

# SAFEGUARD THE HOME

GOOD CITIZENS ARE THE BULWARK OF THE NATION.

## EDUCATION AND PROTECTION

Two Vital Things to Be Considered by Those Who Would See the Greatest Progress and Advancement.

Where is found the greatest advancement and civilization there is also found among the people the highest type of fealty and love of home. The American homes are the most substantial pillars of the nation's greatness, and in American citizenship is found the bulwark of our republican government.

Where the home life is ideal, there is found genuine patriotism which is always commensurate with the enlightenment and the domestic happiness of the people. How important it is then that every safeguard be thrown about the home, which is the hotbed where are produced for development all the strength that is necessary for the perpetuation of a government and the maintenance of a nation's greatness.

The student who will study into conditions of the countries that are continually wrecked by internal turmoil, such as Russia and the Central American republics, will discover the homes are far from ideal homes, and that there is an absence of the love of country that should be found in the hearts of its citizens. There is a duty that involves upon all, and which is due to the generations growing and to come. The duty is to surround the home with such environments as will make it attractive and develop in the growing youth the highest qualities of manhood and womanhood. Where the people are oppressed by monarchy and feudalism there is no incentive to develop the highest state of home life. In America where all are upon an equal plane and opportunities are open to every citizen, and where the people are secure in their rights to homes, there is every reason why each one should make the greatest endeavor to found for himself and his progeny a residence place that will be sure from intrusion and be an incentive to higher mental and social development.

Education is all important and no other country in the world offers to all such glorious advantages to receive enlightenment as does the United States. It is important that the home be located near good schools. Good schools are generally found where there are good homes and good towns. The quality of citizenship of a community can generally be gaged by the standard of its educational institutions. It is important to the home builder that the town wherein he is located or which he may reside near, be a progressive place. And the better that this town be, the better will be its educational facilities for the youth. It is essential to the greatest good of a community that it be realized by all residing within it that the more wealthy it can be made, the greater will be its advantages both as to education and otherwise. By support to home institutions the home is made better in every way. Patriotic citizens will make it their first aim to be loyal to their own home interests and then their state and nation. One who is loyal to home is generally faithful in the performance of all the duties that good citizenship implies.

### Cigarettes and Conscience.

The man who limits himself to cigarettes shows a smallness of mind. He seems smitten with some hidden conscience that feels it is not right to smoke; but he smothers it, and with great bravado determines to be a devil of a dog, and take a cigarette. —Grata.

### Living for the Children.

Freobel's sentiment "Come, let us live for our children" rests on a sound philosophic basis. To live for them is to call out the noblest impulses of parenthood. And we cannot live for them in the truest sense until we become familiar with their needs. It is in the endeavor to meet those needs in the largest way possible that we find our own characters richly recompensed in strong and well-developed parenthood. We practically become what we are by what we have done or left undone, what we are willing or unwilling to do for our children. The principle is universal, and should find its extension and application among children at all times and in all places. Has not the church lost ground in failing to recognize the primary and fundamental place of the child in society? If so, it is obvious how that lost ground may be recovered. —Homiletic Review.

### A Mean Thrust.

Belle—George proposed to me so beautifully.  
Neil—That's what all the girls say. —Baltimore American.

## NO TIME FOR STUDY.

People Who Are Either Too Busy or Too Indolent for Self-Improvement.

That person who takes no interest in affairs of his fellow men, who fails to keep himself informed as to what is transpiring around him, is far from being either progressive or well-informed. These days when papers and magazines are so plentiful and so cheap, there is little excuse for the average person not keeping closely in touch with events, and particularly keeping enlightened as to what is transpiring that may affect his own individual interests.

