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PARCEL POST GROWTH.

Cautions against mistakes which the public is making in its use of the parcel post continue to come with frequency from the managers of the new service. Such are sticking on packages the wrong kind of stamps, depositing them at wrong boxes and stations, writing instructions other than the address on the wrappers, and so on.

The best way to remove annoyances would be to change the regulations. Special stamps are perfectly needless.

The parcel post has come to stay. It is used more every day. In less than four weeks the business has grown to such huge volume that the Postoffice Department is constantly driven to expand its facilities for handling the shipments. Farmers, advertising their commodities to be sent to consumers by mail, have found such a demand for their articles that they have been unable, in some cases, to get enough shipping packages.

All those things, not to speak of the stunning effect of the new service on the express companies, give an idea of how the parcel post business has already grown and of how it will continue to grow as the people of the United States become more familiar with its advantages and more accustomed to its workings.

No doubt, before long, we shall hear renewal of the protest that the parcel post is ruining the country town. It will come from the same old sources that always sounded that alarm: sources which had more relation to the express companies than to the country merchants.

It is going to be easy to get the parcel system expanded and bettered, and the first move should be an increase of the weight limit to, say, fifty pounds. That would make it a real factor for bringing farm and town closer together and reducing living expenses.

TO EDUCATE ENGLAND.

Prime Minister Asquith's project for a vast educational system, to be maintained at the expense of the nation, is discussed with great vehemence throughout Great Britain. The scheme is designed to open a path to the gates of the university to every boy and girl whose mental and moral equipment warrant such an advantage. This innovation is to be accomplished by the establishment of a system of nationally supported primary and secondary schools and by a colossal development of universities and technical schools.

The argument for this extension is furnished in concrete form by Viscount Haldane, the lord chancellor, who recently announced that a sweeping reorganization of the present "chaotic" system of instruction is essential "if our productive power is to be maintained in comparison with that of our rivals."

The principal "rival" is Germany, where education has been so extended, that the Germans have laid themselves open to the charge of being over-educated.

The danger of that condition arising in England is many generations ahead. It can be met when it is faced. Meanwhile, "Overeducated" Germany is watching its industry, wealth, and power stride ahead with a placidity that does not suggest grave worry about imminent danger.

THE CULT OF AMERICAN FASHIONS.

The movement for American fashions seems to be gaining substantial ground. How far the supremacy of tyrannical Paris will be shaken is, of course, doubtful as yet; but it appears clear, judging from numerous articles in magazines devoted to women, that a real revolt is on, which the hobble skirt and the sneath gown have helped to hasten.

The whole dreadful plot is being laid before the eyes of the harassed American wife and her shuddering husband. It appears that French modistes maintain costly establishments in the Rue de la Paix and the Place Vendome which exist to a great extent on the largess of the American trade. It is to their interest to change the styles as often as possible, and to make the changes so radical that the wearer of a gown out of style will feel mortified to the point of buying a new one.

The victim is compelled to discard her raiment before she has had more than a little wear out of it, in order that she may keep up with the procession. Tens of thousands of dresses made of expensive goods meet this fate every season, with the resultant encouragement to extravagance. Besides, the way things are going a woman is almost forced to make the question of dress the dominant one in her thoughts, which ought to be occupied to a greater extent with things that mean more to her and to her family.

The general plan of the movement seems to be a drift toward conservatism of style, while cultivating beauty of line. A mode which has something more than novelty to recommend it will last longer. Even if there is a change, it is not to be made so sweeping that the old dress will have to be thrown away at once.

Part of the scheme is to drive home the suggestion that American women sometimes appear grotesque in costumes designed for the French and which might look very well on the figure of a chic Parisienne. Dress ought to be an expression of individuality, and it seems reasonable that anything ap-

proaching a type ought to be adapted to the general characteristics of the wearer.

If the American woman really wishes to break from her bondage, there would appear to be little doubt that she has the resourcefulness to do so in time.

THE TELEPHONE INVESTIGATION.

The Interstate Commerce Commission today issued its order for the investigation of the telephone and telegraph business. It sets forth that information has been lodged with the commission that the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and allies are attempting to monopolize the telephone and telegraph business.

The forthcoming inquiry will be different from any other the Interstate Commission has ever conducted, because it is perfectly plain that its developments will greatly influence the rapidly growing sentiment which favors nationalization of wire communication facilities. Thus far, in its various inquiries into railroad rates and administration the commission has never had to take into consideration the possible effect of its decisions upon an impending policy of Government ownership.

