



EDITORIALS



Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

Politics and Life Insurance.

THE entire country is studying the developments of the life insurance scandal. Every day fresh revelations come from New York of frenzied financiering on the part of insurance officials, of their activity in an effort to control legislation and to direct the politics of state and nation.

The money that the policy-holders intrusted to these mammoth corporations has been used by the officials at will. Speculation seems to have grown amazingly popular with them; if they won, they took most of the profits, turning back into the company treasuries whatever they saw fit. If they lost, the transaction was carried through a maze of collateral trust companies in order to involve it in doubt and uncertainty. Apparently the sole aim of these manipulators was to escape the clutches of the law.

Little wonder, then, that the people of the nation are aroused to righteous indignation. Little wonder that they are losing faith in the integrity of insurance officials, and are demanding that the business in which they have invested their earnings shall be placed under government supervision and such safeguards thrown about the treasuries that no corrupt and speculating officer can get at them. More than that, they are demanding the utter divorce of these men from politics. The president of an insurance company that is handling enormous sums of the people's money has no right to mix in politics, has no right to seek an office, the very nature of which may make the two interests antagonistic. He should not be in a position where he can force legislation inimical to the welfare of the people, but favorable to his pocketbook, nor where he can veto legislation that may affect the financial interest of his corporation, although beneficial to its directors. No man can afford to take upon himself a dual obligation of this kind, and the people won't knowingly permit it.—Toledo Blade.

Truthful Trustees.

WHEN asked why they did not know anything about the public school fund which they were supposed to guard, the highly respected and very prominent citizens of Peoria who form the School Board reply that they had implicit confidence in N. C. Dougherty, superintendent and secretary.

This same tried and trusted Dougherty has been indicted some scores of times for forgery and different kinds of theft. It is a pity that the activities of the grand jury cannot include under the law the pleasurable task of indicting the highly respected and very prominent citizens of Peoria who have served as impressive dummies on the School Board during the Dougherty regime.

Nothing is more contemptible than the heavy and self-satisfied citizen who accepts a trust and then betrays it out of sheer indolence or stupidity. His own affairs are so important to him that while he is looking after them with all his might, meantime hogging the honor that goes with a public position, he pays no attention to the duties of that position. Whenever there is exposed a flagrant case of thievery or mismanagement under the noses of eminent and big-paunched trustees who claim to be as innocent as babes, so far as wrong-doing is concerned, the same

old story of implicit trust is told by them with proper emotion.

It is time to attend to the case of the trustful trustee. If he shirks his duty he is a public menace and should be treated as such. Let the nature and the extent of his offenses be well considered by those who make the criminal laws, for he has been getting off too easily by being merely contemptible.—Chicago News.

The Profane Man is a Nuisance.

TEN THOUSAND men opposed to cursing, vulgar and indecent language marched in a parade in an Eastern city a few days ago. A parade of this sort ought to be held in Chicago. You cannot walk three blocks here without running into some one engaged in a cursing match. If you ride on a street car you will not go far before an oath or a vulgar word will greet your ear. Your little boy and girl on their way to school are liable to hear this sort of talk. If two men driving teams meet in the street and get into a jam there is usually a volley of oaths. If a dozen men gather around the door of a factory they generally do a little swearing.

In this country there are people who hold that a first-class profanity vocabulary betokens a degree of independence. Cursing in the presence of others is their way of showing that they desire to be discourteous. Some employers think they can get more work out of men by cursing them. Other men who are cowardly feel that they can bluff their way through life by cursing and bellowing.

Men ought to be arrested for cursing in public places. They are committing a nuisance when they jar the ears of others by an oath.—Chicago Examiner.

Railroad Accidents Are Costly.

ACCIDENTS on railways nowadays come high. It is estimated that the Mentor disaster will touch an enormous figure. The engine, which was destroyed, was valued at \$17,000; the two cars burned were worth \$20,000 each; the others, which were considerably injured, were as costly. The train was one of the most expensively equipped in the world. But far beyond the losses in rolling stock will be those through suits for damages. It is said that the New York and New Haven paid out in personal damages through the wreck of the New Haven commuter train in the tunnel at New York a few years ago more than \$1,500,000. The killed and injured in the Mentor disaster were more costly.—Boston Herald.

