

REALITY FOR A SONG.

Police Officials Investigating Several Concerns Which Throw Out Glittering Baits.

A HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR THIRTY.

Progressive Membership Which Will Absorb the World's Population

in a Year.

EVERY MAN TO FIX HIS OWN INCOME.

When any man or body of men offers to pay \$100 for \$30 it is pretty safe to conclude that there is a fraud concealed somewhere in the scheme," said Police Inspector McAleese yesterday, referring to a yellow circular which pointed out the road to wealth in specious language, artistically printed in big type.

For some days past the Police Bureau has been investigating the methods of a number of alleged confidence men and racketeers who are circulating in the city. Subordinate lodges are springing up rapidly all over the county, the Southside and Lawrenceville districts being apparently specially favorable to the growth of these concerns.

Assistant Superintendent of Police O'Mara stated upon the scheme by saying: "The only salvation I see for such an order is the early arrival of the world of the '90s. The scheme as unfolded by a circular from one of these concerns, with the main office located in Camden, N. J., is very enticing. According to its plan a man with a capital of \$100 can, within a few years, live in a golden mansion with diamond windows and hire men to breathe for him, the air consumed being supplied by the Washington Marine Band. No business activity is required to acquire this wealth. All that is needed is the capital and confidence. The latter is not essential, but will be found handy by the investor.

A glittering bait for suckers.

The yellow circular disclosed the plan of operation as follows:

One hundred dollars to be paid to each person after one month from date of certificate; the dues not to exceed the amount of \$10 per week within the prescribed time, payable every Monday during the term of membership.

A stock or dividend benefit to be paid to members after 60 days from date of certificate, not exceeding \$1 per week (to cover dues) during the remainder of membership. This amount to be deducted from the amount of certificate when mature.

A small amount for initiation, certificate and expense taxes required to cover the necessary expenses.

A pledge required from each applicant for membership to bring into the order, within two weeks from date of admission, two good and reliable members.

No medical examination, no bearing from membership on any account whatsoever, provided the applicant is of good moral character and has reached the age of 18.

The circular then shows the cost of making \$100 as follows: Initiation fee, \$5; expense dues, \$4; contributions to relief fund, \$4; weekly dues for 17 weeks, at \$1 per week, \$17; total, \$30; after which come the following provisions:

Failure to comply with the full pledge of two members shall cost a fine of \$50, or one member, \$30, to be deducted on date of maturity from the amount of certificate.

Any member having filed his pledge in full, and who pledges being members in good standing for two consecutive months, shall be entitled to take out an additional certificate.

Takes in the Whole World.

The clauses requiring each member to secure two more members before he receives his \$100 at once afford the policy of an order and its weakness. It is a characteristic of greediness which has always proven disastrous since the day a historical gentleman proposed to buy a horse on the basis of the nails in the animal's shoes, paying 1 cent for the first and then doubling up on each successive nail.

Starting with a membership of 1,000 on a given date—and that is a low estimate of the number of persons interested in these concerns in Allegheny county alone—the yellow circles would pile up in this way:

1st week	1,000	19th week	521,000
2nd week	2,000	20th week	1,042,000
3rd week	4,000	21st week	2,084,000
4th week	8,000	22nd week	4,168,000
5th week	16,000	23rd week	8,336,000
6th week	32,000	24th week	16,672,000
7th week	64,000	25th week	33,344,000
8th week	128,000	26th week	66,688,000
9th week	256,000	27th week	133,376,000
10th week	512,000	28th week	266,752,000
11th week	1,024,000	29th week	533,504,000
12th week	2,048,000	30th week	1,067,008,000
13th week	4,096,000	31st week	2,134,016,000
14th week	8,192,000	32nd week	4,268,032,000
15th week	16,384,000	33rd week	8,536,064,000
16th week	32,768,000	34th week	17,072,128,000

This table shows that one week before the expiration of two series of this scheme it would have a membership of nearly double the present number, and after 17 years of age and over all of good moral character, it is pretty safe to assume that but one-half the population of earth is over 15 years of age. This society, without doubling up, as mentioned in the circular, would, in eight months, have taken in every eligible person on the American continent, from the Arctic to the Antarctic, and in one year, by the same method, it would have taken in every eligible person on the entire surface of the globe. Like Colonel Sellers' famous eye-water, the recommendation of which was that "the more you use the better it becomes," the more members the organizations get the more they must have to invest the cash.

