JOHN HENRY ON LAWMAKERS

BY GEO. V. HOBART, ("HUGH M'HUGH.")

Dear Bunch: I've been in this burg for a few hours mingling with the lawmakers, and it isn't such expensive mingling at that—only about 50 kopecks to the hour.

This afternoon I was introduced to a couple of hand-made politicians, and they certainly did hand me a scream.

These two language-killers have been political enemies for years, and every time they meet they simply stand around and throw worn-out words at each other.

One of them listens to the name of Mike, and the other will squeeze up to the bar and nominate his brew if you call him Rudolph.

As for their last names—well, in the interests of good government I won't mention them.

Suffice it to say that Mike bears the same relation to Albany politics that a mustard plaster does to a cold on the chest—even if he doesn't get there, he leaves his mark.

When Mike reached the age of discretion he decided to become a great man, so he opened a saloon and became.

I was standing in front of the Ten Eyck talking with Mike when Rudolph, his lifelong opponent, bore down upon us.

Just to show me a good time, Mike immediately stopped Rudolph and asked him if business was good in his lemon factory.

"Ha! ha!" roared Rudolph, like an old war-horse answering the bugle-call; "I challenge you to a joint debate!"

"All right," said Mike; "let us go to my joint and have it."

They did so, and I followed on.

Never before in Albany were there so many quick questions and loose answers.

Epigrams flowed like water.

"Two beers—what will you have?" inquired Mike.

"Make mine the same," answered Rudolph.

"You are my opponent, I believe?" said Mike.

"Your belief gives me much pleasure," said Rudolph, with a tall, fat bow.

"How long have you been in politics?" asked Mike.

"Not so long in as to be out," answered Rudolph.

"Score one for Rudolph," said the referee.

"One what?" asked Mike.

"Make it a beer," answered Rudolph.

"Do you know Demosthenes?" asked Mike, winking at the bartender.

"Yes; his first name is Abe, and he works in a seegar-store near the N. Y. Central depot," said Rudolph.

Mike began to look worried.

"I wish to conduct this joint debate along literary lines," said Mike.

"All right," said Rudolph; "make mine the same!"

"Do you know Socrates?" asked Mike.

"Do you mean the guy that runs the

One of Them Listens to the Name of Mike.

butcher-shop over at Troy?" said Rudolph.

"No," said Mike; "the Socrates I mean is dead."

"Cut out the dead ones—they don't vote," said Rudolph.

"Score another for Rudolph," said the referee.

"Make mine the same," said Rudolph.

"What is politics?" inquired Mike.

"Politics is where we get it—sometimes in the neck and sometimes in the bank," answered Rudolph.

"You're full of wisdom, ain't you?" said Mike.

"Yes; but I'm willing to get it wet—another beer, please!" said Rudolph.

"Time!" said the referee; "take your corners!"

"Now," said Mike; "you ask me some questions."

"What is a politician?" asked Rudolph.

"A politician is the reason we have so much politics," answered Mike.

Much applause left the hands of those present.

"What is a statesman?" inquired Rudolph.

"A statesman is a politician in a glass case," answered Mike.

"Do you believe that all men are born equal?" said Rudolph.

"Sure I do," said Mike; "but some are lucky enough to get over it."

"The joint debate is finished!" exclaimed the referee.

"What is the result?" inquired Mike.

"About eight dollars in cash and 16 rounds of beer on the house," said the bartender.

This shows you what to expect in Albany, Bunch, where the streets are full of wisdom and the hot air from the legislature keeps the citizens warm and happy all the winter.

It is here, Bunch, that all the laws are made which govern New York city.

Realizing that fact, and, inspired by the local atmosphere, I have written a little booklet on that subject.

Go to it, Buuch, and think it over carefully:

"WHEN REUBEN COMES TO TOWN."

(Or, Don't Step Off the Car Backward.)

"Bugosh!"

The speaker had a red fringe on his face from both ears downward to the chin, where it swayed gently to and fro in the breezes.

"What is it, Si?" inquired another voice, after its owner had indulged in a terrific encounter with a large fragment of Navy Plug.

"Guldern it, Seth; I was thinking abaout New York City, that's all!"

"Eeus!"

"Makes me devilish uneasy thinkin' abaout it; by Heck, it does, Seth!"

