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CIRCULATION
WEEK ENDING FEB. 25th, 1922
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THE NAVY'S FUEL.

Just at the present time the economy knife is being applied to the navy department, and as some seem to feel, in a vigorous manner that may mean the saving of money but at a sacrifice of efficiency. In the cutting down of appropriations it was figured that the navy could get along with less fuel and its appropriation was cut. There was a seven million dollar cut that it made itself and thereafter twelve and a half million more were sliced off, or about as much as it is estimated would be required to pay for the fuel in keeping up steam on the vessels if they never left port.

Evidently the curtailed appropriation was made with the expectation that the navy under present day conditions would not be called upon to use so much coal or oil as it had been in the past few years, that there were opportunities to cut down the demands in this respect and that it was expected that the navy would meet the situation and do its best in curbing federal expenditures. Just because it is possible to consume millions of dollars worth of fuel when it is not necessary doesn't mean that it ought to be done just to keep the vessels steaming up and down the coast.

It is not to be supposed that any economy move is intended to cripple the navy and to make it impossible to get fuel. Should occasion demand the sending of ships to any point it is fully understood that they would be sent, that they would have sufficient fuel and that the fuel would be paid for. What the aim is is to cut what is regarded as waste in the navy department at a time when prices are high and when there is a demand for reduced expenses. Efforts are being made to meet the present day conditions and to end what is open to the interpretation of extravagance when the government is trying to make ends meet and to give the country the benefit of reduced taxation. It seems certain to cause an increase in the amount of attention given to such expenditures where the government pays.

AIDING THE SOLDIERS.

When there is such a strong feeling that the government cannot do too much for the disabled soldiers and when the disabled are appealing to the president that there be no bonus legislation attempted until their requirements have been met, it is interesting to note what the director of the veterans' bureau has to say about what the government is doing in that direction and how extensive have been its outlay in behalf of those who show evidence of the sacrifice they made.

When it is realized that in all previous wars no such efforts were made by the government in behalf of the soldiers it cannot be overlooked that there has been spent in behalf of the disabled already more than a billion and a quarter dollars. The veterans' bureau is the successor of the war risk insurance bureau and the federal board for vocational training but to these agencies there have come claims to the number of 1,418,912, of which number there were 466,884 for vocational training, 171,875 for insurance and 760,153 for death and disability compensation. Not all the claims have been allowed but 831,767 of them have been while 473,170 were rejected and there were 114,976 at the time of the report waiting to be passed upon.

There were 184,578 at the last report receiving vocational training, and of that number there were 93,814 who received from $80 to $170 a month maintenance pay while receiving the education being provided by the government. In the year just passed there were nearly 600,000 veterans who were carrying government insurance at an unusually low cost and there have been paid by the government insurance claims to the amount of $381,756,392 while for death and disability the amount paid over was $278,339,146.

At the opening of the year there were in hospitals nearly 29,000 soldiers while there have been 1,115,259 medical examinations and in all 206,039 have received hospital treatment. It is service in behalf of those who have required it and which is going to be continued, and even though such was never attempted before it is believed to be no more than the men involved are entitled to.

SATISFYING COLOMBIA.

With the exchange of ratifications by the United States and Colombia there comes to an end the controversy that has existed for a number of years over the claims of the South American country because of the manner in which certain steps were taken in anticipation of the construction of the Panama canal.

It would always be possible to take opposite view of the matter. No matter what was said in the way of explanation by this country it would never be possible to get Colombia to view it in that light. They have considered the affair from their viewpoint and felt hurt. They have been able to arouse some sentiment in their behalf and the longer the sore was allowed to remain unhealed the more it could be pointed to as an instance wherein the United States was not living up to its claims, even though such could be satisfactorily refuted from our standpoint.