One of the great beauties, and an extraordinary privilege of our American form of government, is the right of every citizen to take a part in public affairs and particularly in governmental transactions. How many follow party leaders, perhaps blindly, and too late find that they made errors through not having understood the situation? How many who are negligent in the study of measures that are brought up for consideration both by state and national legislative bodies, and too late find that unwise laws were enacted that directly oppressed certain classes to the advantage of others? How many people are gathered in by alluring promises made in the finely printed literature sent broadcast through the country for the purpose of exploitation of fraudulent stock companies, just through not keeping informed as to the means and methods employed by schemers to entrap the unwary? It is conservatively estimated that each year more than \$50,000,000 are taken from the earnings of the people just through the operations of fraudulent mining, oil, insurance and like concerns. It would be impossible for the promoters of such frauds to exist were the people careful readers of the newspapers and the magazines, the pages of which are filled with accounts of the doings of "get-rich-quick" schemes.

These days there is every opportunity for self-improvement. Rural deliveries carry papers to the most remote farms, and telephones connect the farmhouses in the average community. If the people were only to utilize the means so close at hand, and to take the time to read, and examine into such propositions as interest them, there would be less cause for complaint on the part of those who perchance get their "fingers blistered." It is evident from the success that exploiters of schemes meet with, that the majority of people lack good business judgment, or that they are blinded by some inherent gambling desire. It is always a safe plan to avoid any investment that offers more than legitimate returns on an investment. Any proposition that will pay even ten per cent. a year, and where the principal is secured, can find all the capital that may be required for its operation, without calling upon the general public. It is only the uncertain kind of investments, the ones that are a "gamble," such as mining, and the like, that are most prominent in the advertising columns of the papers. The basis on which the promoters work, is the inclination of the people to seek great returns for little money. It is the same sentiment that allows numerous establishments located in different parts of the country to dispose of cheap goods at enormous profits through holding out to the people the promise of extraordinary values. The well-informed man will avoid all kinds of investment schemes that are designed to draw money from the pockets of the people, and will also refuse to buy any "pigs in bags," it matters not whether the matter of barter be stocks and bonds or the necessities of life.

### Tough Luck.

"Your wife has been ill a long time, hasn't she?"  
I should say so. Her doctor bill is bigger already than an undertaker's bill would have been. —Cleveland Leader.

### His Dire Threat.

There was determination stamped on his brow.  
"Refused, eh!" he hissed, snapping his words like the explosions of a motor-cycle. "Then I shall turn on the gas."

The beautiful girl swooned. When she recovered she found him sitting in an easy chair reading the sporting news.

"Ah, you didn't turn on the gas after all, did you?" she asked in trembling tones.

"Yes I did," he replied coldly.  
"You—you turned on the gas, Harold?"

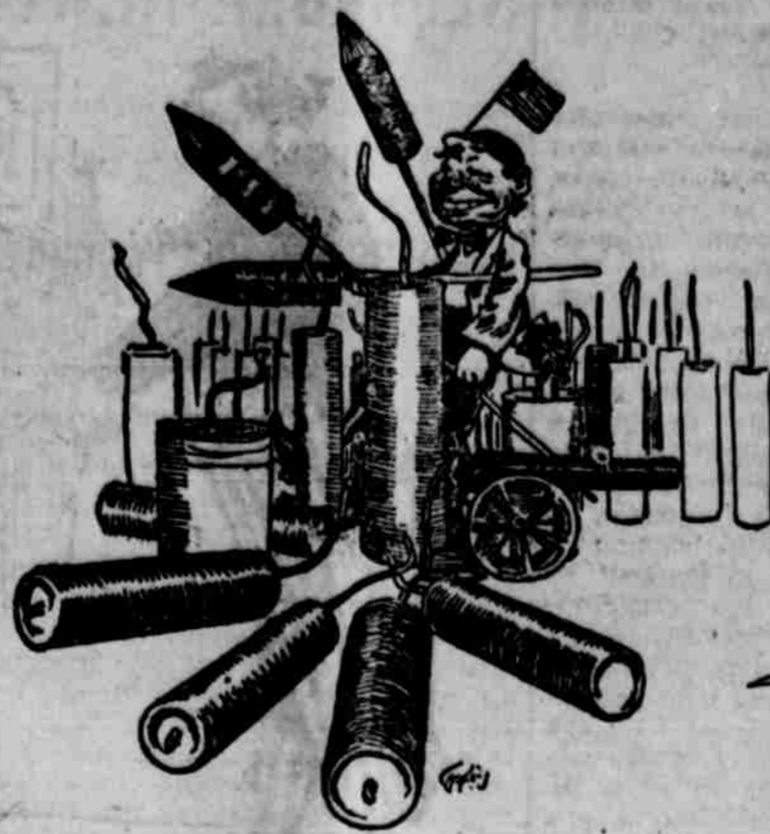
"Of course I did. How could I light it if I didn't turn it on?"

