of the engine and truck companies, composing the rank and file of the city's fire-fighting brigade. On duty twenty-one hours of each twenty-four, answering of alarms is but one of the many items in the fireman's daily routine. No man in the department would gladly give up the life-taking gallop to a striking box and duty on the fire grounds were the only demands made upon him in return for the \$75 to \$90 a month for which he places his life in jeopardy and forfeits home comfort and family associations that his neighbor may be secure in property and person.

But that the prevailing impression may be corrected and that the Philadelphia public may be made aware why their support is asked in the movement to secure a fair living wage and more equitable hours for the fireman, the subjoined day's routine of a fireman is given:

A DAY'S ROUTINE

It was obtained from one of the men and is based upon personal experience. It follows:

"A fireman's day ordinarily has no beginning or end, for it is continuous. So let us start our routine from the day off, which nominally begins at 8 o'clock in the morning.

"After being off duty for twenty-four hours, or from 8 o'clock one morning until 8 o'clock the following day, he reports back to his station for fire duty. In many cases it happens that before he goes off for the holiday he has done a 'night watch.' This means four consecutive hours of work as 'lookout man' in charge of the first floor while the other members of his company are sleeping. The first or night watch begins at 8 o'clock and lasts until midnight. A 12 to 4 watch follows and then comes 'last watch' covering the period from 4 o'clock until 8.

IN AND OUT AGAIN

"It often happens that before a fireman has time to change his clothing after his day off an alarm of fire will come in, to which his company responds. There is no time to change his uniform. Caught in his 'best clothes,' he jumps aboard the combination wagon or ladder truck and away he goes.

"If it is a 'service' fire, the chemical stream, water or dirt in which he works may ruin his clothing.

"If he is not called out, but remains on station duty, there is housework to be done. He must do his share of sweeping, mopping, scrubbing stairs, polishing brass work or cleaning apparatus. There is no special day for cleaning. Stations and equipment are required to be kept spick and span at all times, for the firehouses are all open for public and departmental inspection, and we never know at what moment visitors, either official or civilian, may drop in to 'look us over.' Brass, windows and apparatus must be polished and clean at all hours.

"A man who has a 'watch' to keep goes to bed after his four hours' sentinel duty. He thinks he is to get an hour's sleep. He is hardly in bed when the 'joker' taps, and his successor or watch yells, 'Wide awake!' He leaps from bed, springs to the sliding pole and drops to the first floor. He makes ready to go out to the fire; but after being thus prepared he learns that the alarm came from a box located perhaps five miles or more from his station and entirely out of his company's district.

"Back to bed he goes, again hoping to obtain some rest before daybreak. He is never sure that another alarm is not coming in, a call that maybe summons him to a duty from which he will never return.

"On some nights there may be ten or a dozen alarms. Each one involves the awakening and preparation for response of every man in every engine and truck house in the city. It doesn't matter where the fire is or what box is pulled. Every call strikes in every house.

NO SLIGHTING OF DUTY

"If a man's company is called out, it doesn't matter whether or no, he has just come off a four-hour watch or what other duty he has performed previously that day or night. He goes out with his comrades just the same.

"At this time of year, if the blaze involves water line service, the man holding the line or nozzle may be covered with ice or ringing wet.

"It makes no difference; it is duty and he must stand up to it unflinchingly. And he does. He 'eats smoke' and 'takes his bath' like the man he is until the fire is out. Then, hunched over with his clothes soaking, tired and hungry, he loads the hose into the wagon and goes back to quarters. It may be daylight by this time, but he isn't allowed to resume his interrupted sleep.

"No one is allowed in the bunkrooms in the morning.

"He is not allowed to change his dripping, chilling clothes until the wet hose has been removed from the wagon and replaced by dry sections from the reserve outfit in the hose tower. Drivers and engineers look after their horses or engines, the first duty being to get into condition for service again as quickly as possible.

"After animals and apparatus are cared for, then the fireman may look after himself.