We have not been willing to and we have not admitted that we wronged Colombia. We have taken recognition of the fact that Colombia has shown its resentment and indicated it unwillingness to maintain friendly relations or to encourage trade between the countries. The situation was one that it was undesirable for this country to prolong, and while we stood steadfastly against including in the treaty a clause to the effect that an apology was extended to Colombia, which would of course have been an open admission of wrong doing, we have deemed it advisable to make a cash payment to the South American republic of $25,000,000, to be paid in five yearly installments for the purpose of smoothing the way for the resumption of trade relationships and removing the barriers to the entrance of American capital into that country for development purposes.

It is not to be supposed that a country can raise such a question henceforth, make a demand for recompense and expect to have the United States open up its treasury and pour out its gold, but in this case the desirability of ending the ill will shown appears to be justified.

THE NORWICH-WESTERLY TROLLEY.

From the time since the Norwich and Westerly trolley road was built it has been understood that there were provisions in connection with the deeds of certain property obtained that it should revert to the former owners in case the line was not used for transportation purposes. This is brought to light now by the suit which has been brought by the Hewitt heirs for the recovery of the land deeded by the late Thomas Hewitt to the trolley company because of the fact that cars are not being run and service given to the public.

For a number of months it has been necessary to stop the operation of the greater part of this cross country line because of the fact that patronage was not sufficient to make expenses. Likewise has it been necessary to readjust the schedule of service to Hallville from this city for a similar reason, but hopes have been held out that with the improvement in conditions as a means of decreasing operating expenses and the installation of one-man cars or one-man gasoline cars it would be possible to keep the line in operation and prevent it from going to the junkman.

From time to time opposition has arisen to the idea of abandoning the service. During the part of the year when travel is heavier than in winter the line has shown better returns even with the heavy two-man cars. Those going to the shore resorts of southeastern Connecticut or Rhode Island find it of great convenience and it is likewise of no little value in making train connections to the east in these days of curtailed railroad schedules. As an aid to people desiring to reach this city from points along its line it is of unquestioned value when in operation.

Recent intimations that service would be resumed have encouraged the belief that the end was not yet and would not be reached until another effort had been made under improved and more favorable conditions. The suit for recovery of the property may bring new light in regard to the prospects. There are no reasons to believe but what the plaintiffs in the matter would prefer the continuance of the trolley line to the return of the property.

TELL THE WHOLE EXPENSE STORY.

In connection with the debate of governors concerning the proposed St. Lawrence canal it will be interesting to note what attention is given to the insistence of the governor of New York that there should be a thorough congressional inquiry as to the costs involved before action is taken upon this important matter. Governor Miller has been consistently opposed to the building of the canal and has advanced sound reasons why there may well be greater attention given to the development of transportation facilities within this country before there is a huge outlay authorized for the building of an improved waterway through Canada.

But before any decision is reached as to whether this country should expend what it will be expected to as its share something more definite as to expense involved in the project ought to be known. The engineers who have investigated and reported favorably upon the project have given the initial cost. That is the amount upon which emphasis is placed in order to get the work started, but if the initial cost is going to be only a small part of what will be required to make the waterway accomplish what is desired, it should be known before it is started and not go about it with closed eyes, only to awake when the first appropriation is exhausted and the job is only half finished and come to the realization that we have put so much money into it that it would be unwise not to see it through. Whether we go into it or not the full facts ought to be known.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Spring is of course only just around the corner and that corner is getting nearer by leaps and bounds.

The man on the corner says: This is a forward looking age and everyone is for taxation as long as it is confined to the other fellow.

When the authorities of one state decide to use dynamite in getting rid of ants do they expect that housewives are going to follow their example?

The popularity of the radio telephones and the clogging of the air will probably be responsible for such queries as, whose atmosphere is this, anyway?

Larger one man cars are being put into operation in this state and Massachusetts, which indicates both the approval of the plan and growing patronage.

Proud though it is of its new fire apparatus Norwich will be the best satisfied at being prepared to fight fires without being actually obliged to call it into service.

A Chicago girl charged with trying to vamp a doctor has been sentenced to attend all the services of one church for six months. Possibly it will have a good effect, but isn't the church going to be in much the same position of the navy which is held not to be a reformatory?

