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Either of the above fountain pens without mountings on holder, plain or chased as desired.

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To show our confidence in the Laughlin Fountain Pen, you may try it a week, if you do not find it as represented a better value than you can secure for THREE TIMES THIS SPECIAL PRICE in any other make, if not entirely satisfactory in every respect return it and we will refund your money, with ten (10) cents additional. The extra 10 cents is for your trouble in writing us. (Two customers in 5,000 have asked for return of money.) In ordering please state whether fine, medium or coarse point is desired.

We also make a full line of Society Emblem mountings. Advise what emblem is desired and we will advise you price.

Beware of imitations—Insist upon getting the GENUINE LAUGHLIN ADVERTISED PEN.

If your dealer will not supply you, address the manufacturers and order direct from us.

Send 8 cts. additional for insurance, we then guarantee safe delivery—address Laughlin Mfg. Co. 708 Griswold St. DETROIT, MICH.



Whether Common or Not By WILL M. MAUPIN.

Explaining It Himself

My friend, the Advertising Solicitor, who lives across the street, has often chided me for some of my peculiar views. The other day he came over and said:

"I hear you are a 'single taxer.'"

I admitted that he had heard correctly, and immediately he continued in this wise:

"That seems like a foolish idea to me. I've tried to get the hang of it, but it's too involved."

"O, just to change the subject for a moment," I interrupted, "but I want to know what your advertising rates are in the Daily Record."

"Well, we have different rates for different kinds of advertising. For reading notices that have the general run of the paper we charge 25 cents a line, but for reading notices in the 'Local Brevities' department we charge 50 cents a line. For general display advertising, run of paper, we charge \$1 an inch, but for preferred position we charge 35 per cent more."

"But why do you charge more for the 'Local Brevities' department?" I asked.

"Because it is the most desirable part of the paper."

"And why charge more for 'preferred position?'"

"Why, that's easily answered. A choice position more readily catches the eye, and is therefore more valuable to the advertiser."

"O, I see," was my reply.

"Yes; and now about this single tax business," said my friend.

"You've explained it pretty well, yourself," I said.

"How's that?" queried my friend, the Advertising Solicitor.

"Just study it out a bit longer, applying your theory of advertising rates and space to taxes and land values," I said.

I haven't seen my friend the Advertising Solicitor for several days, but I have fond hopes that he is catching on.

Ever Notice

That when the biggest bargain sales are on you have the least money?

That when the roads are most impassable the coal bin is lowest?

That when you have the most to do you are least inclined to do it?

That when you have nothing worrying you, you begin to worry lest it is a sure sign that you are about to have something to worry over?

That the reason the world is not better is because your plan of reform is not adopted by everybody?

That the more you write or read of this sort of pessimism the worse off you are?

Experience

"Great Scott, Bingerly! What's the matter? You look like you had collided with a steam road roller."

"O, I sat up late last night and read a magazine article on 'how to borrow money from a bank.' I just tried it on the local banker, and this is the result."

Safeguarding the Public

The captain of industry listened patiently while we explained to him, in our weak way, that he was doing the public a great injustice by pumping so much water into the stock of his company.

"You really ought to squeeze the

water out of your stock," we said in conclusion.

"My mistaken friend," said the captain of industry in his most friendly manner. "Do you not realize that by refraining from doing as you suggest I am really safeguarding the interests of the public?"

Being thus pressed we had to admit that we realized nothing of the kind.

"Then," continued the captain of industry, "let me shed a little light upon your benighted mind. Can you

not see that if I were to squeeze the water out of my stock I would endanger the public? Have you taken note of the statistical information that less than 17 per cent of the population can swim, while there are not enough boats in the community to carry a score of people?"

Not until then did we fully understand the real key to the situation.

Kismet

He claimed to be of heaven-birth, But had of honest leaven dearth; Through high finance He once did prance, But now he is down in Leavenworth.

CALVES Raise them without milk. Booklet free. NEBRASKA SEED CO., Omaha, Nebr.

Thrush Exterminator Kills thrush in Horses and Sheep in from four to six days or money refunded. Prices \$1. S. & S. Co., Bx. 568, Marietta, O.