"Eeus!"

"Biggest guldern taown in this yer contynent, Seth!"

"Eeus!"

"More houses an' people an' street-

"Cut Out the Dead Ones, They Don't Vote," Said Rudolph.

cars an' sech than you could shake a good-sized stick at!"

"Eeus! but we don't have to go thar, do we, Si?"

"No, Seth; but havin' been elected to the Legislatur, I'll have to leave the farm of my childhood an' go to Albany an' make laws to guide and govern the citizens of that thar City of New York."

"Eeus!"

"I saw it in the Spoonburg Chronicle that New York City wants local option," said Seth, after a long pause.

"Eeus!"

"I s'pose that means suthin' different from haow it sounds; them things always do."

"Eeus!"

"Well, whatever it means, New York City ain't goin' to git it while I'm in the Legislatur. That is your opinion about it, Si; do you reckon it's some new-fangled kind of a trolley-car?"

Si was silent, but from the manner in which the hair on his head came down to meet his eyebrows one would surmise that his brain was being sent along under forced draught.

Presently, however, Si "bugoshed," and the silence fell apart.

"If it means what I think it does," said Si, bitterly, "then New York is more wicked than I tried to find it the time I went thar—eeus!"

Si leaned over and whispered something to Seth.

Then they turned pale, and got up and left the room.

THE END.

There may be a moral concealed in this romance, Bunch; I'm not so sure about it myself.

If you're ever here in Albany, you might mingle with some of the law-builders and inquire.

But when you do inquire, be sure to pick out a law-builder at least two sizes smaller than you are.

Self-preservation is the first law of Albany. Yours all the while,

J. H.

HAVE NO CHANCE FOR GOSSIP.

One Argument in Defense of Reserve of City Life.

There is much to be said of the custom prevailing in large cities, the indifference with which families regard each other. They may live with only a thin wall as a separation, and never know their neighbors by sight. It is heartless, in a way, to have no knowledge of misfortune which one might relieve, but it is rather agreeable to be able to live as one pleases with the certainty that prying eyes are not taking stock of economies and habits. It is almost impossible to begin a system of retrenchment in a town or neighborhood where there are keen eyes to inspect every movement and sharp tongues to discuss each discovery. So we have families always living beyond their means because they have not the moral courage to advertise their true financial condition.

It is not wise to take the public into one's confidence. When it becomes necessary to give up a home it lessens the chances of recovering from pecuniary losses to allow the neighborhood to discuss the matter with certain knowledge. A graceful retreat can generally be managed save in gossiping places, and even there silence is much better than confession.

Long Tunnel Projected.

The London Times states that the Danish government is considering the project to construct a railway tunnel under the Great Belt. The total length of this tunnel would be about 17 miles, of which 12 miles would be under the sea. The estimate of the cost is put at slightly more than $7,000,000. At the present time there is a train ferry service across the belt, but it is often handicapped by bad weather, and it is calculated that the tunnel service would be profitable, even if the cost were considerably more than the estimate given. Test borings have shown that the condition of the materials in which the tunneling work would have to be carried out is favorable for the work.

A Man's Last Wish.

After a man has gained everything he has wished for he begins to wish he might begin all over again.

Ideas from Paris

At the left is a princess costume of chocolate brown diagonal cheviot. The fronts and back of the blouse are cut in one piece, with the little Japanese sleeves, under which are long, tight sleeves of the material. The plastron is cut in one piece, with the narrow tablier giving the princess effect.

The square yoke is of tucked tulle, matching the gown, and is bordered on each side with straps of brown satin, ornamented with gold or passementerie buttons. The collar and frill are of lace, the little cravat of green satin. The girdle is of the material and of satin ornamented with the buttons.

The skirt has a hip yoke of the material, but is otherwise untrimmed.

The other gown is of Nile green silk voile. The corsage is shirred at the shoulders, the fronts are prettily draped and crossed and ornamented with motifs of passementerie with pendants. The edges are finished with bias bands of black satin, of which the girdle is also made.

The little waistcoat is of tulle embroidery with cord; the chemisette is of tulle and lace. The sleeves are shirred and finished with deep cuffs edged with the satin and with wrist ruffles of lace.

