

HUNDREDS of MILLIONS required to rebuild SOLOMON'S TEMPLE



MASONIC ORDER CREDITED WITH PLAN TO RESTORE THE SPLENDID EDIFICE BUILT BY THE FIRST GRAND MASTER - FACTS AND FIGURES WHICH SHOW THAT THE COST OF SUCH AN UNDERTAKING WOULD "STAGGER HUMANITY."



ment: "And the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had finished all the house." There is a lengthy description of the elaborate carving in olive wood that adorned every conceivable part of the building, and then the assertion, following the description of cherubim and palm trees and flowers, "And covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work."

Had Cedars of Lebanon. On some points the biblical account is wonderfully direct and explicit. It is known exactly how many common laborers were employed in the hewing of timbers, how many foremen directed their work, and what price was paid for the materials that could not be obtained in the forests and quarries near Jerusalem. Solomon had one advantage that would not in all probability be enjoyed by the masons who attempt a reproduction of the stupendous work, especially if they encounter the bitter opposition from the present incumbents of Mount Moriah that the world anticipates. Solomon was on terms of intimacy with Hiram, King of Tyre, whose mountains were covered with such cedar and fir trees as are not to be found there to-day.

It is expected that Arthur B. Howe, president; former Congressman L. D. Apsley, Bishop John W. Hamilton, Warren B. Ellis, W. E. Litchfield and Adjutant General William H. Brigham and twenty Massachusetts Freemasons who organized a corporation to receive the project of building a replica of the ancient temple of Solomon at Jerusalem, the birthplace of Freemasonry, will begin the work within a year, writes a Boston correspondent. The project, which originated with Mr. Howe, after a pilgrimage to the great eastern mecca of all Masons, is intended to embrace subscriptions of \$5 from each of the 15,000 Blue lodges throughout the United States. The original temple is to be duplicated in this costly model.

The restoration of Solomon's temple itself would necessitate first the wrecking of all the buildings comprising the Haramesh-Sherif, but the cost of this labor need hardly be reckoned, since the salvage would be worth an enormous fortune to the vendor of curios, to say nothing of the valuable building material that could be used in the new structures or converted into cash. Whether it would be possible to rebuild the actual temple as Solomon built it is a mooted question.

Description in the Bible.

The sixth chapter of first Kings says:

"And the house, when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither; so that there was neither hammer nor ax nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building. And he built the walls of the house within with boards of cedar, both the floor of the house and the walls of the ceiling, and the cedar of the house was carved with knobs and open flowers. All was cedar; there was no stone seen." A little farther it reads: "So Solomon overlaid the house within with pure gold, and he made a partition by the chains of gold before the oracle."

In the next paragraph is the state-

Until competent architects take the matter in hand any estimate of the cost of rebuilding Solomon's temple must be little better than a mere guess, but certain calculations based on the biblical account will show, at least, that an incredible sum would be required. Take, for the purposes of illustration, the single item of the primary material for the temple, the stone and wood, cutting, dressing and transporting to the site in Jerusalem. Solomon made a deal with King Hiram to supply the timber and to furnish a number of his own subjects to help cut down the trees, "for the Sidonians are more skillful than our people in cutting of wood." For the services of these expert woodcutters and for the cedar and cypress timber they felled Solomon paid Hiram 20,000