The circular raises the point that over 90 per cent of the population in any country are insane, and that the sane policy mature by death or lapse of a specified time, and that is where the profit comes. The shortest term of any sane policy which is slightly longer than four months, but allowing that 40 per cent drop out, it would still leave a membership of about 100,000,000.

An Argument for the Silver Bill.

It would take \$10,000,000 in currency, either gold, silver or greenbacks, to pay off these members, unless the country is immediately flooded with some kind of money based upon the Government's credit, something has got to break. The question is, what? If these societies, and the human race takes a sport in order to keep up the membership, the advocates of the silver bill will possess an invincible argument for unlimited coinage.

The most fascinating feature of the scheme is the fact that it abolishes poverty. In just a year from to-day every reader of THE DISPATCH, and consequently every intelligent man and woman within a radius of 100 miles from Pittsburgh, to say nothing of the thousands and thousands outside that limit, will be in receipt of a new policy every day, and \$30 more two months later. Four months after the first money is paid \$100 is due. By drawing but \$70 the investment is continued, and so on indefinitely. At there are any number of these organizations a man can fix his own income by merely exercising a little self-control at the start, and multiply his \$53 a month by the number of these orders.

Another similar organization holds out still brighter prospects of unlimited wealth. By paying \$5 initiation fee and \$4 a month dues the member is entitled to \$10 a week for sick benefits and a jump sum of \$100 at the end of six months. In this order a member can take out a new policy every month, and thus, at the end of six months, will be in possession of a steady income of \$100 a month, less dues. This order holds forth in Baltimore.

The New Jersey concern promises to pay

COVERED WITH CLAY.

Scenes at the Funeral of the Victim of the Wilson Farm Tragedy.

THE COUNTRYSIDE TURNS OUT.

Thousands Follow the Murdered Woman's Body to Ferryville.

PAULKA WAITS THE END OF THE WORLD.

Like the relation 'twixt humor and pathos, gray days and days of sorrow are twin brothers. The dividing line is so finely drawn that oftentimes it can scarce be located. Such was the impression given out yesterday. Every road in the southern end of the county was lined with people, all in their best attire. Some wore somber hues, but bright colors predominated in the eager throngs.

The day itself was bright and full of sunshine. Even the discolored snow glistened in the noontday rays, and the grass-cleared meadows where they appeared above the snow shone as bright and green as in June. The air, though crisp, was not cold, and one, without knowing the all-absorbing topic of interest, would have thought the crowds were hurrying to the races or a fair.

All Eyes on the Wilson Farm.

The whole countryside was out, and American curiosity was written on every face. They were out to see the new, no matter what it might be—anything from a revival to a race. That day the course lay toward the Wilson farm, where the little house, perched away on the hilltop, was the scene of all that took place on Friday, January 23. The house and the surrounding yard was a deserted, lonely look despite the great throngs of people who crowded each other for admission.

The body was laid out in a plain black coffin, and by those who knew her the face was said to have a perfectly natural appearance. It was the hair which was the point of attack, they did not show. Standing at the head of the coffin were two figures in black, who attracted as much attention as the one in the garment of mourning. Their heads bowed, they walked in a slow, stately procession. They were the three little girls from the school house in the hollow, who only yesterday received the first intimation of their mother's death. When the youngest one, who was cradled up in her bed on the day of her mother's death, was motherless, the poor little fellow lip-spouted out: "Yes, I knew papa shot mamma."

The other two wept so bitterly that they were taken away, where loving friends tried to comfort them.

A choir of sweet voices sang several hymns, and then the pastor of the Lutheran Church led in prayer. He spoke at length on the virtues of the dead woman, and referred sorrowfully to the mania which led a loving husband to end the life of a pure and faithful wife. He spoke altogether in a most impressive manner.

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CONVENTION OF ROOFERS

To Be Held Here To-Morrow and Wednesday—The Fifth Annual Meeting of the National Association of Master Composition Roofers—Banquet at the Duquesne.

SOME MONEY SPENT

By the World's Fair Commission in Attending to Its Business, but \$10 LOCAL DIRECTORY SAILS IN.

The occasion of Eben Brewer, Assistant Secretary of the Columbian Exposition, being in Pittsburgh last night, was taken to ask him concerning the charges for extraneous work which have been against the managers of the World's Fair by Congressmen Candler, William Thompson and George Robinson, who were held in \$500 each for assaulting Special Officer Bumbaugh when he ordered them to stop quarreling on Penn avenue.