"He may bathe and change his clothes. Tired as he is, he may have a midday watch to keep, which is from 2 to 4 o'clock. If his mealtime intervened during his fire duty or watch he loses it. Every man in a company goes three watches a week.

"This goes on for five days and nights, during which time the fireman may remove his clothing only to bathe or to change from working to 'best' uniform, as he is required to sleep in uniform blouse and trousers.

"Many nights it happens that before he goes off for his day he has been an all-arounder all or some time during the

alarms that may or may not involve actual service before he can go home to sleep for the rest of the day.

"Often the public sees the fireman sitting around his station and takes it for granted that this is all he has to do unless actually at work at a fire.

THOUGHTLESS CRITICS

"The citizen doesn't stop to think that five or six times' continuous work, day and night, would be too much for any human being. The fireman comes nearest to doing this, and these conditions have existed in the Philadelphia department since its organization forty-five years ago.

"We are hopeful that a change will be made at this late day, and we know it will come if the public, aware of the conditions, will demand action on our behalf of the Mayor and Councils."

AURELIO GIORNI'S RECITAL

Young Pianist Plays Well-Balanced Program With Distinction

Discrimination of program and distinction of playing were the characterizing signals of the recital which last night introduced Aurelio Giorni to Philadelphia music lovers. They were not overly numerous in the apparently vast spaces of Witherspoon Hall, but their applause was bestowed upon a felicitous combination of player, program and performance. It was an artistically successful first attempt by the young Italian virtuoso to stand on his own merits as a soloist. Last winter, his first season before the public in this country, he appeared as a supplementary artist with the Rich-Kinder Quartet and other organizations, and his work was viewed as an incident to other programs.

Such a program and such a revelation brought the wish that he would give a longer and more extensive revelation of his talent to the music-lovers of this city.

Such a program and such a revelation he gave last night and realized very largely the promise that his contributions to other programs had excited. Mr. Giorni built his program with exceeding skill. Although it contained certain familiar numbers, such as the Schumann "Etudes Symphoniques," the MacDowell E minor Prelude from the Suite numbered ten and the Chopin Nocturne in A flat, No. 2, of Opus 32, it was far from conventional in choice or collocation. It was intended to afford appreciation of artistry and to demonstrate musicianship, and in this design by purity of outline and sincerity of character it admirably succeeded.

Mr. Giorni opened, as is proper, with Bach, choosing the Fantasia and Fugue in minor. This, it will be remembered, was originally a composition for the organ, and so Mr. Giorni fittingly premeditated his effects to the thinner values of Bach's instrument; also he conveyed the classic contours of the music with a volume, velocity and vigor was proved by the recital of the Schumann studies, which literally lived up to the name of voices sounding in a mist. A nice employment of the tempo rubato distinguished the Chopin pieces, which included the F major Ballade and the C sharp minor Scherzo in addition to the nocturne. Two numbers of the latter included the Maestros Sgambati, of the St. Cecilia Academy, of Rome, included the somewhat familiar and very difficult Toccata and the Prelude in E major, dedicated to Mr. Giorni, who played it "con amore." For the first time was performed the young soloist's one Fughetta giacosa in F flat, a sunny humor of the Latin and not the sinister humor of a Teuton Till Owiglass. For conclusion, there was a resounding delivery of the Tausig arrangement of Schubert's Marche Militaire. W. R. M.

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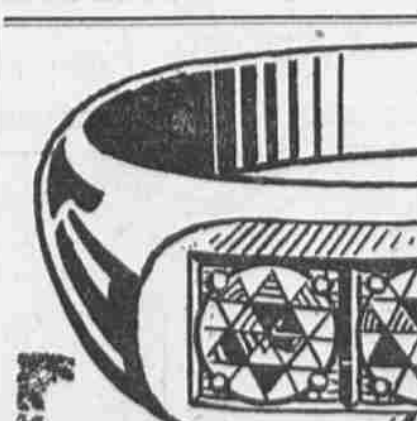
ART DANCE FOR CHARITY

Ethletic Numbers to Provide Funds for Education in Appalachian Mountains

An exhibition of ethletic dancing by Miss Marguerite C. Walz, to raise funds to educate the inhabitants of the Appalachian Mountains, will be given tonight in the ballroom of the Bellevue-Stratford, under the auspices of the Philadelphia Auxiliary of the Southern Industrial Education Association.