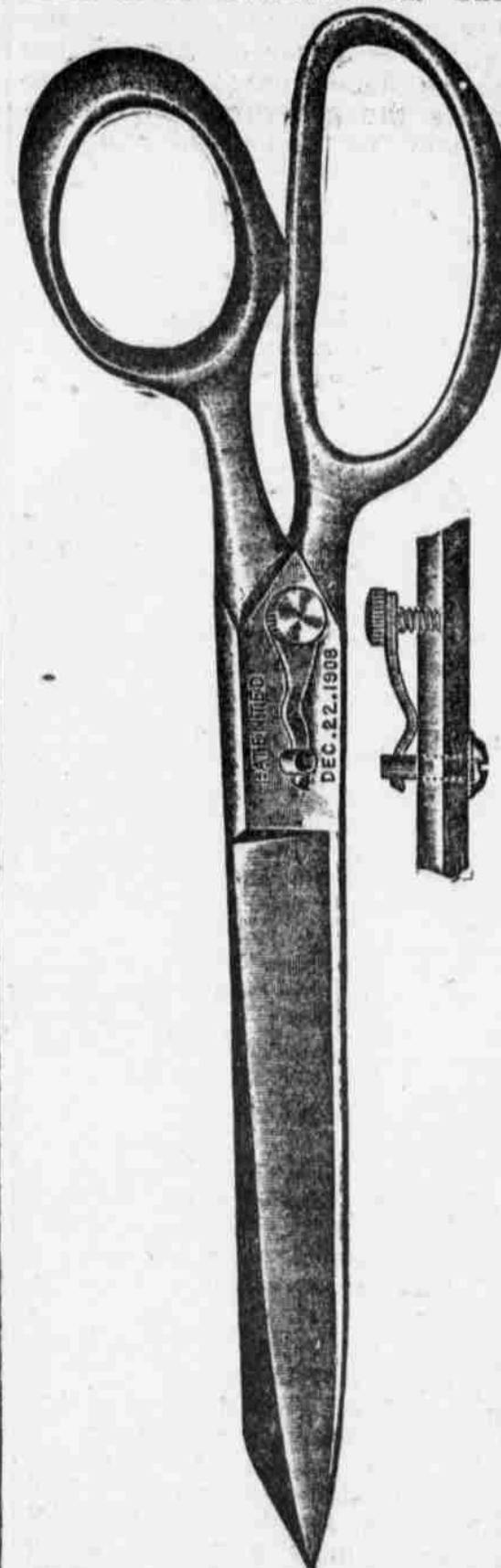
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A HANDSOME PRESENT FOR YOURSELF OR FRIENDS

Every woman, married or single, should have a pair of these Patent Tension Shears. This special introductory offer, made to secure new subscribers to The American Homestead, is one of the most useful articles ever invented—a first-class pair of 8-inch Shears, equipped with a new and simple attachment that keeps them always sharp and enables the user to cut anything from wet tissue to the heaviest cloth. These shears will not fail to please you.



The illustration shows the patent tension spring, the device that doubles the usefulness of the shears and always keeps them sharp. The shears offered here are made from the best grade of carbon steel from a new process which insures strength and a good keen-cutting edge. The tension spring attachment does away with re-sharpening entirely, and enables the user to set the tension on the rivet so that any kind of material intended to be cut with shears may be cut with perfect ease, without tiring the hand. The tension spring takes up all the wear on the rivet, making the shears practically indestructible, with no wear-out to them. A simple turn of the little thumb-screw shown in the engraving tightens up the blades as closely as may be desired. Any woman who has had the exasperating experience of trying to use a dull pair of shears can readily appreciate the value of this new invention, which keeps this pair of shears always sharp and in perfect cutting condition. No matter how many pair of shears or scissors you may have about the house, you need this pair with the tension spring, and when you get it and use it once, you will use it in preference to any other you may have. These shears are eight inches in length, perfectly finished, and heavily nickel-plated. The quality of the material and workmanship of these shears is guaranteed by the maker.

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Fill out the coupon below, and send at once with your remittance of 50 cents for one year's subscription to The American Homestead, and we will send you immediately, charges prepaid, and without extra cost, one pair of our Fine Patent Tension Shears. Remit by post-office money order or bank draft.

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Coupon for Free Pair of High Grade Tension Shears

The American Homestead, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Gentlemen: I am pleased to accept your very liberal offer to send The American Homestead one year and a pair of your celebrated Tension Shears without extra cost, prepaid to my address. I enclose 50 cents to pay for the same.

Name .....

P. O. ....

Shears are 8 inches long. Cut is not full size

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AGENTS—\$33.30 A WEEK

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