They mean that Mr. Candler, like a great many other people outside of Chicago, and some even there, is entirely ignorant of the amount of work necessary to organize the great International Exposition, and is greatly mistaken as to the people who are doing the work, just now most important. Mr. Candler probably voted for the World's Fair bill without reading it, and although he has had an investigating committee out at Chicago, and has prepared a report charging extravagance on the part of the managers, there was nothing about in his report of inquiry, or is there anything in his report to indicate that he knows what the provisions of the act of Congress are.

The privilege of holding the World's Columbian Exposition was eagerly sought by a number of cities, and it was not the intent of Congress to confer that privilege without exacting some guarantee that the fair should be thoroughly international in its scope, and a credit not only to the city, but to the entire country. To make the attainment of this end more certain, Congress provided that the fair should be held under the management of a National Commission, which was directed, by the terms of the act, to select officers and to head at once to make an International Exposition.

Chicago Made a Little Jealous.

It occasioned considerable disappointment in the Chicago local organization, which had pledged \$100,000 in aid of the fair, to see that the National Commission interpreted its duty strictly, and proposed to represent the fair before the nation and before the world. But that feeling soon subsided, when the entire good of the country was placed before their eyes. It was decided to lay the matter before the building committee of the city, and a committee of five was appointed to investigate the charges recommended to the Executive Board of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators. It was also recommended that No. 15, if necessary, refer to work on the part of the National Commission.

There was some talk of going into the county courts with the matter, and a motion was made to this effect, but action was postponed.

SUNDAY SENTENCES

That Struck Terror to the Hearts of Saturday Night Boisterous—Thirty Days for Kissing a Cat—Saved by a Christening in the Family—Troubles of a Vocalist.

TALK AS THEY THINK.

The Secular Society Addressed by Miss Ada Campbell.

The spectacle of a woman preaching against the gospel of Christ, while at the same time wearing on her bosom the symbol of Christianity, the cross, was witnessed by about 200 people in the Standard Theater, on Grant street, yesterday afternoon.

Miss Ada Campbell, of Australia, was announced to speak at the above amusement resort, on the subject: "Truth Versus Christianity," and it drew forth a mixed crowd of people, coming and going at all hours. In the back row a crowd of young fellows were having a gay time, and when they were reproved, one of them told the usher, who is a member of the Secular Society, to go to the land of sulphur and brimstone. Though the lady was making an effort to prove that there is no such place, no chances were taken, and the young fellow was ordered out.

Not long afterward, while the lady was arguing the evolution of man from a monkey, a monkey or some other handsome brute, a crowd of boys became noisy in another part of the theater. As in the other case, a mild reproval only served to call out the youths' reserve force and he questioned the paterfamilias of him who dared offer a re-primand connected with it. "It is he, the Father," said the speaker, "He the Son, and He the Holy Ghost. Now, I think they might have allowed that last little one to be a sin. But according to these religionists, their God has been a bachelor for years and years."

She declared the idea of the creation utterly absurd, and in speaking of the fall, said: "Adam was not satisfied when he was put in the Garden of Eden, morally a perfect man. He wanted company. So the Lord had all the animals pass before him to let him choose a helpmate. There were only two times that the kangaroo leaped from Australia to Palestine—at the time above mentioned and when Noah and his family went in the ark, leaving the other people in the swim. But Adam did not like any of them. So the Lord put him to sleep and took a rib to make Eve. If Adam had been awake he would have told God to take two

PLAIN WORDS IN A PLAIN STYLE.

Christianity's Symbol Worn by the Freethinker at the Meeting.

ONLY A SMALL CROWD IN ATTENDANCE

These little pleasures in the audience were kept up almost incessantly, and even once in a while some one would accept a pressing invitation to go elsewhere in his search for knowledge. The young lady—who is still on the sunny side of 40, though an "old maid" in no sense—also met the afternoon one of pleasure for her audience by her sallies. Though yet unmarried, she roundly denounced celibacy, and in regard to the "40 and 4 thousand" singing in the inner court of heaven who had never been defiled by the touch of woman, she declared they were howling in misery for the pleasures of the world, and that the only way to escape female suifage, she roundly denounced the "Christian religion" for not having a "god-dee" connected with it. "It is He the Father," said the speaker, "He the Son, and He the Holy Ghost. Now, I think they might have allowed that last little one to be a sin. But according to these religionists, their God has been a bachelor for years and years."

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EVERY MAN TO FIX HIS OWN INCOME.

Chief Effort to Penetrate the Mystery of a Number of Schemes.

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A THINKING MACHINE.

Dr. J. Milton Duff Thinks It Possible to Invent an Instrument to Convey Thought—An Ether That Acts as a Medium for the Mind.

