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UNHAPPY—STILL UNHAPPY!

EVEN a world grown used to shocking news from Ireland stood appalled this morning at the dastardly assassination of Michael Collins.

What breed of Irishmen are these that murder Ireland's leaders?

What skulking foes of Irish freedom are so-called sons of Ireland who ambush its best hopes?

No Irishman can say Michael Collins was not a patriot of patriots. He fought for Ireland. He lived the life of a proscribed outlaw for Ireland. He gave every beat of his heart, every thought of his brain to Ireland.

When the great opportunity for Irish freedom came, Michael Collins's patriotism was big enough to accept and seize it. He was able to see a free and happy Ireland without a kicked and flouted England. His idea of Irish liberty was not solely a long-awaited chance for Irishmen to spit in the faces of Englishmen.

And that, in the eyes of his Irish enemies, was Michael Collins's crime.

As one of the heads of the Irish Free State under the treaty, Michael Collins was proving how even the most fervent Irish patriotism can bear responsibilities of statesmanship.

So they struck him down.

As Commander in Chief of the Free State forces, Michael Collins was ridding Ireland of lawlessness and ruffianism that sought sanction under the banners of a fanatical minority of political intransigents.

So they struck him down.

Irishmen against Irishmen, not only in fair fighting but in stealth and murder!

Even now—darkly, painfully stumbling toward peace through the blood of Irishmen shed by Irishmen, and the assassination of trustiest leaders!

Unhappy—still unhappy Ireland!

Secretary Hughes is likely to find it a real relief to start for Brazil to-morrow. Brazilian newspaper men and politicians may be polite enough to give the Newberry letter a rest.

WHERE IS THE STRANGLE HOLD?

SOMEWHERE in the anthracite situation there is a strangle hold that throttles a fair adjustment of wages and a reasonable price to the public.

The cost of coal for domestic uses has been rising ever since the Roosevelt settlement. At the lowest point last year it commanded twice the figure of fifteen years ago.

The dormant fuel in the mine has not risen in value from any natural cause. The increase has all been external.

Inquiries develop nothing. Prosecutions are of no avail. An overhead five times the amount paid the miners rests on every ton.

Where is the strangle hold?

It should be located and broken!

One reason why tennis is a popular sport was shown in the Boston tournament yesterday when Horcomb and Davis, doubles champions of a previous generation, lasted until the third round, when the luck of the draw brought them up against Tilden and Richards, present champions. Youth won, but middle age made a creditable showing.

SAILPLANING.

PRETTY much all the world is "up in the air" over the records made by German students in "sailplanes." Compared with sustained flights of one and two hours, the gliding efforts measured by as many minutes in the French tests do not seem impressive.

German sailplaning will not prove a national monopoly any more than the early triumphs of the Brazilian, Santos Dumont, or the epochal achievements of the Wright brothers in the United States. We shall learn from the Germans as the Germans learned from us.

We have become accustomed to the aeroplane with its big and heavy engines. At best these must be expensive and only the few can own them.

But if the Germans can sailplane, it is bound to have a decisive effect on all aeronautics. It is not too much to hope that a compromise be-

tween the two methods of flight will make possible construction of planes with small light engines combining the merits of both sailplane and aeroplane.

It seems clear that German flying students have made a definite and sweeping advance in aerial travel. The world will wait and watch for further developments and hope for the plane driven by an engine within the means of the average man—an aerial flivver.

NO TIME FOR MATCHES.

THREE years ago discontented railway firemen disregarded the majority opinion of their organization and went on strike. The action virtually paralyzed transportation on the roads affected. The term "outlaw" was applied to this minority.

To-day a small group of railway executives seem to be seeking to break away from their organization. This group is reported to favor a plan of action under which each system will be left to take care of its own labor situation. At a time of disagreement the minority proposes to break away from the majority and fight an industrial battle.

Wherein does this die-hard attitude differ from outlaw striking?

It happens that these roads serve the most populous industrial district in the United States. A "fight to a finish" on the Pennsylvania, the Erie, the New Haven and Lackawanna systems would be to a finish—the finish of this section.

If the group for which Mr. Loree speaks has its way, what is to prevent the unionized employees from calling a general strike of all union men on these particular systems? There is no denying that this is very much the sentiment of large sections of railroad labor.