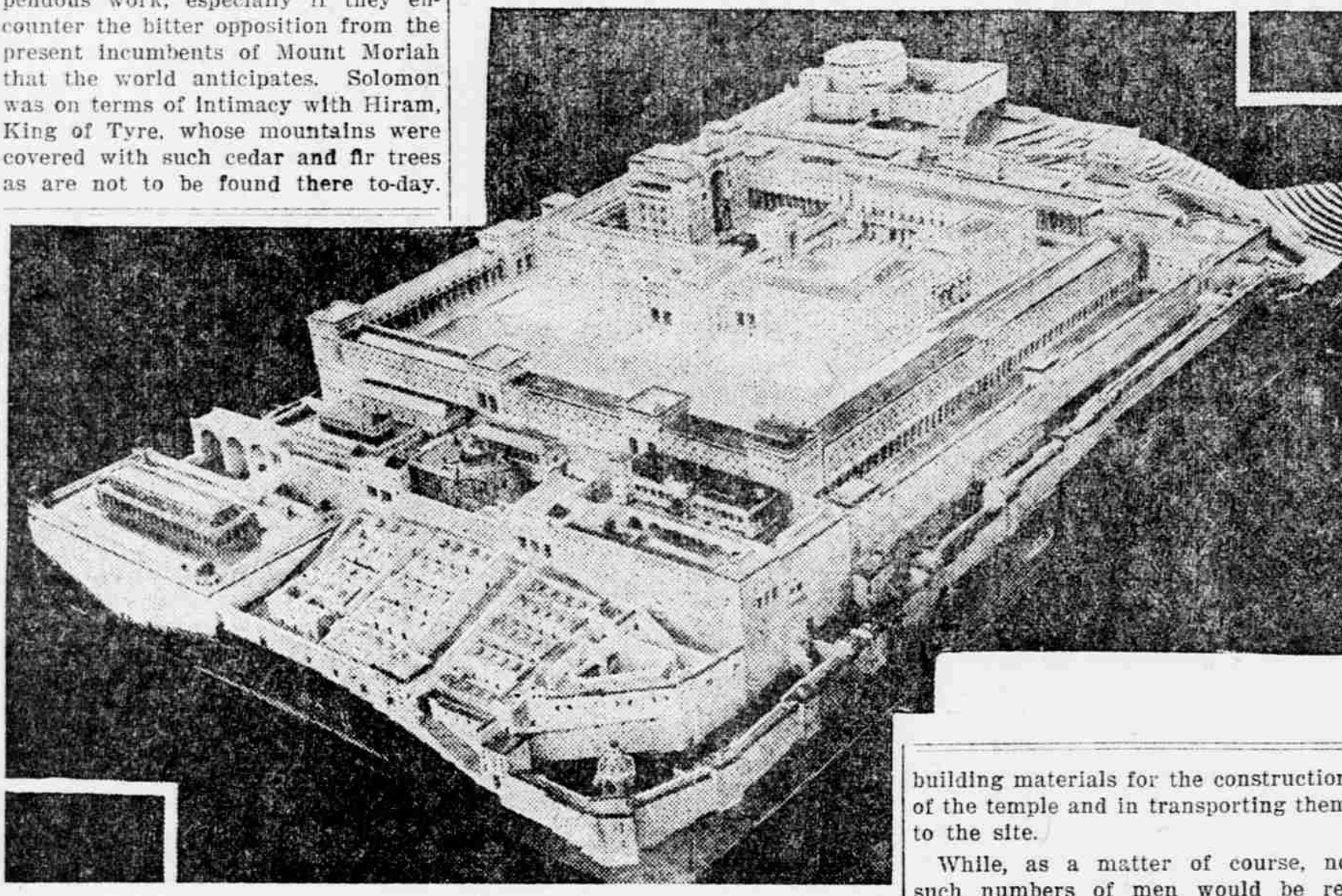
Olive oil 240,000
Wine 160,000

Total per annum \$700,000
For the three years occupied in getting out the timber this would amount to \$2,100,000.

163,300 Men Employed.

But Solomon added to the force of Sidonian woodcutters 30,000 men of his own to work in shifts of 10,000, each shift one month in the forests and two months at home, alternately. He also set 80,000 stonecutters to work in the mountains, quarrying and dressing the stone for the temple, and another force of 70,000 men to serve as burden bearers, carrying the stone and timber to Jerusalem. Over these workers were 3,200 foremen. There were, therefore, 163,300 men employed for three years in the preparation of the

REPRODUCING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE WHICH THE MASONS PROPOSE TO REPRODUCE.



