

THE BAD BOYS' REPUBLIC.

William R. George's System of Transforming Lawless Street Waifs Into Good Citizens.

By D. L. Pierson.

The George Junior Republic at Freeville, N. Y., is, perhaps, the most remarkable community ever devised. This extraordinary reformatory is literally a nation in miniature, with its own parliament and laws; its own coinage, police, prisons, shops, farms, newspapers, hotels, banks, etc. The founder of this Republic is Mr. William R. George. Some years ago he became much interested in problems concerning juvenile law-breakers and "incurables" in New York City, and made up his mind to try the experiment of taking them away from their evil surroundings in the city, and giving them a chance to reform in the country. At first the experiment was not wholly a success, but gradually the scheme of a self-governing Republic was perfected, and with the very best of results. July 10th, 1895, is counted as "Independence Day," and is celebrated each year.

The smallest Republic in the world is likewise the most extraordinary and probably the best governed. It is diminutive in territory, in the number of its inhabitants, and in the age and size of its citizens. And yet there are few of the best characteristics of the largest democracies which have not their counterpart in the smallest. The interest taken in the enterprise is shown from the fact that on some days during the summer they have over 200 visitors.

The George Junior Republic, as it is called, is located at Freeville, in Tompkins County, New York. Its citizens are boys and girls, gathered largely from the slums of great cities. Most of them have "histories" more interesting than creditable. They have been horse thieves, pickpockets, runaways, and on the whole, very promising candidates for jails, penitentiaries, "dives" and the gallows. At the Republic, however, they are soon transformed into independent, thrifty, law-making, law-abiding citizens.

The territory of the Republic consists of about 100 acres of farm land not far from Ithaca. There are only ten plain wooden buildings in the "metropolis." These comprise two cottages, one for boys and one for girls; the "Republic" building, containing the library, kitchen, restaurants, hotel and "garrot" lodging-house; the school-house, bank and



THE PRESIDENT (SALARY FIFTY CENTS A WEEK) AND HIS CABINET.

store; the Government building, including court-house, jail, Capitol and postoffice; a girls' jail; a hospital; a barn; a laundry and bath-house; a carpenter and machine shop. Money for a chapel has also recently been given. The land is good farming, and fine crops of hay, grain and vegetables are raised every year. Horses, cows, pigs, etc., are also kept to advantage.

This little Republic is a government of the children for the children and by the children. The citizens are boys and girls from twelve to eighteen of age. Those under twelve are minors, and must have guardians appointed by the State from the older citizens. Many of these guardians have shown themselves to be wise, tactful and loving caretakers of the



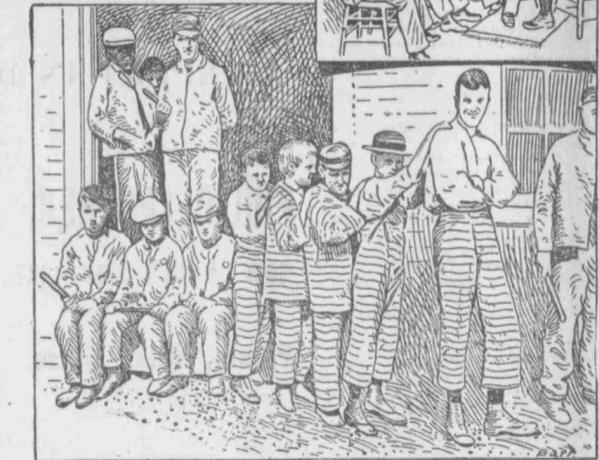
THE JAIL.

little ones entrusted to their charge. When the minors cannot fully support themselves their guardians must look out for them, so that the State is not encumbered with their support. The

total number of inhabitants of the Republic is now eighty-six.