Messrs. Loree, Underwood, Atterbury and their followers are playing with a highly dangerous explosive. Now is not the time to embark on the experiment.

EXPERIENCE VS. EXPERIENCE.

EXAMINATIONS for Supervisors of Public Markets are to be held by the Civil Service Commission. The O'Malleyites will have to show some reason why their claims to the jobs deserve consideration.

Nevertheless, it is expected that many of the present corruptionists will manage to squeeze through and continue in office. This is because Civil Service allows something for experience, and the men on the job will have that advantage.

However, by all just considerations another factor should be included and should weigh heavily. All these men have made bad records of public service in that they have collected fees without turning them into the public treasury.

That ought to count against the O'Malleyites and ought to counterbalance the advantage of experience. While it is true that the present Supervisors have had experience in the city's employ, so too has the city had experience in employing them and has come to the conclusion that many, if not most, of the Supervisors are crooked and corrupt.

There are fewer crazy people in the State this year. But we guess that those who are crazy are crazier than ever.

"CHILDREN FIRST."

ALL the country felt a little better and happier yesterday for reading the story of the schooner William H. Smith.

The ship was becalmed in the Pacific. The crew deliberately starved themselves so that a baby and its mother might have food.

It is an old story of the sea, old and yet forever new and inspiring. "Women and children first" is no mere lip service to seafaring men.

But "women and children first" really means "children first," for if the men take care of the two classes the women will give double care to the one.

It would be a good gamble that even when help came to the becalmed schooner the wife of the Captain had some little store of food saved from her own allowance that would go to the child in the last desperate extremity.

ACHES AND PAINS.

It was once thought that the bonds of the Irish Republic would be paid in fairy gold. Now it appears that the coin is to be forthcoming.

Cottage dwellers on the beach at Point Lookout report fine crops of tomatoes and squash grown in the "sue sand." Ought to be easy hoeing.

Wonder what the New York State Legislature can do to help the coal shortage? We do not produce any in the State and have no pull with Pennsylvania. It is always astonishing how much coal there is if you pay enough for it.

Pity the poor prisoners in the Jersey Pen who are deprived of their peaches. It is a native food over there. No wonder they revolted.

Mayor Hylan has said nothing for several days. His wife is back home.

Nothing like a northwest gale to remedy the skelter plague.

The ex-soldiers can use their bonus to pay for the tariff, while the tariff will go to pay the bonus. Isn't it all perfectly arranged?

JOHN KEETZ.

The Campaign Cigar!

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By John Cassel



Epoch-Making BOOKS

By Thomas Bragg
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"OLIVER TWIST"
When Dickens wrote "Oliver Twist" the workhouse management throughout Great Britain and the Continent was a disgrace to humanity. The scandal no longer exists, and its effacement was due to the influence of Dickens's immortal story of the little foundling who suffered so greatly at the hands of parish overseers.

Nothing could be humbler or more commonplace than the story of the progress of a workhouse boy; and yet Dickens's genius and the heart that he put into his task made "Oliver Twist" the agent of the largest good that had come to England for 100 years.

It is said of Abraham Lincoln that his hatred of the institution of slavery and his determination to do what he could to abolish it were caused by the sight of a slave auction down in New Orleans while he was a "hand" on a Mississippi flatboat. Dickens watched the workhouse boys as they suffered under the cruel management of the parish overseers and their hewings, and he resolved to let the world know about the heartless system, that it might come to be hated and destroyed.

Into the story of "Oliver Twist" the author threw all of his wit and humor, all of his pathos and indignation, and as a result the Augustan Stables were cleansed, the age-old disgrace was wiped out.

We are told that the influence of the book was magical. The sales were prodigious and little Oliver soon became the talk of the town, of all England, of the entire Continent.

Forster, Dickens's biographer, says he never knew Dickens to work as heartily or so persistently as he did while writing "Oliver Twist." He was at his work early and late, and seemed to be putting into it every ounce of his energy and devotion.

The work did not fall fruitless. It touched the hearts of the common people; it worked its way through the indifference of the rich and great; and best of all, it aroused a sense of sympathy in the bosoms of legislators and Judges, and so paved the way for the all-around improvement of workhouse conditions.

