

NEED THE PITTANCE... MEN WORK ON STONE PILE... Wives and Mothers, Many of Them, Lack Life's Necessities Because 65 Cents a Day Isn't Paid, Although Law Provides It

By ANNA B. BURNS

How Councils for nearly three years have serenely 'forgotten' to provide for the enforcement of the stone pile act of 1813, causing innocent women and children to suffer, is told in this, the fifth of a series of social reform articles written for the EVENING LEDGER by Miss Anna B. Burns, a social worker.

While the wives and children of deserting and non-supporting husbands and fathers are suffering real destitution during the imprisonment of these men in the House of Correction, the county of Philadelphia profits by the misery of the innocent victims of the county's neglect.

In 1913 the State Legislature enacted a law providing that men who desert or refuse to support their families shall be sent to the House of Correction and compelled to work on the stone pile, and that out of their earnings there shall be paid to their families the sum of 65 cents a day during the term of their imprisonment.

Deserting and non-supporting husbands and fathers are sent to the stone pile to do hard labor there, whereby the county profits to the extent that it is unnecessary to employ hired labor to crush stone because not one cent has been paid for the families of these men, for whose relief the law was passed.

Sixty-five cents a day is a small matter to the city of Philadelphia, but it means a great deal to the wives and children, who have no other source of income.

WHAT ONE VICTIM SAYS. "One woman whom a probation officer and I visited, and whose husband is at present imprisoned at the House of Correction, told us this story: 'My husband is a first-class mechanic, and when he worked he earned not less than \$18 a week and usually \$25 or \$30. When he did give me anything it was not more than 10 or 12 cents, and I never saw him with the rest. Only the Almighty and I know what I have suffered at the hands of that man. He has always abused me since about the second year after our marriage, but none of the children know of it except the oldest boy. He was the only protection I had, and he died two years ago. That took half my life away. Since that time my husband has treated me worse than ever. He is an excessive drinker, but he seemed to care for me and the children, and I never knew him once to kiss any of the children or even to pick them up.'

"I have nine children living. Eight of them I have at home. The one boy who doesn't live here, the oldest boy is working. He earns \$3 a week and gives me \$1.50. The other boy gives me \$1.50 a week, and I do not know what I should do if it were not that the mission helps me out with clothes for the children. 'I manage to provide food for the children, but of course it is not what it should be. I just paid a bill of more than \$2 down

TROUSERS FOR WOMEN? WELL, HARDLY! NOT EVEN THESE SILKEN SUBTLITIES

Skirts, Decried by Centuries of Custom, Are Insignia of Her Luxurious Ease and Queenly Dominion Over the Home

GRADUALLY, barely perceptibly, there creeps stealthily upon the unsuspecting human race from time to time a skulking savage whose intention is to replace the skirts of women with trousers. This savage is a little mad, for whenever he is asked the question 'Why?' he always answers 'Why not?' He is not constructive, he is destructive. There must be some reason for women wearing skirts, even if it is a poor reason.



When primitive man became rich enough to let his wife sit at home and do nothing, he proudly tramped her in with crumpled and fast didn't have to work. In the same way, in China, he made his wife's feet so tender that she could not walk. The best reason for skirts seems to be that they are pontifical, requiring the dignity of a priestess of humanity, bearing and bringing up the young, and, therefore, requiring the dignity of skirts. Just as the clergy, to whom is entrusted the care of souls, wear robes, so women, who are entrusted the care of souls, namely, children, preside over their flock in skirts.

A SPRING NOVELTY FOR HOUSE OR OFFICE. Among the interesting things that the leading garment makers are showing for spring in this affair is a Jersey silk fabric which has all the charm of a costume, but can be worn as the popular one-piece dress. This creation was developed in a white-ribbed silk fabric trimmed in blue.

same reason, and the Court made an order on him, but he has never paid it. He now owes me more than \$100, and I don't suppose I will ever get it. 'If I could collect 65 cents a day of what my husband earns while he is in the House of Correction it would help me a great deal, especially now, when I am alone, and I don't suppose I will ever get it.'

THE NOVEL OF THE YEAR. BY GEORGE A. CHAMBERLAIN. CHAPTER XLII—Continued. 'REALLY?' said Alex, nestling down closer to his arm and letting her smiling eyes wander over him. 'How well this suit fits you. There's something about it. It isn't, is it?'

Gerry nodded. 'Same old suit. By the way, when I came in John said you told him to telephone to me. I don't know what he wished to see me. What made you think I would go to the club first?'

Gerry smiled. 'From the looks of him I predict he gets his letter in freshman year—centre on the football team.' 'Yes, perhaps,' said Alex thoughtfully. 'Everybody calls him Fat already.'