The funds will be used to build schools and to place better equipment in schools now standing and to give the four million people a better opportunity to rise from a state of ignorance and secure an education.

The patronesses are: Mrs. Robert Alexander, Mrs. Howard S. Anders, Mrs. F. M. Boynton, Mrs. George W. Carr, Mrs. Victor Cochran, Mrs. J. W. Gould, Mrs. John Gribbel, Mrs. Allen Gilmore, Mrs. James H. Hoffecker, Miss E. V. Hughes, Mrs. William Henry, Mrs. R. S. Howard-Smith, Mrs. Harry C. Lawson, Mrs. Victor Mulford, Mrs. Spencer K. Mulford, Jr., Mrs. W. H. Mulford, Mrs. George H. Morgan, Mrs. James P. MacFarland, Mrs. Thomas Potter, Jr., Mrs. William Potter, Mrs. E. Sydney Prichard, Mrs. Horace E. Richards, Mrs. Henry G. Ritter, Jr., Mrs. Henry G. Ritter, 2d, Mrs. Charles Roberts, Mrs. Edward J. Wall, Mrs. J. W. Williams, Mrs. R. B. Williams, Mrs. E. A. Wright, Mrs. Ralph Graham Wilson, Mrs. M. E. Wistar, Mrs. Charles S. Walton and Mrs. Charles Walton, Jr.



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The Diamonds are fine white stones set in 14-Kt. solid-gold mountings.

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ENJOY 'LOVE FEAST' AT STATE DINNER

Political Leaders of Both Factions Forget Their Differences

PENNSYLVANIA PRAISED

A Republican organization "love feast" that is what the first annual dinner of the Pennsylvania State Society, held last night in the ballroom of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, amounted to.

It was the first gathering of the political leaders of both factions within the party in many years at which political biases were abated and factional differences ignored.

The banquet was held to extol the virtues of Pennsylvania as a State, and in addition to official Pennsylvania and the wives of the State officials—for they were present, too—the Governors of four other States joined in the praise of this Commonwealth.

Headed by "Sam" McCall, of Massachusetts, the Governors who attended and spoke included Charles H. Miller, of Delaware, and Governor-elect Walter E. Edge, of New Jersey. They were born in Pennsylvania and came back to mingle with the "home folks" once more. Governor Hanna, of North Dakota, another State chief executive who was born in Pennsylvania, was unable to be present, but he sent sincere regards and best wishes to the State.

It was a purely State spirit that dominated the State gathering, and one present—and that included every politician of note in the State with the exception of Senator Penrose and State Chairman William E. Crow—joined in the most sincere expression of love for their home Commonwealth ever seen here.

Politics crept into the function only at infrequent intervals. The Vane-Brumbaugh leaders and followers were seated together, while the other factionalists were together. Public Service Commissioner Michael J. Ryan became political in one part of his speech. He extolled Pennsylvania as a bulwark of the protective tariff policy, and asserted that the wealth and progress of the State have been due to that policy.

There was only one remark about the State dinner. That was the fact that it interfered with the annual Thanksgiving dinner of the Clover Club.

Official Pennsylvania gave its chief executive a rousing welcome. Governor Brumbaugh outlined the history of the Commonwealth and gave little insights into Colonial and Revolutionary times that were new to his hearers. He told of the manner in which the hardy sons of the State had carved a commonwealth out of the territory between Penn and how its varied and cosmopolitan population were at one in loyalty to the country and the State, and in readiness to yield their lives, if need be, to keep inviolate their prestige, glories and laws.

Governor McCall, of Massachusetts, paid a glowing tribute to the administration of Governor Brumbaugh and the ideals of government which have prevailed in this State.



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WOMAN LOCKS BURGLAR IN HOUSE; CALLS POLICE

He Merely Yawns, but Must Face Several Accusers in Court

Madam, if you find a burglar in your kitchen, lock him in and call the police. Mrs. Kate Suma, of 1421 North Philip street, did it with satisfactory results.