These were the famous cedars of Lebanon, and the most skilled hewers of timber in Solomon's time were the Sidonians, Hiram's subjects. The building materials were prepared at what was then regarded as a very great distance, conveyed from the mountain sides to the sea and sent down to the port nearest Jerusalem in "flats," and then hauled overland about forty miles.

measures of wheat, 20,000 measures of barley, and 20,000 baths each of wine and oil annually. The quantity of wheat and barley was each equivalent to 200,000 bushels, and the 20,000 baths of oil and wine was each equivalent to 100,000 gallons. A rough estimate of the value of these payments at present prices would be:

Wheat \$200,000
Barley 100,000

building materials for the construction of the temple and in transporting them to the site.

While, as a matter of course, no such numbers of men would be required at the present day, it is interesting to calculate the cost of these levies if paid in United States money at the minimum wages of to-day. Let it be supposed that the timber cutters and burden bearers were paid at the rate of \$1 per day, the stone cutters \$2 per day, and the foremen \$3 per day, wages which the American laborer would sniff at. This would make the wage bill for the 10,000 woodcut-

ters:

Weekly \$ 60,000
Yearly 3,120,000
Three years 9,360,000

Wage Bill \$236,006,400.

The wage bill of the 70,000 burden bearers would be:

Weekly \$ 420,000
Yearly 2,140,000
Three years 6,520,000

The wages of the 80,000 stonecutters at \$2 a day would aggregate:

Weekly \$ 960,000
Yearly 4,920,000
Three years 14,760,000

The 3,200 foremen would be paid:

Weekly \$ 59,400
Yearly 3,088,800
Three years 9,266,400

Recapitulation:

Total for timber cutters \$ 3,360,000
Total for burden bearers 6,520,000
Total for stonecutters 14,760,000
Total for foremen 9,266,400
Total paid Hiram 2,100,000

Grand total \$236,006,400

And all this before a stone could be laid in the temple. Of course, such figures as these are no definite value in estimating the cost of rebuilding Solomon's temple, but they help one to a conception of the immensity of that task.

Solomon was seven years building the temple. The quantity of gold used on the Most Holy House—the Oracle—is said in Chronicles to have been 600 talents.

If the same system was adopted in the outer part 2,700 talents must have been required. It is not known whether the "heavy" talent or the "light" talent is referred to in the biblical narrative, and as one is twice the weight of the other it makes a considerable difference. The Encyclopedia Britannica gives the weight of the Babylonian "heavy" talent as 936,000 grains.

Ornaments and Gems, Too.

The United States dollar contains, approximately, twenty-five grains, which would make the value of the "heavy" talent in our money \$37,400. On this basis the gold used in the Oracle was worth \$22,440,000, and that in the other part of the temple \$100,980,000, or a total of \$123,420,000. If the "light" talent is referred to, the value of the gold would be just half that, or \$61,710,000.

This does not take into consideration the value of the gold used in the golden ornaments, including the great candlestick and the thousands of gold utensils necessary to the temple worship. According to Josephus, whose statements are, however, believed to be very much exaggerated, there were 100,000 golden vessels, 50,000 golden dishes for offering fine flour, 60,000 large gold basins for flour and oil, 20,000 measures of gold, and the same number of golden censers. Nor does this statement include the great number of precious gems which are said to have been used in the decoration of the temple, and which some authorities believe equal the gold in value.

But all this is enough to show that to reproduce Solomon's temple on the same scale and with the same magnificence would cost some hundreds of millions of dollars and would make a very large hole in the world's stock of gold.

RAILROAD SLEUTH BUSY

Detective for the Big Lines Is Forced to Deal With Many Kinds of Robbers.

HIS OFFICE IS AN ARSENAL.

Thieves Not Particular About What They Steal—John J. Risdon Keeps Track of Criminals.