And then she asked his forgiveness and accepted him on the spot.

### Where Babies Thrive.

"There's not much danger of race suicide on the East side, at any rate," said the New York slum worker who lives there. "Every time you look out the window there's a brand new baby on some opposite balcony or fire escape."

## ALL READY



## Mickey Finn's Big Fire Cracker

The explosion that wounded up the Fourth of July Celebration on Cooney Island.

Two mammoth firecrackers stood in the window of Casey's grocery. They were 12 inches long and proportionately thick.

For a month before the Fourth of July these gigantic indicators of enthusiasm had stood in the window like British soldiers on dress parade, while a predatory spider hung a filmy hammock between them and calmly killed his buzzing victims over two powder mines.

The firecrackers were the admiration and the envy of all the boys in Cooney Island. It was seldom that a youthful nose was not flattened against the window pane in ardent covetousness.

But the price demanded by Casey for the thunderers was prohibitive, so far as the boys were concerned, and there was not one of them patriotic or courageous enough to invest 25 cents in a single ecstatic explosion.

Said Mickey Finn timidly one evening when he had been sent by his mother to get a quarter of a pound of tea and half a pound of pork:

"Mr. Casey, I suppose now, that whin wan o' thim big fellows wint off it would blow the stars out of the sky?" his mind filled with blissful thoughts of mighty explosions.

Casey stopped measuring out a half pint of New Orleans molasses, raised a monitor finger, and replied:

"Micky, my boy, I'd be afeerd to tell you what would happen if I stood wan o' thim big fellows out on the sidewalk and touched the stem wid the lighted end of a five cent cigar. The noise would be terrible, terrible, my son. 'Twould make your head ring like an anvil, and you would see sparks like fireflies."

"Would it blow the house down?" asked the boy in an awed whisper.

"No, I don't think it would," said Casey. "It might shake the chimney down and break all the glass in the



In Ardent Covetousness.

windows in small pieces, and there would be paper in the streets as would fill an empty barrel o' flour. Oh, but thim big fellows is mighty powerful, Micky, mighty powerful. They

use them in China to kill murderers and robbers. They put wan o' thim big firecrackers bechune the teeth of a murderer and make him light the fuse wid his own hand and blow his own head off. Thim Chinese is mighty crool, Micky, mighty crool."

This vivid description inflamed Mickey's desire, which was Casey's motive in telling it, for the incident occurred on the eve of the Fourth, and Casey was afraid that the big firecrackers would be carried over the national holiday and remain a loss on his hands. In order to deepen the impression already made upon the boy Casey permitted him to handle one of the twins.

The boy's eyes had widened to their utmost capacity when he was outside the window, but now that he could feel the red jacket his hands trembled with the eagerness of possession and he would have given ten years of his life to own it.

"Take it along wid you, Micky," said Casey, cajolingly. "Thim crackers were made in Chow Chow, in China, for the Cooney Island trade, and I want to get rid of thim I have on hand before I send another order to Wan Lung, the haythin."

"But I have no money," said Mickey sorrowfully. "My father is goin' to give me three bunches of little firecrackers and a pinwheel, but I know he wouldn't buy wan o' thim big firecrackers for me."

"Well," continued Casey, "you come down here to-morrow mornin' and carry in a half ton of coal for me and I'll give you the big cracker."

