



Whether Common or Not

By Will M. Maupin.

"Old Folks at Home"

Around this world for many a year,
Neath flags of many a hue,
O'er fertile field and desert drear,
Neath clouds, and skies of blue,
I've roamed. I've seen the brightest lights,
The deepest depths of woe;
The fashions at the greatest height,
The misery down below.

'Neath Spanish skies I've heard the strain
Of many a soft guitar;
I've heard great bands in loud refrain
Play hymns of stirring war.
But just the other night I heard
The music of the spheres—
And memory flew back, like a bird,
Through all the long gone years.

'Twas down in old St. Louis, too,
I heard the sweet refrain
That brought the old days back to view—
I was a boy again.
A great crowd sat beneath the dome,
Bright lights on ev'ry hand,
And Sembrich sang "Old Folks at Home,"
While Max Zach led the band.

I saw a humble little place
Far down a village street;
I saw a dear old smiling face
That shone with blessings sweet.
I walked the streets I used to roam,
'Neath trees I used to climb,
When Sembrich sang "Old Folks at Home,"
With Max Zach beating time.

I felt upon my cheeks the kiss
Of boyhood's dearest friend—
The mother-touch we daily miss,
And treasure to the end.
I heard the birds sing in the trees,
The rippling brooklet's call;
The sighing of the old-time breeze,
The brown nut's pattering fall.

I felt the touch of vanished hands,
Heard sounds of voices stilled;
And o'er the long unswept heart-
strands
Old memories throbbed and thrilled.
And brighter grew the starlit dome,
And life grew more sublime,
When Sembrich sang "Old Folks at Home,"
With Max Zach keeping time.

Around the world I've roamed for years,
'Neath flags of many a hue.
I've had my share of joys—and tears—
Storm clouds and skies of blue.
But I'll recall while on I roam
Through many a land and clime
When Sembrich sang "Old Folks at Home,"
With Max Zach keeping time.

Not Superstitious

"Are you superstitious, old man?"
"I should say not! I've no use for people who believe in charms and signs and omens."
"Neither have I. Let's go get a cigar."
"All right, let's—no, no! Not in there! Don't you see, man, that if you go in there we'll have to pass under that ladder!"
"Gee, that's so! Wasn't that a narrow escape?"

Plenty of Them

"But can you give any intelligent reasons why we should elect our United States senators by popular

vote?" asked Mr. Stocksandbonds, leaning back in his chair and scowling at the committee.

"O, several of them," replied the chairman.

"Well, name two or three."

"Lorimer, Stephenson, Di—"

"Excuse me, gentlemen," interrupted Mr. Stocksandbonds, "but I must instantly depart for an important meeting. I am already several minutes late."

Adaptable

It is always nice, bracing winter weather for the woman whose husband has just purchased her a \$200 set of furs.

A majority of men think the times are good and everybody prosperous if they themselves get three meals a day and have a place to sleep.

Usually a man thinks the day starts off all right if he happens to catch a car without loss of time when he starts to business.

Proof

"What makes you so sure that your daughter's suitor is a count?"
"He admits that he needs at least a quarter of a million to square up his gambling debts."

Short Arm Jabs

Just as soon as aviation becomes safe the populace will not be interested in it.

Mr. Carnegie gives \$10,000,000 to promote universal peace. There is one sure way to bring it about—compel those who bring on wars to do the fighting.

A lot of men are in favor of the enactment of reformatory laws, but thoroughly opposed to their enforcement.

Perhaps Postmaster General Hitchcock could save quite a bit of money by using less red tape in the P. O. D.

Commander Peary wouldn't take a white man with him to the pole because he wanted to have the honor of being the first and only white man to reach it. Besides, another white man might have been a poor witness.

One Wisconsin senatorial honor seems to have been stuffed with sawdust.

Anybody believe that Mr. Lorimer was the unwitting recipient of a purchased senatorial toga?

Perhaps you have noticed the difference between the method of electing Ohio's new senator and the methods that prevailed at previous senatorial elections in that state.

When the "tariff commission" is appointed we want to submit a carefully preserved lot of bills from the butcher, the baker, the grocer, the dry goods man and the coal dealer.

In 1910 the sugar consumers of the country contributed \$300,000,000 in excess profits to the sugar refiners under the guise of "protecting the American sugar industry." During the same year the sugar produced in the United States did not equal in value the butter production of either Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska or Kansas.

NEBRASKA'S NEW SENATOR

Gilbert M. Hitchcock, owner of the Omaha World-Herald, is the first United States senator from Nebraska to be elected under the Oregon plan of popular selection. In responding to the legislature Mr. Hitchcock addressed the joint session as follows:

"Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, Senators and Representatives of Nebraska: My first duty and my first impulse is to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the great honor you have bestowed upon me. Through you also I want to express to the people of the great state of Nebraska the gratitude I feel for the magnificent vote last November. I shall try to be worthy of that confidence. I appreciate the honor of being senator from the great state of Nebraska, and I appreciate still more the responsibility that goes with that honor. It would not be appropriate at this time to make a long address, and it would be still less fitting to make a partisan speech. I shall confine myself therefore in the few words I have to say to subjects which seem fitting to this occasion, which is to a considerable extent non-partisan.

"I am a party man. A strong party man, just as all others here present are party men. I believe in parties. I believe the clash of parties is necessary to the success of self-government. But between the two great parties that we belong to there is a third party. It has no organization. It holds no primaries or conventions. It has no name. It is composed of that great body of our citizens, some calling themselves democrats, some republicans, and some by other names, who swing from time to time to parties and to leaders as the issues of the day tell them that it is well for the prospects and for the benefit of the people. And most of the great achievements of our progressive government have been due in large part to this central body of which I speak. Today marks an epoch in the history of Nebraska. Oregon first and Nebraska second have led the way in the great progressive governmental reform—the election of United States senators by the direct vote of the people. And upon this occasion I want to say that much as I appreciate the honor which you have done me, I feel more deeply still the great victory which has been achieved in Nebraska in the interest of reformed national government by a firm adoption of the idea of the election of senators by the direct vote of the people. I rejoice at that almost more than I appreciate the honor you have done me.

"And perhaps this is a fitting occasion to mention some of the other progressive steps in our national government. Our forefathers gave us a wonderful republic, but if that government had been left unchanged as they gave it to us, undeveloped, unadvanced, it would not be capable of maintaining modern civilization as we have it in America today. The steps of progression as we advance through history are easily recognized. Let me touch upon a few of them.

"First came that great moral reform, the abolition of slavery in the United States which was at enormous cost but the moral gain to the American people was prodigious. Those few lines in the constitution of the United States that forever prohibit slavery in the United States constitute a tremendous step forward in the art of government.

"Then in the matter of the public health think of what has been

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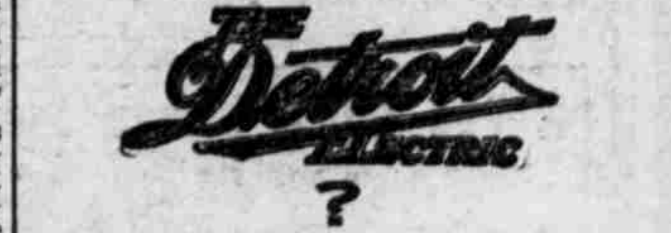
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