Formerly, the Government was modeled after that of the United States, with President (at a salary of fifty cents a week), a Cabinet, Senate, House of Representatives and Supreme Court. Judges, police officers, and other officials must pass a Civil Service examination, and in consequence the most thumbed books in the library of the Republic are those containing the penal and civil code of New York State. All tenure of office is dependent upon upright behavior. It is the ambition of every boy to attain to the distinction of the vertically striped trousers. Most of them indeed would rather be "cop" than President. In 1896 a force of fourteen policemen was necessary to preserve order, but now the State is encumbered with the support of only two. There is, of course, a smart little Army.

The position of Chief Justice, Civil Service Commissioner, Board of Health



THE PRISON GANG GOING OUT TO WORK—OBSERVE THE GUARDS WITH THEIR CLUBS.

Commissioner, Sheriff, and in fact almost every prominent civic office—excepting that of Coroner—has its counterpart in this Junior Republic. There is even an officer detailed in the early fall to compel lazy truants to attend school. The representative form of government, however, was found to be too unwieldy for so small a Republic, and at the suggestion of one of the boys a town meeting was substituted for Congress as the law-making body.

There are two political parties in the Republic, the "G. G. P.," or Good Government Party and the "G. O. P.," or Grand Old Party. Hot are the contests waged.

"Woman Suffrage" prevails at the Republic, since to refuse them the ballot would mean taxation without representation.

A heavy fine was imposed on cigarette smoking, but nevertheless some would often steal away beyond the policeman's beat, and indulge in this habit. Consequently an amendment was passed which made a citizen liable to arrest and punishment if even the smell of smoke could be detected in his breath. The penalty is a fine of from one dollar to three dollars, or from one to three days in the work-house.

Gambling of any sort receives no quarter from the officials. The first boy caught "shooting craps" was no less a personage than a member of the Senate of the Republic; and even though he pleaded guilty, the judge fined him twenty-five dollars. He refused to pay. He lost not only his seat in the Senate but also his rights of citizenship, and he was obliged to don the ignominious striped suit of a convict and break stone at five cents an hour. One night Mr. George himself was passing his prison cell and



A LITTLE QUIET ADVICE. (Each boy under twelve has a guardian appointed by the State.)

spoke to the boy, advising him to pay up and get out of prison. "No, I won't do it," the boy answered; and then, with the steady wit of the street urchin, he added: "I guess I'll take

the small-pox to-night and break out." Some days later, however, as he was breaking stone, he suddenly threw down his hammer, threw up his hands in a tragic manner, and exclaimed: "I surrender! March me to me bank account."

When we remember that these laws against swearing, gambling, smoking and other vices, with their heavy penalties attached, are of the boys' own making, and are enforced by the boys with a rigor which shows a strong public sentiment against the evils, we have some idea of the success which has attended this most interesting effort at self-government.

The jail is no playhouse, but has small cells with bars and high windows, the hardest of beds, and unmistakable prison fare. Upstairs is the court-room, containing, among other things, a trap-door for the entrance of the prisoner, an imposing high desk for the judge, and a jurors' bench. There is also a small space railed off for the witness stand, and rows of seats for interested listeners. The sessions of the court are most orderly and impressive. The pros and cons



scendants of her father in many parts of the country will be set at rest. At 12 o'clock a large crowd had gathered at the resting place of the famous woman. The exercises were opened with prayer by Dr. Arthur Gaylord Slocum, President of Kalamazoo College. The veiling was removed from the shaft by Victoria and Mabel Bondy, great-granddaughters of Frances Slocum. Then followed an address by Charles E. Slocum, of Defiance, Ohio, and speeches by early settlers of Indiana and other citizens interested in the strange and pathetic story of the white woman who became socially lost to her people by contact with the American Indians.

Frances Slocum was carried away from the home of her parents in what is now Wabash County, Indiana, in 1778. She was a child of five years at that time. In spite of almost superhuman efforts made by her family nothing was learned of her fate until 1835, when she was found living with the Miamis near Peru. She had become the wife of a chief and had lost all traces of her English origin save in complexion and features.

When it was proposed that she return to her people she flatly refused to do so. She had forgotten her childhood, her language and her race, and remained with the Indians almost to the day of her death in 1847. For several years members of the Slocum family have been active in raising funds for the monument which has just been unveiled.