The skirt with raised waist-line is slightly gathered at the top and is finished at the bottom with a flounce of black satin, which extends upward in front, forming a point. From the girdle hang two long ends of the satin, finished with a motif of passementerie and tassels.

BACK TO THE APRON.

Old Styles Have to Call in the Modern Fashions.

Still the backward trend toward old fashions keeps up. Old Dresden silks, corkscrew curls and real directoire effects have come in. Now it is the apron that meets with the approval of adaptable fashion. There is no reason why the apron should be resurrected. But what does fashion care for reason, or utility, or ordinary common sense? However, the apron is decorative, if not exactly useful outside the kitchen. Its use may grow until few women are without embroidered collections of aprons. One thing sure, aprons are worn now over the chafing dish, and that means they are fast becoming a necessary part of the careful woman's wardrobe. It is hard to picture a society woman with an apron, but the thing no longer stands merely as a badge of service. In the days of our grandmothers, aprons were as decorative as they were useful, and the more expensive the more fashionable at present. A woman clever with the needle can make an apron a real addition to her household attire, even though the rule just now is to design aprons little larger than a good sized patch. Damask is the favorite material.

PARISIAN CHAPEAU.

Large Toque of Mink, with Bow of Brown Velvet.

New Way with a Ruff.

Women are quite used by this time to the tight plaited ruff that fits up against the neck. They have seen it and worn it in all manner of materials. The new thing, however, is to have from three to six inch close wired plaiting of filet net lace put into the coat. This is used on directoire coats that have no collars. The ruff is basted in around the neck and down the front, and ends at the first button. It is quite effective.

American Beauty Waistcoat.

If you want to liven up a black coat suit, put in a waistcoat of American beauty satin or velvet. This is a smart touch and shows that you are quite in with the fashions. It may be fastened down center with black velvet or cut jet buttons.

Putting White Clothes Away.

A housewife should be careful to have all the starch washed out of clothes before they are put away for the winter. They should be rough dry, and, if possible, protected by sheets of dark blue paper.

SCARFS GIRLS MAY MAKE.

Costume Accessories That Are Easily Put Together.

Girls who sew neatly may profitably employ that talent by making for themselves or their relatives a collection of scarfs of from two to four yards in length, their texture and finish being governed by the costume with which they are to be worn. Such accessories, designed to accompany the plain tailor made skirt and coat suits used for school and shopping, are usually of silk cashmere, which comes in all the fashionable shades. This material is so wide that it may be divided into lengths of one and a half yards each, the two widths being joined crosswise with a strip of self-colored ribbon. The sides are finished with a blind-stitched narrow hem, they are rolled against a baby ribbon bordering on the right side of the material or they are featherstitched with silk floss of a contrasting shade.

Black silk scarfs are most effective as well as youthful looking when the ends are embroidered in bright colors or in the pastel blues and greens. Prettiest of all are those having appliqued bands of satin ribbon arranged in imitation of Roman stripes and terminating with long fringe which repeats the various shades of green, maize, pink and blue employed in the ribbon bordering.

A White Closet.

It was a sensible woman who had the large closet under the hall stairs papered in white and the door covered with white oilcloth. On the wall were hung black iron dress hooks, which could easily be found and the most convenient article in it was an electric light bulb on a long cord, which could be taken in hand when looking for boxes packed under the lower stair steps. These boxes were all white, the nature of the contents being shown by a printed label across one end in black letters. Over the door was hung an old portiere which was hidden by the closet door, but it kept out considerable dust. The shelves were painted white and the books that were stored away were all wrapped neatly in white paper and packed in boxes.

Fur-Trimmed Suits.

