

### The Human Riddle.

One of the strangest problems of our inexplicable nature is the choice of evil and the rejection of good, even after long experience has proved that misery and evil are synonymous. Virtue, it is true, does not always exempt from sorrow, but crime must ever be wretchedness. Hope loses its balm, and fear acquires a keener sting. The present is anxiety, the past remorse, the future is despair, and yet the wayward man drinks the bitter cup when the sweet is offered to him and launches his boat upon an angry sea, where storms attend his course and shipwreck terminates his voyage, rather than glide down the smooth current of a tranquil stream where peace pilots him on the way and happiness waits him on the shore.—Exchange.

### The Term "Bully."

The term bully in the days of Shakespeare had quite a different meaning from that which it has at present, being an expression of endearment and good fellowship. Some suppose that the word, when it is used in approval, is derived from the Dutch boel or German buhle, which stands for the English lover. The harsher use of the word is, however, to be traced to bel-low, the root of bull, with a significance of noisy blustering.

### A Frank Reply.

A kind local lady went to Columbus to distribute helpful literature to the convicts in the penitentiary.

"What are you in for, my poor fellow?" she inquired of the first prisoner she saw.

"Because I can't get out," he answered. Then she moved on to the next cell.—Toledo Blade.

### Chilly!

"My dining room is the hottest place on earth. I wish I knew what to do to cool it."

"Did you ever take a friend home to dinner when your wife didn't expect it?"—Buffalo Express.

### If He Has Sense.

Singleton—Is a man safe in getting married on fifteen a week? Wedmore—No, but he's comparatively safe from getting married.—Boston Transcript.

### A Matter of Vision.

"Marie, didn't I see the baker kissing you this morning?"  
"Madam herself is the best judge of her eyesight."—Pele Mele.

The true aim of art is to embody man's thought concerning nature.—W. M. Rossetti.

### The Remains.

After many unsuccessful attempts a little girl managed to spell "that" correctly. "Now," said her mother, "what remains after 't' is taken away?"

"The dirty cups and saucers!" was the reply.

### Another Shock.

Bore—I've had an awful shock. I went for a long walk on Sunday morning with another man, and he committed suicide on Sunday evening. Bored (surprised)—Not until evening?

### She Had Reason.

"Johnny, what is the meaning sought to be conveyed in the assertion, 'Freedom shrieked when Kosciusko fell?'"

"Freedom was probably what he fell on, ma'am."—Houston Post.

### A Comforting Map.

There is always the right kind of weather in some parts of the United States, according to the weather map.—Dayton News.

## CHURCH FOR LABOR.

### The Congregational Brotherhood Asks Equal Rights For All.

At the recent congregational convention at Boston suggestions for the improvement of labor conditions in the country were discussed.

The labor suggestion was made by the Congregational Brotherhood of America in the form of resolutions which advocate a participation by all Protestant churches in the practical industrial problems of the country. The resolutions recommend that the churches "must stand for equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life."

They advocate arbitration of labor disputes, the protection of workers from dangerous machinery, occupational diseases, injuries and mortality, the abolition of child labor, such regulations and conditions of toil for women as will safeguard the physical and moral welfare of the community, a living wage as a minimum in every industry and the highest wages each industry can afford, the most equitable division of products of industries that can be ultimately devised and provisions for workers whom old age has rendered helpless to make a living and for those who are incapacitated by injury or illness. The resolutions will be taken up later by the national convention.

## SHORTEST TROLLEY STRIKE.

### Union Two Days Old Brings Company to Terms.

With a union only forty-eight hours old, conductors and motormen of the Riverside Traction company, operating between Camden and Trenton, won the shortest trolley strike on record in the state.

The union was formed on a Saturday night by Organizer Clarence O. Pratt of Philadelphia. The men held a secret meeting Monday night and decided to declare a strike the next morning. Not a car was operated all day on the forty mile stretch of road, but in the afternoon a committee of the men met C. Merritt Taylor, president of the line, and reached an agreement satisfactory to the strikers.

## BENEFITS HUMANITY.

The trade union movement is an everyday practical gospel for the toiling masses of mankind, and its beneficent effects are reflected in benefits for all other classes.

### Cannot Be Explained.

It has been proved beyond the question of a doubt that men cannot work with profit to themselves or their employers more than eight hours a day. Yet big employers shut their eyes tightly to these scientific facts and fight the reduction of hours that mean more for them as well as their men as if they were fighting invasion of their homes. The hatred and bitterness with which some employers resist to the last the reasonable and just demands of their employees for shorter hours are one of the inexplicable things in social science.—Portland Labor Press.

### Miners to Elect in December.

The election for international officers of the United Mine Workers of America will be held in December. District President John P. White of Iowa will oppose Thomas T. Lewis, the incumbent, for international president. William Green of Ohio and E. S. McCullough of Michigan are the candidates for secretary-treasurer. There are

about 300,000 miners in the miners' union.