CITIZENS OF THE REPUBLIC LAYING A TILE DRAIN.

supposed to work and earn enough money to pay for his board and clothes. There are two adult head farmers, as well as a carpenter and a housekeeper, who superintend the work; but the boys themselves take contracts for running the hotels, making roads, laying drains, farming, building, etc. These contractors hire laborers at wages ranging from fifty cents to \$1.50 per day, according to the skill of the workman. The girls are employed at household duties, and the minors usually help their guardians. Wages are paid once a week, and no favors are shown to those workmen or Government officials who recklessly spend their earnings the first few days of the week. A coarse diet and a hard bed are the lot of spendthrifts and loafers.

At first very lenient pauper laws were passed. Paupers were fed at the expense of the State, although in a humiliating manner at a second table from which the cloth and other "luxuries" had been removed, and where portions were served like prison rations. But some boys had but little self-respect, and preferred to idle away their time and be dependent upon the charity of the Republic. Having no income or property they were practically tax free, and it was not long before the industrious taxpayers began to realize the expense which idlers entailed on the State. Finally a Senator, whose own parents at home were wholly dependent upon city charity, submitted a bill to the Legislature to the effect that those "who would not work should not eat." The poor but dishonest were thus deprived of support. At the same time, those who through illness are unable to work are provided with free meal tickets.—The World Magazine.

France has more persons over sixty years of age than any other country.

MONUMENT TO FRANCES SLOCUM.

Commemorates the "White Rose of the Miamis" Who Was Stolen by Indians. With impressive ceremonies and eloquent oratory the monument over the grave of Frances Slocum was unveiled recently in the cemetery of the little village of Peoria, near Wabash, Ind. By this memorial the story of the "White Rose of the Miamis" will be presented in imperishable bronze and the minds of the numerous de-



FRANCES SLOCUM.

scendants of her father in many parts of the country will be set at rest.

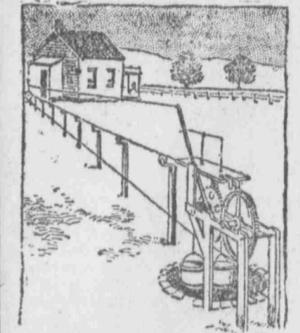
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Carries Water From the Well.

The labor of carrying pails of water from the well to the house day after day soon becomes monotonous and tiresome, and as the work generally falls on the women of the household, anything which will lighten the labor will be duly appreciated. Henry W. Harless, of Good Hope, Mo., has evolved an apparatus by means of which it is possible to send the pails to the well, fill them and return them to the house without doing any heavy lifting, the operator simply standing at the house and turning a crank. The buckets are suspended on the ends of the ropes, which are wound on the drum, the latter being supported by a carriage riding on the cable. The turning of a crank slides the carriage along the cable to the spring, where the toothed wheel engages a cog wheel on the drum to lower the buckets into the well and fill them. Then the motion of the



WATER-ELEVATING AND CARRYING APPARATUS.

crank is reversed and the pails are lifted, the drum being automatically locked when the pails are at the right height. Then the carriage travels back to the house. The cable can be so placed as to incline slightly toward the house, which will allow the carriage to return of its own accord, the speed being regulated by a brake on the crank shaft.

The Slamming-Door Habit. Every mother probably admits to herself that she had the greatest comfort with her children previous to the time they learned to slam doors like their father.—Atchison Globe.

The Boy Who Is Saved. The small boy whose grandmothers are both dead stands a pretty good chance of not being spoiled.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS:



To Wash Hair-Brushes.

Hair-brushes should be washed in hot or tepid water, to which soda or ammonia has been added. The brushes should be dipped in and out of the water till clean, taking care that the backs and handles do not get wet. After rinsing in clear cold water, put them in the air to dry; they should never be dried close to the fire, or the bristles will become discolored.

A Test For the Oven.