Beauty's Troubles.

IT is one of the most difficult things in the world for a girl to be happy if beautiful. People are jealous of her; women she has "cut out" and men she has ignored—both unknowingly, perhaps—say odious things of her and to her. The pleasure of ordinary social intercourse is marred for her by the other women's inevitable distrust. The man her best friend loves will probably fall in love with poor Clorinda, who doesn't care twopenny for him.—The World and His Wife.

SAME OLD STORY.



—Cincinnati Post.

some thousands of years ago, and to discover why the spirit belonging to it is offended, and how it can be propitiated. This often enables a person who would otherwise be put to great annoyance to arrange, by the judicious employment of the right geomancer, that the spirit shall be properly propitiated.

It does not bother the foreigner alone, for if a rich Chinaman should build a tomb in a new locality and an epidemic or other sickness should ap-

pear in the vicinity, the tomb-builder must pay heavily to restore good fengshui to the locality.

"I Will!"

Patience—Her motto in life has been "I will!"

Patrice—And has she lived up to it? "She certainly has. She never said no to a marriage proposal in her life."—Yonkers Statesman.

Every good rain develops a lot of town farmers.

OLD Favorites

London Bridge.

Proud and lowly, beggar and lord,
Over the bridge they go;
Rags and velvet, fetter and sword,
Poverty, pomp and woe,
Laughing, weeping, hurrying ever,
Hour by hour they crowd along,
While, below, the mighty river
Sings them all a mocking song.

Hurry along,
Sorrow and song,
All is vanity 'neath the sun;
Velvet and rags,
So the world wags,
Until the river no more shall run.

Dainty, painted, powdered and gay
Rolled my lady by;
Rags and tatters over the way
Carries a heart as high,
Flowers and dreams from country meadows,
Dust and din through city skies,
Old men creeping with their shadows,
Children with their sunny eyes—

Hurry along,
Sorrow and song,
All is vanity 'neath the sun;
Velvet and rags,
So the world wags,
Until the river no more shall run.

Storm and sunshine, peace and strife,
Over the bridge they go;
Floating on in the tide of life
Whither no man shall know,
Who will miss them there to-morrow,
Waifs that drift to the shade or sun?
Gone away with their songs and sorrow;
Only the river still flows on.

Hurry along,
Sorrow and song,
All is vanity 'neath the sun;
Velvet and rags,
So the world wags,
Until the river no more shall run.
—Frederic E. Weatherly.

Stay at Home, My Heart.

Stay, stay at home, my heart, and rest;
Home keeping hearts are happiest,
For those that wander they know not where
Are full of trouble and full of care,
To stay at home is best.

Weary and homesick and distressed,
They wander east, they wander west,
And are baffled and beaten and blown about
By the winds of the wilderness of doubt,
To stay at home is best.

Then stay at home, my heart, and rest,
The bird is safest in its nest,
O'er all that flutter their wings and fly
A hawk is hovering in the sky,
To stay at home is best.
—H. W. Longfellow.

CLEVER TRICKS OF CRIMINALS.

Detectives Baffled by False Clews Prepared for Them.

"We have to be very chary nowadays in placing reliance upon the popular clew, for certain crimes—housebreaking, for example—have become such a science that clews are frequently actually manufactured by the criminals for the express purpose of misleading the police," remarked a prominent detective to a representative of London Tit-Bits. "So cleverly is this managed sometimes that it is by no means easy to discover whether it is a real or a false clew until one has wasted a considerable amount of time in following it up.

"Among the burglar fraternity this practice is becoming quite common. What more easy, for instance, than for the midnight visitor to wear boots many sizes too large for him, taking care to leave footprints which will give an entirely wrong idea of his build? Where footprints are not possible the boots are left behind, dropped as though their owner left in too great a hurry to take them with him. In such cases the footwear usually bears the maker's name, but it would be waste of time to look for the thief in that locality, since they have been purposely bought in a strange neighborhood. When this device is practiced a pair of rubber shoes are worn inside the boots, so that the loss of the latter occasions the thief no inconvenience.