### Wages in Germany.

Consul General Richard Guenther of Frankfort reports that the president of the local Prussian government district has fixed the wages of ordinary day laborers in Frankfort and suburbs as follows: Male adults, 72.3 cents; female adults, 60 cents; youthful males, 48 cents; youthful females, 33.3 cents.

### Labor Temple in San Francisco.

The San Francisco Labor council has purchased a site 80 by 115 feet for a labor temple, the price being \$35,000. The building will cost between \$150,000 and \$175,000.

## THE DIGNITY OF LABOR.

It is unfortunate that our system of education, particularly in our public schools, is such that the vast majority of children, even the sons and daughters of the working class, desire to become professional men and women because they have an idea that such work is more genteel than that in the trades, with the result that the professions are overcrowded with people who are unfitted for the occupations which they have selected as their life work. The next great task of our educational institutions is so to dignify mechanical labor that it will appeal to the boys because of the possibilities in it for them. This will raise the artisan class to a higher and saner level and will give the efficient workingman the place in society to which he is justly entitled. It will take away the false conception, present even among workingmen, that to toil with one's hands is to accept a menial position.—Rev. Charles Stelzle.

### He Saw She Saw It.

As the man who writes little items for the paper sat getting himself fitted with a pair of shoes the other day he saw this happen. A woman was getting waited on by a clerk who wore on the third finger of his right hand a diamond twinkler weighing at least a carat and a quarter. He hadn't always worn a ring of that sort. It was new to him. He took a great deal of pride in his new ring. Oh, how it sparkled when the light was just right! Once or twice he got so interested in twisting it around on his finger with his thumb to a position where it would be most easily noticed by the woman customer that he forgot to finish lacing up the shoe she was trying on.

But he had succeeded in bringing the jewel to her attention. She had a sharp, leathery, suffragettish face and a disposition to speak right out on things.

"I see it," she remarked in a refrigerated tone. "It's very pretty and attractive. You wear it with a good air of abandon too. I admire it exceedingly. After you've finished toying with it I wish you would go ahead and show me something else—something with not quite such a narrow toe."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### Weighing Machines.

Weighing machines and scales of some kind were in use 1800 B. C., for it is said that Abraham at that time "weighed out" 400 shekels of silver, current money, with the merchant to Ephron, the Hittite, as payment for a piece of land, including the cave and

all the standing timber "in the field and in the fence." This is said to be the earliest transfer of land of which any record survives and that the payment was made in the presence of witnesses. The original form of the weighing scale was probably a bar suspended from the middle, with a board or shell suspended from each end, one to contain the weight, the other to contain the matter to be weighed. The steelyard was probably so called from the material of which it was made and from its former length. It is also known as the Roman balance and is of great antiquity.

### The Spinning Mule.

Samuel Crompton, a boy of sixteen, copied the best features of the spinning machine invented by Hargreaves and Arkwright, added to them some of his own and, after three months of anxious and secret experimenting, produced the first spinning mule, so called because it was a kind of hybrid between Hargreaves' jenny and Arkwright's water frame. The raw apprentice lad was, however, no match in cunning for the cotton lords, who soon found out the secret of his new machine and shamelessly robbed him of the fruits of his ingenuity. Many years afterward, it is true, they used their influence to secure for him a parliament grant of £5,000, but he was then a broken hearted and disappointed man, to whom the money came too late to be of any real service.

### Life Saving on Conditions.

A treatise on "how to be kind, but cautious," might be written by a woman who played the part of good Samaritan in the One Hundred and Third street subway station. Another woman had fainted. What she needed to bring her to in a hurry was smelling salts, but nobody had smelling salts.

"I think she has a vinaigrette of her own in that bag," said the Samaritan, "but in the absence of a policeman I am afraid to open it to find out."

Something that looked like a small bottle could be discerned through the meshes of the chain bag, and the crowd, valiantly shifting responsibility, said, "Go ahead and open it."

"On one condition I will," said the Samaritan. "I want three bystanders to watch me and sign a written statement that I have taken nothing from the bag but the vinaigrette. I know this town too well to take any chances on being accused of theft."

The oath was drawn up in a jiffy, three signatures were appended, the Samaritan opened the bag, found the vinaigrette and proceeded with restorative measures.—New York Times.

### The Real "Sherlock Holmes."

It was a well known Edinburgh professor of medicine who, all unconsciously, gave Sir Arthur Conan Doyle the idea of "Sherlock Holmes," the most famous detective known in fiction. Sir Arthur studied under him as a medical student.

"Gentlemen," this professor would say to the students, "I am not quite sure whether this man is a cork cutter or a slater. I observe a slight hardening on one side of his forefinger and a little thickening on one side of his thumb, and that is a sure sign that he is one or the other." Or to a patient he would say, "You are a soldier, and you have served in Bermuda as a non-commissioned officer," and then, turning to the students, he would point out that the man came into the room without taking off his hat, as he would enter an orderly room; that his manner showed that he was a noncommissioned officer and that a rash he had on his forehead was known only in Bermuda.