It is the wise cook who sets herself to master all the moods and tenses of her oven, since on the proper degree of heat depends the success of more than one dish. The paper test is old but dependable. If a sheet of thin white paper, put into the oven, turns black and blazes up, the oven is too hot. To reduce its temperature place a basin of cold water inside. If, on the other hand, the sheet of paper quickly turns yellow and burns in a few minutes, the heat is right for roast meats. Puff paste comes in for this sort of an oven also. When the paper colors a trifle more slowly, the heat is right for bread and all yeast mixtures. Pound cakes and all rich cakes containing much butter take a moderate oven while rich fruit cake requires still a degree less heat. Never on any account slam the oven door while baking, for you are only too liable to ruin the most carefully made dishes by so doing.

Dust Should Be Destroyed.

The modern housewife has learned that feather dusters and other flitting brooms and brushes merely scatter the dust and germs in her house, instead of removing them. She is now being told by scientists that to shake her rugs and carpets, beat her draperies, etc., is undesirable. The dust flies in near-by windows, her own perhaps, and is again disseminated. The idea of housekeeping to-day is to destroy dust. Carpet-sweepers, covered dust-pans, and cloths are the implements to be made use of, and the dust thus gathered should be burned, or, in the case of cloths, washed out. Back of this care, however, should come a wise choice of household belongings. Simplicity should be the fundamental law of their selection. Have the things needed for comfort and use in simple, easily cared for designs; for pure decoration, only a few very satisfying things. Gawkiness as a rule are useless, and may be dispensed with.

The Best Disinfectants.

The best disinfectants are pure air and sunshine. Without the aid of these disinfectants the most powerful chemicals used to purify a pest place may prove of no avail. It is more necessary that a house should be ventilated than that the waste pipes that lead into it be trapped. A strong solution of potash and boiling water poured down the sink and into waste pipes will disinfect them sufficiently for the season. If about four quarts of boiling water are poured over five cents' worth of copperas, and the solution scattered over the ground where the garbage pail has sat during the winter, and into cesspools or any similar spot that needs disinfection, it will be usually all that is necessary, provided air and sunshine can also reach the place. It is not safe to trust the eyes; that which looks clean may be very unclean, and there is usually a foul odor to any spot needing disinfection.

HOUSEHOLD RECIPES:

Sausage and Macaroni Pie—Cook twelve sticks of macaroni in boiling salted water until tender, drain and pour over a little cold water. Fill a small, deep buttered dish with alternate layers of macaroni and sausage meat, seasoning each layer with salt, pepper and chopped parsley. Moisten with good stock, cover with puff paste and bake for about half an hour.

Cream of Peas Soup—Cover two cupfuls of peas with cold water, cook until tender. Rub half the peas through a sieve. Scald one-half pint of milk. Rub one tablespoonful of butter and one of flour together. Add the flour and milk to the strained peas. When the soup thickens add a cupful of cream, the remainder of the peas, pepper and salt.

French Rarebits—Butter an earthen dish and lay in the bottom a piece of buttered bread. Sprinkle on this a layer of grated cheese, and a layer of buttered bread, and continue in the same way until the dish is filled. Beat two eggs, mix them with a cup of milk and pour over the bread and cheese. Bake until lightly browned.

Oatmeal Pudding—To one quart of new milk add one cupful of cold porridge or one-third cupful uncooked oats, salt and sweeten to taste, flavor with stick cinnamon, or, if preferred, add one-half cupful dried currants. Place in a moderately hot oven and bake two hours. When about half done, stir in the crust already formed, and it will form another sufficiently brown. To be served either hot or cold with whipped cream.

WHEN FATHER SIGNS A CHECK:

They've lately served poor father up in quite sarcastic truck.
"When father signs a lullaby,"
"When father carves the duck,"
And when he monkeys this or that
To any rhymester's book,
But no one yet has sung about
When father writes a check.

The old man isn't up to date
In table manners, p'raps,
And doesn't talk, or walk, or dress
Like modern college chaps;
But on his business habits, sirs,
There's neither flaw nor fleck—
You've got a paper good as gold
When father signs a check.