The next morning Mickey was busy for two hours carrying chestnut coal in a nail keg and dumping it in Casey's cellar. Just after noon, with a smile covered with coal dust and a bosom full of chuckles, he received his prize.

No grass grew under his bare feet as he ran homeward, the precious powder mine clasped to his bosom. Holding the big firecracker aloft as he darted through the kitchen door, he exclaimed:

"Mother, I have it! Ain't it a beauty?"

"Well, I don't see anything about it to be makin' a fuss over," said Mrs. Finn, who, like most mothers, had no love for fireworks. "Now, don't be bringin' it nearer to me, as Micky ran toward her. 'I don't want to be blown into the middle o' next week. Throw the dirty thing away! I'm afeered o' me life while you have it in your hands! Now, don't be goin' near the stove wid it! Arrah, ye little spalpeen, will ye take it off the stove? Take it off afore ye blow the roof off the house!" and the frightened woman ran into the bedroom and peered through the keyhole.

With the recklessness of boyhood, Mickey exclaimed, as he lit a match and reduced his mother to hysterics by pretending to light the firecracker stem:

"You needn't be afeered, mother. I'll nip it out afore it goes off."

In this simple fashion the afternoon of the Fourth passed away in the Finn household varied by the boy with occasional visits to the neighbors, whom he threw into a panic of fear by pretending to light the big explosive.

Mrs. Murphy and her three children were gathered around the kitchen table when Mickey placed the lighted mammoth in the middle of the table. Two of the boys went head first through the window, while Mrs. Murphy tried to crawl under the kitchen stove.

All this excitement afforded the boy a good deal of delight, but he reserved for the evening the culmination of his joy. He intended to blow his father up as he sat in his chair on the back stoop.

Mickey thought it would be an inspiring sight to witness his father flying across the back yard and plowing up the ground with his nose. In order that he might have an audience appropriate to so great an occasion, Mickey had spread the news among all the boys of the neighborhood, and at nine o'clock 50 boys sat on the fence surrounding the back yard. Mr. Finn, tired of the excitement of the

day, had fallen asleep in his rocking chair on the back stoop, when Mickey lit the stem of the big cracker and placed it carefully under his father's chair.

The moon shone brightly, illuminating the grin on every boyish face. Every ear was strained to catch the faint hissing of the fuse and every eye intent upon the sleeping man.

The fuse burned itself out, and the silence and suspense was deepening.



Had Fallen Asleep.

A minute passed and another, until Mickey could stand the strain no longer. He reached down and lifted the firecracker from beneath the chair.

As he held it up in the moonlight to examine it, a mosquito lit upon his father's nose and the old gentleman awoke. Grabbing the firecracker from his son's hand he arose and holding it aloft, he said:

"Boys, there will be no explosion to-night. I'm sorry to disappoint you. I was afeered that Micky might do some harrum wid that big cracker, so whin he wasn't lookin' this afternoon I took the powder out of it and filled it wid clay. So, you see that the show is over, and ye may as well go home and go to bed. There'll be no more explosions only what I give Micky wid a shingle afore I turn in. Good night to ye all. Come around some other night whin there is somethin' doin'."

### FOURTH OF JULY DON'TS.

Don't allow the children to tread over fireworks which will not "go off." They sometimes do it unexpectedly with unfortunate results to the little meddler.

Don't neglect to send for a physician at once in the case of a serious burn, to prevent a possible scar or worse still, blood poisoning, from ignorant or improper treatment of the wound.

Don't forget to have some remedies for burns at hand. When the skin is not broken by a burn scrape a raw potato, place on a piece of soft linen and use as a poultice. Bicarbonate of soda—the ordinary baking soda—is excellent for burns whether the skin is broken or not. If broken apply the dry soda, if unbroken dampen the soda with water to make a paste and apply to the spot. The pain will be instantly relieved.

Don't leave the windows of a town house open if it is to be left for the day. Stray rockets and sparks may find an entrance.

### Good Advice.

Keep the wound open and send for the doctor.