After having served time in Maryland state prison for shooting a man and being sentenced in Michigan for carrying concealed weapons Louis Carrington, colored, shot and killed a man in Waterbury while out under parole from the Michigan institution. The disposition of the man appears to have been such that he never should have been considered eligible for parole.

THE MAN WHO TALKS

It is refreshing to meet a person in whom manhood is victorious. We meet so many shells that masquerade as men that it is a delight to run across a real man whom money cannot buy, who refuses to turn down his friends for gain, and who will not climb up the ladder by pulling somebody else down. I am inclined to think they are not the exception even in a world where there is too much selfishness. One of the most dramatic incidents in Europe at the close of the 18th century was in 1789 when Mirabeau, with a hundred bayonets pointed at him, deliberately rose in the French assembly and defended the Third Estate. For a while France forgot his faults in the triumph of his manhood. This was like "the rising of Charles Sumner in the senate of the United States in 1860, in the seat where four years previously he had been stricken down by the hand of violence, to pronounce again, in the face of a vindictive power, the doom of slavery." It was a spectacle of moral grandeur that made even South Carolina, that attempted to assassinate him, applaud.

It is a fundamental fact that must not be forgotten that when a man does his best to live society is morally bound to give him at least a living wage. If society fails here it will make a fatal mistake, and the Vesuvius of discontent will mutter until the wrong is righted. But men must beware of avarice and not put a ridiculous value upon the living wage. All men have a right to live well but all cannot expect to live like princes. The forcible demand for rights is justified only as a last resort. There are times when the individual, like the nation, must uphold his honor. We are not to go about with a "chip on our shoulder" spoiling for a fight. But we must stand up and defend our rights like good soldiers. There are times when the soldier ought to sing and pray, but even God Himself is not pleased when the soldier sings and prays when the bugle calls to arms! But the greatest caution must be taken in not making an exorbitant demand for the price of labor. Are you now getting a reasonable living wage?

I have often wondered why some profound, logical mind has not written on the Psychology of Reversals, for the subject offers food for clear thinking, and covers a territory that has not yet been exploited, as far as I know. It is a subject that is often brought to our notice in a great variety of ways. If all this data could be brought together, analyzed and deductions made it would furnish profitable and interesting reading. For instance, early in the morning of Feb. 18 the mercury ranged in this section from 7 to 12 below zero, but before the day ended it had reached nearly 50 above. Why such a radical change? It sometimes takes at least three days to make so great a difference. Again, why is it that human possessions that have been slowly accumulating for years are swept away in a single night? Men who have established a reputation for high moral living assassinate their character with the utmost deliberation. These illustrations show reversals—what is the psychology?

The arrest of a man recently in Providence who was caught red-handed in the attempt to rob a Roman Catholic church brought out the astounding fact that he was a graduate of a school that "specialized in safe work," which in his case didn't prove to be particularly safe. Evidently such a school could be conducted only on the correspondence plan, and even at that ran great risk of discovery. The only reason why some men will teach, and others study, the science of safe-breaking is the money involved. The quickest way to get money is to steal it, and the hazard is commensurate to the case. But it is strange that those who offer such courses of study do not see that sooner or later they are bound to be discovered, and who take such courses are surely inviting the penitentiary—if they put to use what they learn. No man can follow burglary year in and year out without making a slip somewhere and at some time that will be his undoing.

Another thing—fully as crazy as the above, although in another line—is a wireless receiving station installed at golf links for the benefit of Sunday golfers who unfortunately (for the church) are church members. Sunday golfers, of course, find cutting out the morning church service a terrible cross to bear. Deprived of hearing their beloved pastor preach and pray, and the devoted choir executing some anthem, they have little heart in following the ivory ball. But with a wireless device they can sit and smoke on a cool veranda and at the same time hear their pastor preach on "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," and the choir sing "Take time to be holy." Thus spiritually refreshed they will play the next game more thoughtfully. Why can't this device be made so inclusive as to take in Sunday fishermen and automobile riders? Why not have certain stations along the brook or highway where snatches of sermons can be heard for the soul's delectation? How much more pleasantly a Sunday can be passed by using such a device for mingling God and Mammon which heretofore has not been found wholly satisfactory.