CHAPTER XLIII. GERRY had always been quiet, but during the long drive from the station to the Pire, his silence amounted to a restraining silence. Alex felt that it did not depress her, she knew herself to be in the presence of a communion. Gerry was devoting the hour of his residence to the scenes of his boyhood to a slight consolation. These cool valleys brought back the memories they evoked.

SCHOOL STRIKER URGED AT PARENTS' MEETING

Changes Are, However, That New Revolt in Germantown Will Not Materialize

The agitation in the Fittler School, because William H. Snowden was elected and Miss Margaret Gill was elevated to the principalship, is still going on. Another strike is being urged, but the chances for this hope are not bright.

The whole thing was brushed out again when 400 parents met last night in the Germantown Boys' Club, William C. Lynch, one of the parents and an attorney, who has been active in the campaign for the re-election of Snowden to the old place, urged that the strike be reinstated, but Samuel J. Houston, chosen president of the parents' organization, was against the plan and he prevailed.

The matter was argued at some length, and a compromise was finally agreed upon. The parents decided to organize a parade on Saturday, March 4, through the streets of Germantown as a demonstration in support of the school children. Floats and banners, protesting against the action of the school authorities, will then be exhibited.

At the meeting placards were shown which bore the inscription, 'Spiritless Fittler—spitless because of favoritism, indifference and treachery,' and denounced the ruling statesman as 'the product of brains long since fossilized and moss grown.'

Eight thousand circulars, labeled 'The Public School System in Danger, and containing a plea that the Board of Education shall henceforth be chosen by popular vote instead of by judicial appointment, will be distributed.

The permanent organization formed last night is known as the 'Parents' Association of Germantown.' Its objects were stated as being the promotion of the interests of the pupils of the 23d Ward, and the improvement of the public school organization to other wards in the city. The next meeting is to be held on March 10.

The officers elected were: Samuel J. Houston, president; Charles H. Rittenhouse, first vice president; Rev. Wesley Green, pastor of the Third Baptist Church, second vice president; Mrs. Edgar Ashman, a former teacher in the public schools, third vice president; Thomas A. Baus, treasurer, and Edgar Ashman, secretary.

A meeting of the pupils of the Fittler School, who are endeavoring to perfect an organization of 1909, was also held last night.

Richmond to Preach in Logan. Dr. Thomas E. Eldridge has offered the Rev. George Chalmers Richmond the use of his clinical lecture hall, at 1811 North Logan square, in which to hold Sunday evening services. Dr. Richmond has accepted the offer and will preach in Logan square every Sunday night, beginning March 5.

MARRIED. WHEELER-HOBART.—At Santa Barbara, Cal., on February 24, HANNAH NEIL HOBERT to CHARLES WHEELER.

IN MEMORIAM. NEELY.—In loving remembrance of Mrs. ELIZABETH GIBSON NEELY, wife of the late William H. Neely, who departed this life in the city of Philadelphia on February 25, 1916, at the age of 72 years, devoted husband, beloved father—WILLIAM THOMAS NEELY, entered his 80th birthday, February 25, 1916. WILLIAM ELMER WILSON.

DEATHS. DAIGNEY.—On February 25, 1916, THOMAS DAIGNEY, husband of the late Anna Daigney, died at his residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

DALEY.—On February 25, 1916, RALPH D. DALEY, wife of Charles H. Daley, died at her residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

DARRAH.—On February 25, 1916, EDWIN DARRAH, husband of the late Joseph D. Darrah, died at his residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

DEHMAN.—At Woodbury, N. J., on February 25, 1916, LOUISA, widow of Lewis Thomas Dehman, died at her residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

DOVNEY.—On February 25, 1916, JOHN J. DOVNEY, husband of Elizabeth F. Dovney (nee Hodson) and son of the late William J. Dovney, died at his residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

ECKER.—On February 25, 1916, FREDERICK ECKER, husband of the late Mary E. Ecker, died at his residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

ESTLOW.—Suddenly on February 24, 1916, ESTLOW, aged 75 years, died at his residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

FLANIGAN.—On February 25, 1916, MARY E. wife of Bartholomew F. Flanagan and daughter of the late John and Mary Flanagan, died at her residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

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GAIN.—On February 25, 1916, ANNA, widow of George G. Gain, died at her residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

GANIKILL.—At Lawrenceville, N. J., on February 25, 1916, ANNE BARTIN, wife of Dr. Thomas E. Eldridge, died at her residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

GRIFFITH.—On February 25, 1916, DAVID GRIFFITH, husband of the late Mary Griffith, died at his residence, 1218 North 10th st., at 10:30 a. m. Burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia, on Sunday, February 27, 1916, at 10 a. m. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

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Continuation of the 'Deaths' section, listing names and dates of passing.