The alleged burglar whom Mrs. Suma locked in her kitchen was not annoyed or excited by the prospect of capture. He merely yawned when he heard the bolt scrape in the lock. Then he took off his shoes, hat, coat, vest, collar and tie, lay down on a couch and waited.

The intruder, Doyce Stocken, alias Viscolf, of 321 North Orleans street, was held in \$1000 bail today by Magistrate Glenn, at the Fourth and York streets police station, for a further hearing. He was accused by several residents of the neighborhood of robbing them after he had ingratiated himself with their families and learned their hours at home.

Forest Fires Quenched by Rain

READING, Pa., Nov. 24.—The heavy rain here has ended fears of forest fires. Several smoldering fires near the city were extinguished. Ten were extinguished in the last few days by volunteers and Boy Scouts.

Leaps From Bridge to Her Death

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Nov. 24.—Dismounted in love, Mary Hitter, thirty-two, jumped from Market street bridge and was drowned in the west branch of the Susquehanna River.

BEEF IS NO LONGER ASSET TO FOOTBALL GLADIATORS; SPEED ALONE IS ESSENTIAL

By GRANTLAND RICE

Casey, of Harvard, weighs 185 pounds. Pollard, of Brown, weighs 154. Maubetech, of Michigan, weighs 157. Le Gore is below 170. Casey, Pollard and Maubetech are not forced to depend alone upon their speed. They have been among the hardest runners of the game, driving their way through with unusual power.

The Greatest Upset

What has been the season's most spectacular upset? A reader inquires.

The following is hard to beat:

Illinois beat Minnesota 14 to 9; Chicago beat Illinois 29 to 7; Wisconsin beat Chicago 39 to 7.

This, by the comparative score route, would make Wisconsin forty-one points better than Minnesota.

The final score was: Minnesota 64, Wisconsin 6. An arrangement that involves a comparative score displacement of ninety-five points should be awarded the laurel bay, with all further nominations closed.

We note where an expert lists Jess Willard as "absolutely invincible," beyond the reach of any contender in the ring.

If one looks back through the files of thirty years he will also find this:

That in 1890 John Lawrence Sullivan was "invincible"; that in 1900 Jim Jeffries was "invincible"; that in 1912 Jack Johnson was "invincible." Willard's supremacy today is no more marked than the supremacy of Sullivan, Jeffries and Johnson. They were all supermen, not to be overthrown. They were all beyond the reach of a mortal conqueror.

Football Weight

Episodes and incidents of 1916 have shown beyond the need of further debate that old-fashioned beef is virtually null and void in the present game.

The stars of the campaign, in the main, are well below the average weight of the average team.

But at the appointed hour, each in his turn knew what it meant to wait, face down to the vein, until the official timekeeper had completed his count.

To Retire

We hear, too, that Willard is planning to retire. So was Sullivan. Jeffries had already retired. Johnson was to retire after "this last fight."

Willard may break the record. But the betting is 10 to 9 that he doesn't. Just as he is getting ready to step to one side, unheated, the chance to pick up another \$50,000 or \$100,000 "easy money" will lure him on just once too often. One more shot at easy money—and then another "invincible" will take his place until fate picks the hour for his successor to arrive.

Invincible was not meant to be written against the name of any contender who cares to stick around.

But how much is a defense worth, anyway? Princeton had a strong defense, and you may recall what it got her. Brooklyn finished a bad fourth defensively, but won a pennant.

Those who are wondering whether Pittsburgh or Brown will be bedecked with the laurel seem to forget that Brown still has a team by the name of Colgate to push out of the way, where the pushing is no part of a pipe.

In fact, you might add that even if Brown beats Colgate it will only be by a close shave.

The Cincinnati Reds were second in club batting and third in club fielding. Their only apparent weakness was inability to win.

Being second in batting, third in fielding and last in games won and lost is no sort of a knock, of course, at Red pitching and Red alertness.

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