Isn't it high time that better means be devised for protecting bank messengers than they now receive? It is almost inconceivable that large sums of money should be intrusted sometimes to boys to carry to a bank or to a broker's office in the crowded streets of our cities. To some of us "hayseeds" it is incomprehensible how easily a motor truck can be held up in broad daylight on a main thoroughfare and packages of money taken, and the thief escape in a waiting automobile near by. Could not such things be materially lessened, if not wholly abolished, by allowing all transfer agents, especially those who handle large sums of money, to go heavily armed? If not that, always send them out under an armed guard. Better still, never let them go alone through the corridors of a great business block and, when possible, use an automobile. It would surely seem that enough trusty men could be found to offset professional thieves and gunmen. At present we are making it too easy for the rascals.

Apart from being the day on which our presidents are inaugurated, March 4 has figured quite prominently in American history. The first record we have of this day as in any way connected with the life of the nation was in 1628, when on March 4, after persistent efforts, a royal grant was obtained from Charles the First "for the company of the Massachusetts bay," whose able governor was John Endicott. This was the first legal recognition of colonial rule in New England by the British government. Another important event transpired in our early history on March 4, 1681, when Pennsylvania was granted to William Penn. Had a man less irenic in spirit stood in Penn's shoes the trend of history in that great state might have been entirely different. On March 4, 1789, the first congress under the constitution met in New York, this being the political successor to the old and, in many ways, disastrous Continental congress. The first president to be inaugurated on March 4 was William Henry Harrison, in 1841, and who died just one month later.

How plain it is from every point of vision that God ordains and nature perpetuates differences according to fixed laws. It would seem as though the God of creation had some grudge against likenesses, uniformity and dead levels because He everywhere reveals in diversity. A good illustration of this is found in the surface of the earth which accentuates diversities. Why is not this surface an elevated plateau extending from mid-continent to the shore? Why mountains, hills, valleys, plains, lakes, rivers, seas? Because mid-continent being higher than the sea coast, rivers cut their channels from center to circumference, giving irrigation, navigation and manufacturing facilities. Diversity does this and diversity is the life of man. Diversity makes for beauty as well as for utility. Norwich is beautiful, so are Middletown, Pittsfield, Northfield, Northampton and Cambridge, but these places are not at all alike, because God revels in diversity.

NEW ENGLAND BUSINESS CONDITIONS.

Business in New England was apparently quieter during February than for several months writes Frederic H. Curtiss, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston in monthly review of industrial and financial conditions in the New England district. This slowing down is partly seasonal, but probably much of it is more fundamental.

One of the most adverse factors in the situation is the strike which started in several of the cotton goods manufacturing centers of New England a few weeks ago when the mill operatives refused to accept a 20 per cent. reduction in pay and, in some instances a lengthening of the working week from 48 to 54 hours. In several of the districts where there was no increase in the number of hours, the workers voted to accept the 20 per cent. wage reduction, and continued to work. The main objection in New Hampshire, for instance, seemed to be to the longer working week, rather than to the wake reduction. Considering the large number of workers involved in the strike, (estimated at approximately 50,000), there has been very little disorder. The wage reduction had been foreseen for some time by both sides, manufacturers claiming that it was necessary in order that the northern mills might compete with those of the south. This is the second general cut that has been made in the cotton industry of New England, the first occurring in December, 1920, and amounting to 22 1-2 per cent. Even with these two reductions, it is claimed that wages in this industry are nearly twice as high as they were before the war, although it is probable that they were abnormally low for several years prior to 1914.