He was a big, florid man, glorying in a girth of Taftlike proportions and when he hustled into the room, showing a sea-roll stride, he was blowing like a porpoise. Also perspiring, as becomes a ponderous person on a warm day. Stretching across a section of his broad vest was a heavy watch chain, made of leather links. Diving a chunky fist into a hip pocket he drew forth a holstered revolver which he carefully tossed into the desk before him.

At the right of his desk was a complete arsenal—a cabinet in which stood a row of menacing Winchesters. In a corner of the room rested another case and it contained an assortment of handcuffs and some balls and chains, the whole reminiscent of a chamber in a penitentiary.

This man, the up-to-date chief of detectives of a big railroad with Chicago terminals, says the Chicago News, is the man who directs a continuous campaign against thieves who invade the yards of the system and break open freight and passenger cars, stations and freight sheds, carrying away

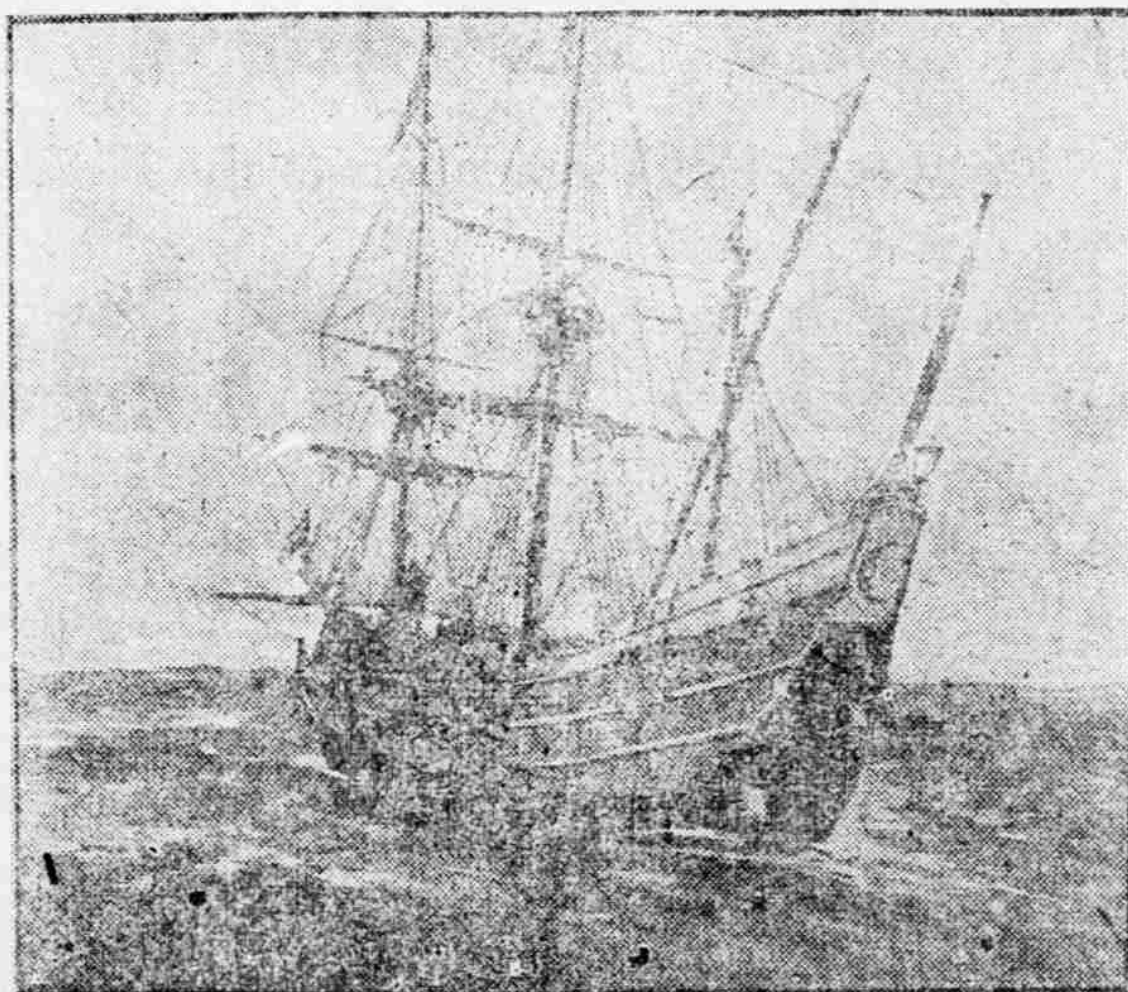
anything liftable. It is the duty of this railroad police constable, whose official title is "chief special agent," to put up his shields, so to speak, at every point on a great system and keep an eye at long range on a small army of assistants who run down robber hands which infest the road. Thus, from Chicago to Texas and California, the chief special agent of one of the through western lines is kept busy catching thieves and sending them to prison.