Dr. J. Milton Duff, A. M., M. D., Ph. D., of the Southside, is now studying a problem that, if his theories are proved by practice, will revolutionize science and put all other sciences to naught. He has invented a machine which he calls a "thinking machine," and he believes that it is possible to convey thought by means of a medium that he has invented. He has been for some time being thoroughly convinced that there exists an ether that is the medium through which thought is transmitted. This ether, he believes, is not the ether of physics, but an ether of a different nature. He has been for some time being thoroughly convinced that there exists an ether that is the medium through which thought is transmitted. This ether, he believes, is not the ether of physics, but an ether of a different nature.

PAINTERS CONTINUE TO DISAGREE.

And Do a Little Public Washing of Household Equipments.

The trouble between Union No. 15, Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators, and Union 10 and 195 of the same order, came up yesterday at a meeting of the Committee on the Good of the Order, of Union 13. The subcommittee appointed to investigate charges recommended to the Executive Board of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators. It was also recommended that No. 15, if necessary, refer to work on the part of the National Commission.

THE LOCAL DIRECTORY SAILS IN.

And Incurs Expense to Which the Former Is Not a Circumstance.

The local directory sailed in, and incurred expense to which the former is not a circumstance.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES ON FAIRS

Hanged Mrs. Ponta's Cat.

Magistrate Gripp Diagnosed 35 Cases at the Central Station, and Prescribed Several Allopathic Doses of Corrective Medicine.

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CONTINUATION

"JANUARY CLEARANCE"

"ANTE-STOCKTAKING SALES"

JOS. HORNE & CO.'S

PENN AVE. STORES.

Former prices, \$20, \$25, \$30 and \$35. Now, they are \$15, \$20, \$25 and \$30. This is the "January Clearance" sale.

FUR-TRIMMED CLOTH JACKETS.

Now at \$10 each.

DAY OF TEMPERANCE.

Large Number of Meetings Held Yesterday Afternoon and Last Evening—A Large Attendance at the Standard Theater—Sons of Temperance Leader Sick.

The Sons of Temperance had a very large meeting last night at 68 Ohio street, Allegheny. The speakers were C. Rollin, B. E. Edmondson, E. Grand, William H. Carlisle and John Boer. Next Sunday night Rev. Mr. Fuller will make an address at this meeting.

HE WAS TOO CONFIDING.

A Wheeling Man Shares His Bed With an Acquaintance Who Annexes His Cash.

Charles Connell, of Wheeling, lost \$50, and all fell in the integrity of his fellow man yesterday morning, and in the next time any one speaks to him in a tone of distress, Mr. Connell will turn the faucet on the flow of the milk of human kindness which animates his nature.

RECEIVED THE U. S. MAIL

The Players of George Jenks' Farce Comedy Entertained by the Lotus Club.

The train carrying the U. S. Mail Company did not arrive in the city until 9:20 last night, and the actors and actresses did not get over to the Southside until after 10 o'clock, but that did not in the least lessen the number of club members waiting to receive them at the author of the comedy, George O. Jenks.

NOT AT ALL A NEW GAG.

How a Woman Made Money by Getting Hysterical Fits in Depots.

What's the matter with the lady? "inquired a reporter of a physician who was working with a woman at the Union depot yesterday. She was lying on one of the benches, and apparently had had a fainting spell.

SEE WHAT WE OFFER.

ONE LOT OF JACKETS AT 95c, former prices \$4 and \$5.

AN EARLY MORNING FIRE.

A Colored Man and His Family Boost High and Wait for Rescue.

A fire occurred about 3:20 yesterday morning in the Maeder building on 15th avenue, the damage amounting to between \$3,000 and \$2,000. The fire was caused by sparks from the smokestack of an adjoining building. W. S. Smith, the watchman, his wife and child were sleeping in the fifth floor of the building, and when they saw their danger they went up on the roof and called for help. There was no fire escape, and the children, who were sleeping in the room, were taken up by the firemen. The fire was extinguished about 4:30.

THEY WERE TOO CONFIDING.

How an Allegheny Lieutenant Lost a Load of Customers.

Lieutenant McIntyre of Allegheny, planned a raid on a house in the vicinity of Lakeock and Anderson streets early yesterday morning, but by a very ludicrous mistake it was not made. He massed a squad of half a dozen officers about the house, and one of them fired a shot into the air. The lieutenant, who was in a hurry, ordered the squad to pull the trigger. The shot was fired, and the lieutenant, who was in a hurry, ordered the squad to pull the trigger.

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