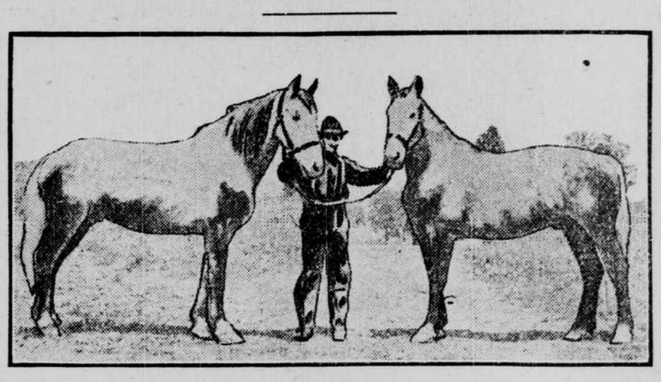
Handsome cloth suits will be trimmed with fur. Bands of it will be put on the skirt and collars, cuffs and waist-coats made of it to go with the coat. This is good news to the woman who has odd pieces of fur or garments that are out of fashion. She can use them upon a cloth gown. One directoire suit of dull ecru broadcloth has a four-inch band of brown fur around the skirt, and the coat has a narrow, long waistcoat of it. The wide revers are of brown satin, and the triple cuffs are of the satin, edged with a two-inch band of fur. The hat that goes with this is an immense flat sailor of ecru satin with an Alastian bow of brown fur across the sides.

Reindeer Coats.

Furriers have brought out long coats of reindeer skin. These are considered quite handsome and very smart. They are lined with brocade in fawn shade. Metal buttons are used to fasten them. They are worn for the automobile, for the street and for all manner of afternoon affairs over good-looking blouse suits.

EXPERIMENT IN THE FEEDING OF WORK HORSES

A Comparison of the Value of Corn and Oats as a Grain Ration—By B. E. Carmichael, Ohio.



Frank; Fed Oats. August 5, 1907. Bill; Fed Corn.
After Having Received Separate Grain Rations for 101 Days.

Problems connected with the feeding of work horses are doubtless of as wide interest as any problems in livestock management. Practically all farmers, whatever particular branch of farming they may be engaged in, have occasion to feed work horses. Besides farmers, commercial firms of various classes keep horses in large numbers for work purposes and they, too, have a deep interest in methods of feeding that will lessen the cost of maintaining work horses without decreasing their efficiency.

Whether feeds are high or low in price, it is well worth while for feeders to exercise great care in the selection of rations, so as to use the ones that are most efficient and economical. With the present exceedingly high market prices for all kinds of grain feeds, it is especially important that a judicious selection of feeds be made, for much waste may result if attention is not given to this phase of stable management.

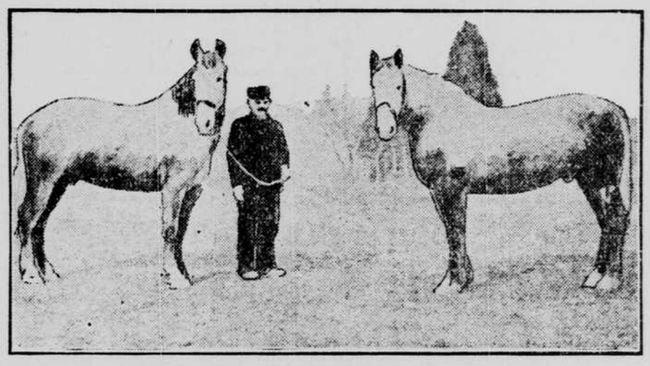
On account of the wide-spread prejudice against corn and in favor of hay was fed to mature geldings at general farm work, ear-corn was practically as efficient, pound for pound, as oats.

On the basis of the results of this experiment and statistical records of farm values of grains, corn has, since 1866, been cheaper than oats as a grain feed for work horses.

The drop in weight of the corn-fed horses, coincident with the beginning of the use of shelled corn, indicates that ear-corn is to be preferred above shelled corn for work horses.

Farm animals should be fed according to their needs. Their needs depend, of course, upon the product that they yield. Work horses are kept for applying energy and should be supplied with feeds that will furnish the required energy at the least possible cost, all things considered.

There is a wide difference in the efficiency of horses in utilizing feed. This is well illustrated by the record of the horse Tom used in this experiment. There is an "individuality" in work horses as well as in other farm



Frank; Fed Oats. January 3, 1908. Bill; Fed Corn.
After Having Received Separate Grain Rations for 252 Days.

oats, an experiment, from which it is hoped that definite data may be secured in regard to this important subject, has been undertaken at the Ohio station. The plan of this work calls for a long-time experiment—not one of a few days' or weeks' duration, but one that will continue for a number of years.

The work was begun in the spring of 1907, and the results of the experiment up to the present time are so striking that it has been thought best to give them to the public at once with the understanding that further work is being done along this line and that there is a possibility of different results being secured later.