A few years ago the business of the special agents became so important that it was found necessary to organize an association, with a regularly paid secretary. Chicago was made the headquarters because this city is the most important railroad center on the continent. To this official are reported details of the work accomplished by the special agents of the various railroads. When a freight car has been plundered the fact is reported and so also if a brass knob has been stolen from a passenger coach.

John J. Risdon, the secretary of the association, probably is better informed concerning the crimes against railroads and shippers than any other person, for it is through him, as a sort of a "human clearing house," that special agents east and west and north and south, report cases of thievery. He has figures covering the extent of depredations, but they are not made public.

One of the methods in favor with professional railroad thieves is to "spot" a box car loaded with a quantity of silk, enter it through the end door at Buffalo or some other point and accompany it on its journey until it arrives at a quiet place out in the country many miles away where the grade is heavy, necessitating slow going. When a place agreed upon has been reached the plunder is tossed out to confederates in waiting with a team of horses and wagon.

REPLICA OF HUDSON'S SHIP.



THE HALF MOON.

A reproduction of the Half Moon, the vessel in which Henry Hudson crossed the Atlantic from Holland and sailed up the Hudson river 200 years ago, arrived in New York on the deck of a big freighter and sailed up the Hudson during the Hudson-Fulton celebration. The vessel was sent over by Holland as its contribution to the celebration.

It is built of heavy oak timber, with the high poop and long-nosed prow now seen only in prints of Dutch and Spanish galleons. She is of eighty tons displacement, sixty-three feet long, eighteen feet beam and draws seven and one-half feet of water. Her crew consists of twenty men. The vessel is rigged with hand-woven sails, carries hand-worked flags and is antique enough in her fittings to confuse the best seamen afloat.

Two cannons are mounted amidship on the 'tween decks, whose ceiling is so low that one has to bend nearly double to get along, and port holes on either side allow these weapons to be used.

A library, or rather, a book shelf, has been fitted up. It contains the books which Hudson took with him—a Bible, a prayer book and books of voyages. A chart is spread out on the cabin tables, and near at hand are compass and measuring instruments, sand glass and the rough nautical instruments of the time. A gun or two in a rack and a pile of shot and bags of powder are shown together with a copy of the supposed contract which Hudson had with the Dutch East India Company, the original being lost

BOYS TRY TO BURN COMPANION AT STAKE.

Cruelly tortured by a band of boys playing Indians, 13-year-old Paul Kepner, according to a dispatch, is a nervous wreck at the home of his parents in Millersburg, Pa. Kepner was a dozen boys captured him, and, binding his feet and hands, dragged him to a telegraph pole. There they laced him to the upright. One of the lads then packed newspapers around Kepner's feet and another applied a lighted match. Their victim's screams so frightened the tormentors that they stamped out the flames and released Kepner, only to lock him up in a coal



shed. Then they continued their "war dance" around the imprisoned youth. Finally, Kepner succeeded in getting a pitchfork, and with it forced his way to freedom.

The military authorities of several European nations are testing the tachypod, a sort of enlarged roller skate, operated by pedals, by which it is claimed a man can get over ground as rapidly as though mounted on a bicycle.