"Hats have been made to serve the same purpose. One left behind at a provincial jeweler's shop which had been rifled had the name of an east end tradesman in it, and the crime was at first attributed to a London gang. It eventually transpired to be the work of a local practitioner, who, though his head was several sizes smaller than the hat, evidently had his share of brains. But for the treachery of a 'pal' he would probably have escaped detection, for the police were looking for a much bigger man, and in the wrong place, too.

"Occasionally the 'faked' clew consists of a tool distinctive of a particular trade—a shoemaker's knife, for instance. The articles thus left behind, I may remark, are never new; they are usually well worn, but still serviceable. An elaborately prepared clew was a handkerchief, apparently taken

from the wearer's throat in order to tie together several articles, which were nevertheless left behind. On examination it proved to be covered with short gray hairs, such as would convey the impression that the wearer was an oldish man who had recently had his hair cut. The real burglar was a young fellow of less than 25.

"A few years ago one of these false clews was very nearly the means of an innocent man being sent to prison. A burglary was committed near London and an addressed envelope was picked up on the premises which no one could account for. It had apparently been used for a pipelight and only the name and part of the address could be deciphered. The police, however, found out the addressee and arrested him. But for the fact that he was able to prove an undoubted alibi he would probably have been convicted, for his past was not quite spotless. How the real thief obtained the envelope remains a mystery:

"One of the smartest 'faked' clews I remember came to light in a certain provincial district, which, since the criminal was never caught, I will not name. Three burglaries were successfully accomplished and from the traces left all three were apparently the work of a man with a wooden leg. It was only when a smart detective pointed out that in the first two cases the wooden leg was the left one, while in the third it was the right, that the local police gave up searching for a one-legged burglar. The idea was not a bad one, for strapped below the knee the 'peg' would be no encumbrance, and detached would have proved a formidable weapon in case of need. But for the change of legs the trick would never have been suspected."

OLD-TIME SPELLING.

A Specimen of Martha Washington's Orthography Resurrected.

But if George did not grievously err in the matter of spelling, as much cannot be said for Martha, whose words and sentences were fearfully and wonderfully made. One illustration will be sufficient. The letter was written while the good Martha was with her husband at the seat of government in Philadelphia, and was addressed to her sister at Mount Vernon. After regretting the illness of the little ones at Mount Vernon, who were suffering from an ailment common among children and puppies, Martha went on to say:

"Indeed, my dear Fanny, I never saw children stuffed as yours was when I was down and reather wondered that they were able to be tolerable with such lodes as they used to put into their little stomachs—I am sure there is nothing so pernicious as over charging the stomach of a child—with every kind of food that they will take—Expearance will convince you of the impropriety if nothing else will—

*** The President will bring two white men with him—one of them may sleep in Whiting's room, the other in the Garret—Let there be a bed put in the Garret room—and one for the other man as they may be ready—The President talks of leaving this on Tuesday morn—and I suppose he will make all the dispatch he can as he does not expect to be long from hear. *** It will be well for you to send one of your old shoes when the President return, and then you will be certain that your shoes will fit—The Trades people suffered very much in the Yallow fever. ***

dear Fanny your most affectionate
M. WASHINGTON.
—Roswell Field, in the Chicago Journal.

Habit in Appetite.

The so-called cravings of appetite are purely the result of habit. A habit once acquired and persistently followed soon has us in its grasp, and then any deviation therefrom temporarily disturbs our physiological equilibrium. The system makes complaint and we experience a craving, it may be, for that to which the body has become accustomed, even though this something be, in the long run, distinctly injurious to the welfare of the body. There has thus come about a sentiment that the cravings of the appetite for food are to be fully satisfied, that this is merely obedience to nature's laws. This idea, however, is fundamentally wrong. Any one with a little persistence can change his or her habits of life, change the whole order of cravings, thus demonstrating that the latter are purely artificial, and that they have no necessary connection with the welfare or needs of the body. In other words, dietetic requirements are to be founded not upon so-called instinct and craving, but upon reason and intelligence.—Century.

The Evil of Inheritance.

It is not so bad when a rich man cuts off his heirs for spite. Inheritance has worked enormous mischief ever since there were fortunes to leave. In most cases it is a misfortune to be an heir.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

If a fortune teller tells a girl that she will marry a rich man, the girl is convinced that the fortune teller told her all about her past.