It must be admitted that every strike, just as every war, results in a real economic loss, and therefore should be avoided if it is possible to do so. On the other hand, wages and commodity prices have experienced such wide and violent fluctuations during the past few years that there are many cases in which the wages prevailing for a certain kind of work in one part of the country are inconsistent with those paid in another section, or where wages in one industry are quite out of line with the pay received for an equal amount of similar work in another industry situated in the same territory. Frederic H. Curtiss, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston in monthly review of industrial and financial conditions in the New England district. This slowing down is partly seasonal, but probably much of it is more fundamental.

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Production of cotton textiles in this district was declining even before the strike started. Cloth was not selling well, because buyers anticipated that lower prices would prevail as soon as the expected wage reduction had taken effect. On the other hand, mill agents claim that the reduction is necessary in order to sell cloth on even the present basis.

The other branch of the textile industry, woolen and worsteds, has also curtailed operations during the past few weeks, although it is running at a higher rate of capacity than the cotton industry was before the strike started.

The recent trend in retail trade is another adverse factor in the situation, but this is largely attributable to seasonal influences. Net sales of Boston department stores during January were but slightly more than half as large as in the preceding month, and were about nine per cent lower than during January, 1921. Department stores in other New England cities experienced nearly as large a curtailment. During the next few months retail trade should increase, as is normal during spring, although it will not be surprising if it is not as large as during the same season last year. Merchants situated in textile centers have suffered considerably from curtailment caused by the strike and by rumors of wage reductions in factories not yet affected, for workers have naturally become more cautious in their spending.

There are, however, several favorable factors in the situation tending to offset these adverse ones. One of these is the fundamental improvement in the building being constructed at the present time is less than it was last summer, due to the natural slackening during the winter months nevertheless the decline has not been as large as is usually experienced. The value of the contracts being awarded and permits for new building being issued indicate that there will be a considerable increase in building operations this spring. Building costs have decreased now to such a point that they bear approximately the same relation to rents as they did in 1913. In other words, the owner of a building constructed at the present time can receive nearly as large a return on his investment as he did before the war. There still remains an insufficient amount of mortgage money to finance a large volume of building, although this is seemingly being overcome.

Conditions in two other prominent New England industries—shoes and Paper—have improved since the first of the year. Production in the shoe industry has increased, partly in anticipation of Easter and partly for regular spring delivery. Output during January, judging by returns made to this bank, was larger than during any month last year. The paper industry is making headway rather slowly, to be sure, yet prices are firm and the number of small orders calling for immediate delivery indicates that stocks in distributors' hands are smaller than normal.

The status of the farmer's purchasing power is a topic which has been treated so often during the past year that it has ceased to be as seriously considered as it should be. Practically every depression is preceded by a marked reduction in the farmer's purchasing power. It is certainly true of this past one. Within the last few weeks there has been a decided change in the fundamentals underlying this situation. There has been a very rapid increase in the price of farm products amounting in several cases to an improvement of 50 per cent. or more from the low point. Although this rise has occurred at a time when the farmer has very little of last year's crops still on hand, nevertheless it is highly important. If any considerable portion of the increase is retained until the next crops are harvested, the farmer's purchasing power should be so enhanced that there should be a decided stimulus to business.

Notwithstanding that the price of products in the primary markets increased during January, retail food prices the country over showed a moderated decline. In Massachusetts the cost of living receded to the lowest point reached so far, although it still remains 57 per cent. above the 1913 level, after having declined 22 per cent. from the high of July, 1920.

The credit situation in New England changed but little during February. Interest, although credit is still relatively easy to obtain. There has been no change in the rediscount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston since November, the rate remaining 4 1-2 per cent. for all classes of loans. The Government must refund notes and bonds coming due in the next fifteen months. This, of course, may operate to keep money rates firm during the major portion of that time. Credit conditions throughout the country have improved considerably of late through the liquidation of loans in the agricultural districts of the west and south. Under the circumstances the money and banking situation in New England, as well as in the country at large is considered satisfactory.