He uses the Colonial quill;
The letters of his name
Are rugged as the hand that writes
Unevenly the same.
But you can bet the jewels all
That tingly crowns bedeck,
The banks hand out the requisite
When father signs a check.
—Boston Courier.

JINGLES AND JESTS.

She—"I understand you were stuck on that new book of mine?" He—"Yes; I bought one."—Yonkers Statesman.

Boy—"Say, mister, want me to bait your hook?" Man—"Git out! You only want to hook my bait."—Judge.

"When the joke is on you," said the Cornfed Philosopher, "do not let it stay there. Laugh it off."—Indianapolis Press.

"Chumley used to say he admired Polticks for the enemies he made, but he seems to have changed his mind." "Yes; he's one of the enemies now."—Tommy—"Pop, what is conscience?" Tommy's Pop—"Conscience, my son, is another name for the fear that people will find us out."

The horseless carriage is a thing That we can use or not, by choice. But people who delight to sing Would much prefer a horseless voice. —Philadelphia Record.

"How the society folks do lionize Jim!" "Yes; but they'll never succeed." "Succeed at what?" "Making a lion of him. He's a regular bear."

Lawyer—"Did the defendant, to your knowledge, ever incite another to perjury?" Witness—"Yes, I once heard him ask a woman her age."—Chicago News.

Hicks—"No, I don't suppose I am up to your plane of intelligence. Fact is, I have deteriorated since you first knew me." Wicks—"Impossible!"—Boston Transcript.

"Conductor, why are the cars so small on this line? They are always uncomfortable." "The cars are not too small. The passengers are too big."—Fliegende Blaetter.

Nell—"Did your French lessons carry you through in Paris?" Belle—"Not very well. The stupid creatures don't seem to understand their own language."—Philadelphia Record.

When a woman has a secret— Although she may not show it, She's just as angry as can be If no one wants to know it. —Chicago Daily News.

Clara (after a tiff)—"I presume you would like your ring back?" George—"Never mind—keep it. No other girl I know could use that ring unless she wore it on her thumb."—Tid-Bits.

"That deaf-mute guide seems to be very well posted on the institution," said the visitor. "Yes, indeed," replied the superintendent. "He has everything at his fingers' end."—Baltimore American.

His trousers legs, as here you see, Are never built amiss; But when he draws the garment on They always look this: () —Chicago Record.

He—"I have just returned from a little railroad trip, and the scenery did me good." She—"Nature was grand, was she?" He—"Yes; and I have never seen the advertisements in more gorgeous colors."—Harper's Bazar.

"I don't think," said the Observant Boarder, "that I should care to propose to a girl addicted to photography." "And why not?" asked the Cross-Eyed Boarder. "I should be afraid that she would seize the opportunity to develop a negative."—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

Electricity in the Philippines.

"Certainly one good result," says the Western Electrician, "grows out of the occupation of the Philippine Islands by the Americans—the extension of electrical means of communication. When Spain turned the islands over to the United States there were but 1800 miles of telegraph lines in the archipelago, and it is estimated that within a year the total length of wire in operation will be fully 5000 miles. New lines are building in Luzon and on the islands in the southern part of the archipelago. The latest reports from Manila show that there are being handled by the Signal Corps in Luzon alone an average of 4600 messages daily, and as new territory is occupied the work correspondingly increases."

What is a Furlough?
"What is a furlough?" asked a teacher.

"It means a horse," was the reply of Mary.

"Oh, no," replied the teacher. "It doesn't mean a horse."

"Indeed, it does," said Mary. "I have a book at home that says so."

"Well," said the teacher, now thoroughly interested, "you may bring the book to school, and we'll see about it."

The next day Mary brought the book, and in some triumph opened to a page where there was a picture of a soldier riding a horse. Below the picture were the words: "Going home on his furlough."—Pearson's Weekly.

Nearly 1000 Tons of Gold.

The amount of gold coin in actual circulation in the world is estimated by the Bank of England officials to be about 865 tons.