It is no wonder that Dickens was the ideal of the poor boys of England. They loved him with all their hearts, and they had reasons for loving him. He made a new world for them.

It is a pity that out of the 110,000,000 of Americans there is no Dickens to write another "Oliver Twist" in the interest of the child laborers who are killing themselves in our mills and factories.

But human nature is always adequate to the emergencies that beset it, and we cherish with utmost confidence the comforting conviction that sooner or later some clear-seeing, great-hearted American will write the story which shall do for our country what "Oliver Twist" did for England.

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT WORD?

204.—ELIXIR.

The word "elixir," with its distinctly non-English sound, is a direct loan from the Arabic language. In the original tongue of its ancestry the word is made up of "el" (the) and "lksr" (philosopher's stone).

In the science or pseudo-science of alchemy, also an Arabic invention in a period when the Arabs were leading the world in scientific research, this word came to be applied to the liquid, allied to the philosopher's stone, in which the alchemists vainly hoped to transmute metals and make gold out of base stuff.

It is in this sense of a liquid that the word is known to speakers of the English language. The word really dates that long and dark period when scientists were groping around for facts now either fully or partly ascertained.

As the Saying Is

"WHAT IS SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE IS SAUCE FOR THE GANDER."

This proverb is now taken to mean that what is fair for one is fair for another, that every Oliver shall have a Roland, and every tit a tit. Originally it must have signified that what is good for one sex is good for the other. The Saturday Review (Jan. 11, 1868) humorously protests that this must have been the invention of some rustic Mrs. Poyser, full of the consciousness of domestic power, and anxious to reverse in daily life the law of priority which obtained—as she must have seen—even in her own poultry yard.

"ONE FOOT IN THE GRAVE."

One foot in the grave, or, less commonly, one leg in the grave, a colloquialism applied to one who has some lingering disease, or who, in another common phrase, is on his last legs.

"One foot in the grave" is so terribly long before they put in the other. They seem, like birds, to repose better on one leg.

"COME OFF."

This bit of American slang, used imperatively and meaning "desist" or "cease," is relatively new to modern use. It is startling, therefore, to find that it occurs in Chaucer's "Parliament of Fowles" in exactly the modern sense. The birds grow tired of listening to a long discussion among the young eagles; and so at last: "Come off," they cry, "alike you will us shende!"

From Evening World Readers

What kind of letter do you find most readable? Isn't it the one that gives the worth of a thousand words in a couple of hundred? There is fine mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in few words. Take time to be brief.

Employment Agencies.

To the Editor of The Evening World: The letters in reference to employment agencies, published recently in your paper, were read with a great deal of interest. I have been convinced that during the past two or three years a great economic evil had sprung up in our midst, but thought that I was the only one who had, so far, put a correct estimate on the worth of those institutions.

It is wrong, beyond a question, that a man should be held up for a week's salary or more simply for the privilege of going to work. Yet the evil has grown to such an extent that it is almost impossible for an office man to find employment without paying some agency an amount equal to a week's salary.

The agency renders no service that is worth anything. It merely supplies the applicant with the name and address of a firm where he may apply for a position.

The only ones who are really benefited by this so-called service are the lazy employers who prefer to see through some one else's eyes and desire to save the cost of an advertisement. Why should the worker pay for this "service"?

It is true that under the law the agency must provide another position free of charge, if the one for which the applicant has paid proves to be of shorter than a year's duration; but this does not apply when the worker leaves the position of his own accord.

It is true there is no provision in the law that enables the worker to enforce this feature of the law, even when it does apply. Certainly, one can never prove that an agency willfully refused to live up to it.

It seems to me that legislation should place the burden of payment upon the employer, who receives the benefit, if there really is any benefit to be derived from these parasites.

FRANK H. DUNN.
New York, Aug. 18, 1922.

Blue Laws at Piqua.

To the Editor of The Evening World: Could anything be more absurd than the action of the churches at Piqua? Christ did not advocate nor teach the keeping of one day holy more than another. There are seven days in the week. We should remember to keep them all holy, do nothing that is wrong any day.