CIGARS FIT TO SMOKE.

When and Where Domestic and Imported Article Should Be Indulged In.

SURE OF THE ALL-HAVANA.

Cause of Nervous and Other Troubles—The Moderate Use of Mild Tobaccos.

We all know him—the man who is always "just about to quit tobacco for good," but whose swear-off never materializes," the Philadelphia Ledger says. A veteran smoker was discussing this question the other night. "It's too bad," said he, "that so many men are constantly quarrelling with such an excellent friend as tobacco. In the strain and hurry of modern business life they need the quieting, soothing effect of tobacco. That is proved by the fact that though men are always resolving to give up smoking, they seldom ever succeed in doing it. Look over your own acquaintances.

"I used to be numbered among that unfortunate crowd until I made the discovery that there is such a thing as a rational smoke diet, and that when once a man puts himself upon this there is no physical nor mental need to swear off tobacco.

"This is my cigar diet: After breakfast and during the forenoon light domestic cigars; after luncheon, if I have a half-hour leisure, a small Havana; in the afternoon, domestic, cigars, and after dinner, if I can sit down and have no business worries or other mental cares, my favorite Havana.

Lure of All-Havana Cigar.

"If the average smoker only used a little common sense he'd have no complaint about cigars. Moderately used tobacco is a gentle stimulant, but too much stimulation, like too much of everything else, is bound to hurt a man. Now, the tobacco used in all-Havana cigars is grown in a rainy climate in a wet, clayey soil that produces a luxuriant, heavy-leaved plant. It contains more nicotine than any other kind of tobacco. The better grades of domestic tobacco, grown in light, sandy soil, average less than half as much nicotine. So you can readily see where the difference lies.

"Years of experience have proved to my satisfaction that my way is the only way to smoke. We're living at a faster rate nowadays. We want to smoke oftener, and to satisfy that craving with as little injury to our health as possible we must smoke something lighter than a heavy Havana cigar. Mind you, I'm not downing the Havana. It's all right in its place. I'm a worshiper of the Havana myself, but I realize that it is far too good to smoke continually. Its only proper place is in one's leisure hours.

Smoking Out of Doors.

"There are a great many men who smoke out of doors. This practice has no excuse whatever. A cigar indoors is a pleasure, but out of doors it is nothing but a habit. Of course, by this I do not mean to speak of the time that a man may be sitting on a piazza or under a tree at rest. Then he may light a cigar and get full enjoyment from it. The times I refer to are when a man is walking or golfing or motoring or taking part in any other outdoor activity. At such a time he cannot taste his cigar, and oftentimes must look at the end of it to see whether it is still lighted. A man when in the fresh air should take advantage of the opportunity to free his lungs and system generally from the nicotine that they have accumulated at other times.

"If a man will avoid smoking at the times that I have mentioned, and at the other times smoke only light, mild cigars, he will find that he has no longer any quarrel with tobacco. There is one other recommendation that I would make, and that is that he use a holder instead of putting the cigar in his mouth. Holding a cigar in the mouth brings the delicate mucous membranes in direct contact with the tobacco and entails a greater absorption of nicotine than though a holder were used. But don't let him get the fad of coloring an old meerschaum holder. The accumulation of nicotine in this has a far more injurious effect than the holding of the cigar in the mouth. Let him get a cheap holder—the kind that as soon as it shows the slightest taint of nicotine can be thrown away and a new one used."

SPLINTERS.

Skin game—The leather business. Board walk—the march to the dining room.

You never hear a man howl when his conscience hurts him.

The man who grows vegetables is not necessarily a vegetarian.

Those who fight their conscience will never have to fight their friends.

You cannot always judge a man's speed by the way he walks to work.

The mountain that looks the easiest is sometimes the hardest to climb.

When a man puts you on the back you want to watch his other hand.

Might may be right, but good judgment is better than a bunch of muscle.