The present recession in business activity should neither shake the faith of those who are looking forward to somewhat better times later in the year nor confirm the opinion of those who expect poorer business. It is too much to expect that, after such a severe depression as we have been through, the recovery should be rapid or even continuous. There are bound to be interruptions such as the present one. Furthermore, it is probable that the present dullness is due largely to the normal winter-slackening and the disturbing influences of the textile strike.

FAMOUS TRIALS

JEAN CALAS

The Reign of Terror in France was notable for its sordid crimes and unjust sentences, but not one is more repelling than the sentence that was passed on the honest Jean Calas, and his heroic bearing when it was carried out. When, after being tortured he was bound on a wheel, all his bones broken, turned to the sun and left to die, he "uttered not a murmur nor a word of revenge, prayed to God for forgiveness of his judges and said aloud: 'Doubtless they have been deceived by false witnesses.'"

At the time of the tragedy the Roman Catholic regime was in full sway in France. Only the boldest would profess to be a Protestant. Toulouse, where Calas lived, had been the scene of many religious riots. At one time more than 5000 Protestants were massacred after laying down their arms and agreeing to the peace pact.

On the night of Oct. 13, 1761, weird cries were heard by the neighbors of Calas issuing from the house where he lived with his wife, two of his sons—Marc-Antoine and Pierre—and a servant, Jeanne Viguier. The shop had closed at supper time and it was just dusk when the weird cries were heard. Then some person called from the house: "Ah, Mon Dieu! I'an tuat!" (My God, he is killed!) Terrified, yet curious, the neighbors crept around the door and saw in the dim light of the shop, Marc-Antoine, deathly still and with his head supported by bales of goods. The father almost distracted, was standing by, while the mother of the dead man was forcing some cordial down the throat of the body.

Divid de Beaudrigue, one of the capitouls, at once arrested all the persons in the house, including the family, the servant and two friends of the young man, Lavasee and Cazeing, and unceremoniously hurried them to the Hotel de Ville, where they were kept under lock and key. At once ominous rumors began to circulate around the community: "Jean Calas has killed his son that he would not be able to turn Catholic," said one, and the slander was greedily accepted and repeated from mouth to mouth, gaining strength with each fresh assertion, no one accepting it more readily than the capitoul, de Beaudrigue.

On Oct. 14, Jean Calas, his wife, his son Pierre, young Lavaysse and even the servant, although she was a Catholic, were accused before the capitouls of having strangled Marc-Antoine Calas under the impulse of Protestant fanaticism, in order, by his murder, to prevent his conversion to the Catholic Church. Cazeing was at once discharged.

At the trial the mother graphically told how she had been awakened by cries and found her husband stricken with grief bending over the body of Marc-Antoine and imploring the son Pierre to summon the doctor. Lavaysse in his story, told how he had supped that night with the Calas family. After supper, as was his custom, Marc-Antoine rose and talked with him her husband and youngest son until it was found that Pierre had fallen asleep when they separated with much "chaff" at the expense of the sleeper.

Young Lavaysee then told how he and Pierre had walked downstairs to the shop and found the door wide open. Coming to close it, they found the body of Marc swinging to and fro, suspended from a short pole stretched cornerwise across the folding doors. Then how they rushed terrified to the father, Jean, too terrified to even cut down the suspended body; how Pierre dashed for the doctor, the cries of the servant, the gathering of the crowd and then the arrest and imprisonment.

Everything pointed to suicide. The charges of murder were so weak and there was no evidence toward conviction throughout the whole case. The main witness for the conviction was the capitoul, who had arrived three hours after the discovery of the body. Jean was first found guilty and sentenced top be hanged, burned, and his ashes thrown to the winds. This decree was not carried out, for he was first tortured, broken on the wheel, and then burned. Pierre, the youngest son, although convicted as the chief murderer, was sentenced to be banished, but upon embracing the Catholic faith this was revoked. After four months of the changed religion he disappeared. The servant was acquitted. Mme. Calas and Lavaysse were given a verdict of "not proven" and later released. By this time the public believed Jean innocent, but making reparation by releasing all other members of the family did not make amends for the judicial murder.