The horses used in the first 48 weeks of this experiment were six mature grade Percheron geldings, belonging to the department of agronomy of the station and used for general farm and team work. In age, the horses ranged at the beginning of the experiment, from seven to eight years old. The two horses of each team are of approximately the same age, however. While there are some differences in the conformation, size and disposition of the various horses they are a fairly uniform lot. In order to secure an accurate comparison of oats and corn one horse in each of the three teams is fed oats, while the others receive corn. With the exception of a very few days the two horses which comprised a team were, for 48 weeks, worked together; that is, it was very unusual for one horse of a team to work while the horse was idle; this assures an equal amount of labor being performed by each horse in a given team and, therefore, permits a direct comparison of the two feeds. The following statements, based upon the work done thus far, seem to be warranted by the data presented heretofore. It must be understood that the horses were mature geldings and that mixed clover and timothy hay was fed.

The corn-fed horses endured hard work during hot weather as well as did the oats-fed horses.

The use of corn to the exclusion of other grain for a period of 48 weeks was not detrimental to the health of work horses.

The use of corn for work horses did not induce laziness and lack of endurance. Neither did the use of oats induce increased spirit and endurance.

Frank; Fed Oats. May 11, 1908. Bill; Fed Corn.
After Having Received Separate Grain Rations for 380 Days.

When mixed (clover and timothy) hay was fed the horses endured work less, that corn is a valuable feed for work horses and should be given a large place in their rations, whenever market conditions warrant its use.

animals. Horses that are notably hard to keep in good condition should be replaced by ones that may be maintained at less cost.

The data presented do not prove that, for use with pure timothy hay, ear-corn is as efficient, pound for pound, as oats. Neither is any evidence at hand to indicate that a grain ration made up exclusively of corn is suitable for brood mares with foal or in milk, or for young, growing horses.

When the weights of the horses for the year previous to the experiment are compared with the weights secured during the experiment, it is seen that the exclusive use of either corn or oats has not had any bad effect upon the horses. There is no positive proof, however, that a mixed ration would not be more efficient than one made up exclusively of corn or of oats. This experiment does show, nevertheless, that corn is a valuable feed for work horses and should be given a large place in their rations, whenever market conditions warrant its use.

Too Fat Hens.—We recently saw a statement by a writer that hens never became too fat to lay and that this notion was born of ignorance. The writer is convinced that hens frequently become overfat from under exercise and the feeding of too much corn. He remembers one such hen that when dressed yielded five pounds of worthless fat and was reduced by the removal of the fat from ten to five pounds in weight. Not only are such birds rendered worthless for egg production, but they also are rendered worthless for anything else. An overabundance of fat is an unhealthy indication and opens the way to the coming of various diseases. It is as detrimental to the breeding fowl as it is to the laying fowl.

Farming Depends on Stock.—Dr. Leonard Pearson of Pennsylvania makes the following suggestive observations: The fertility of the soil, and an advancing profitable agriculture, cannot be maintained without animals. Animal husbandry is essential to agricultural progress.

Blanket the Horse.—When you go to town in winter you go into a warm store or office for comfort. How about your horses left tied to the rack? Horses often become ill and die of pneumonia, and pneumonia is caused from taking cold.

A Long Wait.

"Well, Jesse," said a New Englander, on returning to his native Vermont town after an absence of several years, "how are things? Are you married yet? And did that rich old uncle of yours leave you any money?"

"No, I ain't married yet; nor ain't likely to be, so far's I kin see,' answered Jesse, despondently. "If Uncle Bill had done as he ought to, I s'pose I'd been settled down in a house of my own a long time ago."

"So he didn't leave you a cent? That's too bad!"

"Yes; an' it puts me an' Mary in an awful hard place. There ain't nothin' for us t' do now but to set down an' wait for some o' her folks to die."

Starch, like everything else, is being constantly improved, the patent Starches put on the market 25 years ago are very different and inferior to those of the present day. In the latest discovery—Defiance Starch—all injurious chemicals are omitted, while the addition of another ingredient, invented by us, gives to the Starch a strength and smoothness never approached by other brands.

If we got everything we prayed for the earth would have to be enlarged in order to make room for our possessions.

One trouble with a tightwad is that he doesn't care who knows it.

Time isn't money, yet people are always spending it.