

The Evening World

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WHO'S IN CHARGE?

WHEN it comes to scandal sifting, deliver us from a Congressional committee!

One would suppose the nation's legislators might manage to conduct an investigation of sneaking rumor and report in a manner that would at least preserve their own dignity and preclude the possibility of anybody making monkeys out of them.

Apparently it can't be done. The present "leak" inquiry has rapidly degenerated into nothing more or less than a personally directed exhibition at which a notorious megalomaniac from Boston can revel in the publicity he craves.

Why should the Congress of the United States put its nose between the fingers of T. W. Lawson and let itself be led merely on the strength of what he may pretend to know and promise to tell? Do Lawson's character or Lawson's career proclaim him a man who never says a thing he cannot prove? Does anybody really believe his talk about a "Senator, a Cabinet officer and a broker" in collusion to play the stock market rests on anything more substantial than intense desire to prolong the present performance as long as he can keep the centre of the stage?

That this man should have been permitted to storm and swear at a Legislative Committee, bandying shouts and insults with the members, until even the official stenographer could make nothing of the hubbub, is an outrage of national dignity and decency.

The House of Representatives can go on citing Lawson for contempt. But it can't alter the fact that Congress so far has utterly failed to take command of the situation and that members of the national legislature apparently see no way to run down scandal save by trotting at the heels of an arch-publicity hunter.

"It looked to me as if the war could go on for ten years without victory for either side," declares Alfred Noyes, the English poet, just back from Europe. If it strikes a poet that way, give us a prosier view with more punctuation.

CARTAGE AND THE COST OF LIVING.

THE cost of delivering retailed commodities to city purchasers has been made the subject of a preliminary inquiry by the Department of Commerce in the hope of finding another angle from which to attack the problem of the rising cost of living.

Director Rogers of the Census Bureau reports that for four important classes of commodities, coal, wood, milk, ice and department store merchandise, the expense of delivery or cartage one way averages over eight per cent. of the total cost to the consumer. As might be expected, department store delivery, being the best organized, shows the lowest percentage. But in the case of milk and dairy products the proportion which delivery expense is found to represent in the final selling price is 12 per cent.; for coal and wood, 19 per cent., and for ice 45 per cent.

These figures, together with the fact that in the case of many articles of food the amount received by the producer is only one-half or one-quarter, or less, of the price paid by the consumer, lead Secretary of Commerce Redfield to believe

"that the item of city cartage alone would be great enough to justify calling attention to the very large sums that the community is called upon to pay in maintaining the wasteful and highly complex systems of individual delivery which characterize retail distribution at this time."

Every city can furnish instances. Who pays for the three or four sets of milk wagons that serve the same routes here in New York? Who pays for the small, individual—and therefore comparatively expensive—delivery service which competition compels every corner grocer to keep up? Who pays for all the double, triple and quadruple handling of foodstuffs after their arrival in the city?

Obviously, the consumer. Their retailers and all the rest can somehow always manage to combine against him, they never get around to co-operating with one another for something that might be to his advantage as well as theirs.

Chicago is wrestling with a full-size police scandal—vice graft, gambling graft, "little green book" and all the rest of it. New York knows the whole story. It got its full share of experience along that line. It fought police corruption, conquered, made its own terms. Peace and safety in that direction, it believes, are lasting.

Letters From the People

Wants Cakes Valued. To the Editor of The Evening World: What is the value of a United States 10-cent piece, 1875, and of a quarter-cent piece, 1840, Louis Philippe? Also, how may a fair valuation be obtained of a coin collection? From the numerous queries in "Letters from the People" regarding coin values, there seems to be quite a number of people having coin collections. I should, therefore, judge an answer to last question to be of general interest. N. B.—Neither of coins named bears a premium. There are several societies interested in old coins and a number of dealers in New York City who would value any collection. See classified telephone directory under heading of "Postage Stamps and Old Coins."

"Anything to Beat Wilson"

By J. H. Cassel



What Is a Cultured Man?

By Sophie Irene Loeb.

MAN signing himself "E. H." of Brooklyn writes: "Please publish an article on 'What is a Cultured Man?'"

I met last summer with simple manner and gracious attitude toward every one—and which marked her the cultured woman.

not take money or position to make him what he is. For example, I have found the cultured man in the farm-hand, in the subway worker, in the waiter. In a word, you will find him everywhere.

up" to his wife how he did her a favor by marrying her because she had happened to be poor.

The Jarr Family

By Roy L. McCardell

"My, what a temper that feller Rafferty has," said Gus in amazement, as the "rate builder" plunged out of the cafe in pursuit of Dinkston, the disappearing demon.

for them chumping beans, and keep 'em." "But hearken, good Gustavus," said Dinkston, with a winning smile.

what I lose a dollar and a half—sometimes five dollars!" And here he gave a baleful glance at Mr. Dinkston and his little friends, the Mexican jumping beans.

Reflections of a Bachelor Girl

By Helen Rowland

If a woman were given only three minutes more to live she would probably spend two of them in powdering her nose.

A bachelor's idea of "freedom" is to get himself tangled up with half a dozen women just in order to keep from getting tied up to one.

Sometimes all a woman gets out of marriage is enough alimony to buy the sort of clothes with which to catch another husband.

Silk Once Worth Weight in Gold

TWO monks from the Indies arrived in Constantinople in the year 538, bringing with them silk worms and the knowledge which enabled them to teach the manufacture of silk.

China, which boasts of being the birthplace of so many modern industries, was the original home of silk.

slowly, and in the time of Charlemagne a gift by that ruler to another monarch of "two silken vests" was considered a great gift of lavishness.

To-Day's Anniversary

SPANISH republicans, socialists, anarchists and radicals of all degrees celebrate the tenth of January as the birthday of Francisco Ferrer, who, convicted of having incited revolutionary plots in Barcelona, was executed in 1909.



A fascinating woman is one who is just brilliant enough to see the point of all a man's jokes and just feeble minded enough to think them all exasperatingly funny.

A real soul mate is one that you honestly feel you could love just as rapturously at 8 o'clock on Monday morning as at 8 o'clock on Saturday evening.

Of course men no longer look for miracles, but none of them ever despair of finding that impossible combination, a plump girl who looks slim in her clothes, a saint with the fascination of a siren and a Venus who can cook.

On the wedding day the clock either crawls or races—crawls for the bride and races for the bridegroom.

Bachelor! The "missing link" in the chains of matrimony. Bachelor! The "missing link" in the chains of matrimony.