Fascal, the great French philosopher, when a child was caught out one Sunday morning measuring the grass to see whether or not God worked on Sunday. These ignorant fanatics are no doubt governed by good intentions. We've been told for ages that hell was paved with good intentions. We haven't a doubt of it. Ignorance and good intentions have

given us the hell from which we suffer to-day. We are sadly in need of the church's work but we want intelligent men and women in the pulpit, in public affairs generally. Women would not and could not have made a bigger batch of civilization than man has done. They are braver, have infinitely more moral courage, and those who have had the opportunity to study are as a rule better informed than men.

Let men and women work together side by side in all the relations of life as heaven intended and we'll soon have a better world, one in which righteousness shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

JOSE THORPE PRICE.
Inwood, L. I., Aug. 18.

The Ku Klux Klan.

To the Editor of The Evening World: In the Atlantic Monthly for July Mr. Le Roy Percy has written an article entitled "The Modern Ku Klux Klan." Here is what he says: "The Klan excludes from membership Negroes, Jews, Catholics and foreign-born, whether citizens or not. In its own phrase, it is the only Gentile white Protestant American-born organization in the world. It is secret; its membership is secret, in that respect differing probably from every other secret society in America, though like enough to many in Russia."

The Congressional Record prints in full the Klan's ritual and the silly explanation in defense of it by its founder, Grand Wizard Simmons. In the Ku Klux Klan hearings before the Committee on Rules, House of Representatives, Sixty-seventh Congress, the oath of the Klan was given.

Its viciousness becomes glaring in the fact that this Klan makes a special effort to enroll in its membership county and city officials and even members of the judiciary. Among its paid speakers is Joseph G. Camp, formerly a Lyceum lecturer, now dubbed "Colonel." His speech, wringing dry of its oratory and its indefinite but ardent praise of "100 per cent. Americanism," may be accurately summarized in two paragraphs: First, the Jews, the Catholics, the Negroes, the alien born, are organized; they are a menace to American institutions; it is necessary to combat their pernicious influence; the sole weapon to hand is the Ku Klux Klan. Therefore, if you are a true American, join the Klan. Second, the morals of the country are in a perilous condition; they are a menace to American institutions; the Klan loveth righteousness; if you are on the side of the angels join the Klan.

The Klan speakers seem always to stress that part of their address outlining the regulation of private mor-

UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake

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A MAN WHO KEPT ON.

Before he was thirty Alexander Graham Bell, who just died at the age of seventy-five, had invented the telephone.

A few years later he had made patent arrangements which insured him a big income for the rest of his life.

It would have been possible for the young inventor to retire from all work and seek ways and means to spend an abundant supply of money.

But the sort of brains that create are not the brains that get any pleasure out of idleness.

Prof. Bell continued with the telephone till it was perfected.

He welcomed the co-operation of other men, accepting the ideas for improvements they had to offer.

He remained interested in telephones and in electrical development to the end of his days, always maintaining a laboratory and continually experimenting.

But that was not all. Interested in important affairs, he went to Washington to reside, where he could view them at first hand.

He was a familiar figure on the streets of the capital and often present in the galleries of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

He made the acquaintance of public men of his own country and of the Ambassadors who came from other countries.

He was often consulted on public matters, for he had a cool head and extremely sound judgment.

Prof. Bell was one of the founders of the American Geographical Society, which has done wonderful work in making easier the study of the world and the people that live in it.

He was always interested in science and always ready to encourage young men who devoted themselves to it.

At seventy-five he was bigger and abler than at forty—and had he lived to be one hundred he would have been still bigger and abler.

His brain took no rest. It kept on. And because it kept on he got 100 per cent. value out of life.

als, and that part is very much the same wherever delivered, but the remainder of the address appears to refer to in a manner to rejoice the country to the other to suit the outstanding prejudice or antipathy of the particular audience being exhorted.

It is said that in California the anti-Japanese feeling is the basis of appeal; in some localities the Jew is referred to in a manner to rejoice the heart of Henry Ford; less frequently white supremacy as an anti-Negro appeal is eloquently defended; but it appears that the Church of Rome is never scanted. Always she is represented as the deadly enemy of American institutions, to be crushed not so much for her religious tenets as for her dark and unexplained political machinations. Col. Camp regaled his audiences with references to "that old dago of the Tiber" and that sick

JOHN T. McCAFFREY.