READ YOUR CHARACTER

By Digby Phillips.
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Persuading the Thinker

The "thinker," as has been explained in a previous article, can be recognized by the head and fact, which are wider at the top than across the cheeks or jaws. Nine times out of ten they are the sort of people you never would call "robust." They are oftener small, than large. Their bones are small. They may be stout, but oftener they are thin. If an education has not been given to them they make it a point to get one anyhow, in one way or another.

In these people the mental predominates over the physical.

When you want to persuade a man or woman of this type your quickest road to success lies in starting him or her to thinking. Demonstration may aid, but it isn't the predominant factor as it is in the case of the "square" people.

If your subject has a convex profile you know that his attitude is practical and scientific, and naturally you should give the facts and very definite statements upon which to think.

If he (or she) is concave, you know your subject is more inclined to be theoretical or philosophical, and you wouldn't emphasize statistics, for instance, in the same way that you would with the convex thinker. You would keep more to generalities and theories.

But in either case you have to remember that you are dealing with a keen mentality. You must try to start them thinking and to steer their thoughts (by suggestion) in the desired line; but do not make the mistake of trying to do their thinking for them. Monday—Leading the Coarse-Skinned

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An Unsloveled Bridge.

Mr. Editor: This is to inform the town of Norwich authorities that I have to shovel the snow off my sidewalk under penalty of the law, also to inform the city authorities that the snow has not been shoveled off the sidewalk on the east bridge, Central Wharf, West Side, next the elevator, now the Gordon Inc., building, this winter.

A. H. BREED.

Norwich, March 3, 1922.

Failed to Sign Letter.

"Another Provoked Mother" failed to sign the letter sent for publication. This is necessary for the publication of any letter, though the name need not be published.

Suggests Use of Siren

Mr. Editor: In today's issue of your esteemed paper, A Provoked Mother, writes of children, schools, no-school signals and of other highly interesting matters. One cannot escape the point and sincerity of her words. Her complaint is just and based on conditions that forbid the harmony that would be ideal between parents and teachers and school officials. She says that the no-school signal of the fire alarm is not reliable to East Siders. Many of us know it is true. In a recent storm our children fared forth to school. The storm did not seem severe, but one lad found his school closed. No one about our home had heard the Greeneville no-school signal. A slight snow storm puts a muffler on that fire bell, and many East Siders cannot hear it at all at such a time. The boy's teacher later suggested that at about 8.30 he should sit by the open window and listen for the fire bell. Of course we all know that the good lady in that off-hand judgment did not think earnestly about "which way is the wind?" or that the open window might let the cat in—or out. The foregoing lines relate to the East Side.

The Laurel Hill district is working under similar unsatisfactory conditions. It is my understanding that our school board is already seeking a remedy for those conditions there, but is meeting some difficulty in reaching a solution. Is it a fair conclusion, Mr. Editor, from the above citation to say that the fire alarm for school signal purposes is more or less a failure. Its uncertainty of efficiency produces and promotes an unwelcome and needless state of irritation between school and their patrons, the children and parents alike. Is there any way out? What about using the siren on our municipal electric plant? When the ascending scream of that whistle cleaves the air the orchestra of the storm stands abashed. We all can hear that siren. Let us try it for a few months anyway and so stop the unceasing flowing from the uncertain, unsure fire alarm as applied to school signals.

G. WARREN DAVIS.

Norwich, March 3, 1922.

SUNDAY MORNING TALK

The Prayer of Faith

"The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much", Jas. 5-16. It is only when we learn how to prevail with God we can prevail with man. There are some things which we are convinced do not avail in the work of God. Oratory does not avail much; it may on the philosophical platform but not in the pulpit; converts by personality do not abide; converts by the Holy Spirit do abide. The power of the purse does not avail; the church is crying for money; all the money that all the millionaires of earth have will not make this machine go without the power which God alone can give. What a marvelous lot of machines we have! Every conference suggests a new bit, and all the machinery we can bring into operation will only hinder instead of help God's work, without prayer.

If the condition were right the church might be a mighty force today. We lack power to arrest the masses, the millions of people who never enter the church. How many will be unable to go on indulging in sin because of a life testimony of the church of God, "and at midnight Paul and Silar prayed, and sang praise unto Go; and the prisoners heard them." Acts. 16, 25. Those were the effectual prayers that bring the answer: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" There is where the power must come to awaken the slumbering mass, those that never enter the church. Why is it that we have not power? God says "Ye have not because ye ask not."

May we be ready to serve where God wants us to, back to the resources of prayer. We see that prayer availeth much in the presence of the evils of the day, which are intangible evils, for "We wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers." We are not fighting just with man, we are fighting with the forces that are dominating these evils, and in the presence of these evils, if we are seeking to get through them it will be through effectual, fervent prayer. The forces of darkness are not conquered by the introduction of modern methods. They are conquered by men who plead the name of Jesus.

The church has never had a great revival that was not wrought by prayer.

Stories That Recall Others

Her Little Diversion.

They were talking about women friends.

"Do you see Emma often?" one inquired.

"Oh, yes, quite frequently," the other replied.

"Is she happily married?"

"Is she? I'll say she is. Why, that girl is so happily married she has to go to the theater for a good cry."

How He Got It.

He is the owner of some tenement property occupied by those who are employed in industries where employment has not been brisk. His agent reported inability to collect the rent, which perplexed him a bit and caused him to decide to do a little collecting work himself.

Late one afternoon after returning from the much threatened collection tour one of his clerks who understood the situation noticed him wearing a smile as he worked about the shop.

"Any luck," he finally inquired of the employer.

"Any luck. Boy, you're crazy! Instead of paying me they borrowed money from me everywhere I went."

EDIBLE BAMBOO

The Japanese edible bamboo has been successfully introduced into the southern portion of the United States by the Department of Agriculture. Several plantations are now established in Georgia and Louisiana. Popularization of the bamboo will furnish large home-grown supplies of this useful timber required by our manufacturing industries. The giant grass grows a foot a day, and its 50-foot stalk is well adapted for making frames, furniture, ladders, trellises and barrel hoops. The new sprout is a delicious vegetable and resembles asparagus in flavor and in the manner of its preparation. There is an increasing demand for the bamboo timber, and also for the edible bamboo shoot.—Exchange.

Lyme Man Makes Protest

The state board of education has tentatively arranged to hold a hearing in Lyme on March 11, relative to an appeal by Lawrence Mazur from a decision of the local committee refusing to furnish transportation to and from school for his three children. He maintains that the distance to the school from his home is too great for his children to cover it afoot.

New Milford.—A delightful feature of the Visiting Nurse fair Friday evening was an entertainment by the Girl Scouts.

GOOD FOR THAT "FLU" COUGH.

For quick relief from the wearing coughs that "hang on" after the grippe or influenza, take Foley's Honey and Tar. Mrs. K. D. Drake, Childs, Md., writes: "After an attack of the flu that left me with a severe cough nothing seemed to relieve me till I tried Foley's Honey and Tar, which I can highly recommend." It is also good for croup, whooping cough and colds. It puts a soothing, healing coating over the inflamed surfaces, cuts the phlegm, eases hoarseness, clears the air passages. Lee & Osgood Co.

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are often troubled with Feverishness, Constipation, Headache, Stomach troubles, Teething disorders and Worms. At such times thousands of Mothers use

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8:00 A. M.	8:20 A. M.	9:30 A. M.	10:15 A. M.
11:00 A. M.	11:20 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:15 P. M.
2:00 P. M.	2:20 P. M.	3:30 P. M.	4:15 P. M.
5:00 P. M.	5:20 P. M.	6:30 P. M.	7:15 P. M.

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