In the matter of telephones and telegraphs this rule does not apply. The findings of the commission as to the essential desirability or undesirability of monopoly, as to the inflation of capitalization, the reasonableness of rates, the efficiency of service and many other points will be considered by the public, and by Congress, with the thought always in mind of their bearing on the problem of public ownership.

The recommendation of a Postmaster General for public ownership; the example of nearly all the rest of the world, now re-enforced by the British acquisition of the telephone service; the widespread concern over the stupendous growth and power of the wire monopoly that is forming in private hands; all these things have made public ownership an issue that cannot be staved off for long. It is going to demand the attention of Congress very soon. The more light Congress has, when that time comes, the better. The Interstate Commission will do the country and its own excellent reputation great service if it makes the most thorough and illuminating inquiry it has ever conducted.

PATRONAGE AND THE SENATE.

Some 2,000 appointments by President Taft, to various Federal offices or promotions in the army and navy, are being held up in the Senate because the Democratic Senators object to their confirmation. The Senate's rule of unlimited debate makes the hold-up possible. The Democrats declined to permit votes to be taken, and now the Republican caucus has determined to force continuous sessions in the hope of wearing out the Democrats and forcing them to permit votes.

It looks like child's play in one way; like cheap patronage grabbing in another. Yet it is the logical outcome of the program which the Taft Administration adopted during the Congressional campaign of 1910, when the patronage power was deliberately devoted to the purpose of "destroying" the insurgent Republicans. That was a pitiful exhibition of bad political judgment, for the country resented the enterprise and repudiated the Administration in most emphatic fashion. Every insurgent against whom the patronage hold-up had been invoked was enthusiastically re-elected.

Since that time the Administration has held back hundreds of nominations that ought to have been made, merely for political effect. For a year and more, before the Chicago convention of last June, the President declined to make nominations in many cases. It was desired, in this way, to keep incumbent and aspirant on the anxious seat, and to insure the loyalty of both to the President. The proceeding duly lubricated the pregnant ninges of a good many pairs of knees, but its final results were hardly more satisfying than they had been in the Congressional campaign of 1910.

The conventions being over and the nominations made, it was still necessary, according to the small-brother political policy of the Administration, to continue the same proceeding. Vacancies would not be filled until after election, it was understood; the aspirants who remained "loyal" to Taft, who refused to support Roosevelt, would be favored. Again the pregnant hinges bent, and men who had stuck by the Administration through the pre-convention campaign in the hope of being paid in appointments, continued their devotion in the hope that after election, at any rate, thrift would reward their fawning.

That explains why great arrears of overdue appointments have accumulated. Mr. Taft is now trying to pay the political debts that were incurred as the price of his support in the nomination and also in the election campaign. Small wonder that Democrats and Progressives as well, are so disgusted with this species of office brokerage that they are prepared to indulge extreme methods to break down the project.

It is unfortunate that military and naval promotions should be entangled in this affair. The Senate ought to single them out for confirmation. Nothing can be gained by holding them up, and it is an injustice to both the service and the individuals involved.

But there is the best of reason for refusal to confirm any appointment that represents a delayed reward for political loyalty. It is notorious that Mr. Taft never would have had a chance to be nominated, even with the aid of fraud and grand larceny, if the patronage had not been used as it was used. The aspirants for pap were given to understand that the price of their appointments would be their support of Taft. The time has come to pay that price, and it ought not to be permitted. The Democrats and Progressives are really making a fight for decency and for clean politics. This is precisely the time to serve notice on the present and all future Presidents, that the Senate will not permit the unblushing purchase of political support by wholesale, with appointments to office. It is a ruinous and demoralizing business.

THIS & THAT

With Sometimes a Little of the Other

Are you wondering what brought on the cold wave? Elementary, Watson. An anonymous contributor postcards the suggestion that Congress advance the baseball opening a couple of months, this being at the time he wrote, and for all we know, by the time you read—ideal ball weather. Think of the excellent paragraph embodied in that idea going to waste because the weather turned cold.

THE LIMIT OF TOLERANCE.

I'm not a fastidious person;
I'm not of a nature to pick—
For pictures of fruit in a dining room
suit
Me entirely; I haven't a kick.
Some Bach on the parlor piano,
A casual volume of Hume,
Are definite proofs of Darwinian roofs
That I rather enjoy in a room.
I never go looking for trouble;
I aim to be gracious and good;
I'm gentle and kind, with a liberal
mind—
But I chisel the line at BURN'T WOOD,
CHEVY CHASE.

Arbitrary enactment that one must be electrocuted, rather than hanged, strikes us as unjust. A man should have his choice. So broad-minded are we, in fact, that we believe that the privilege of choosing should be extended even to the following—and, furthermore, we'll lend a hand in carrying out their wishes:

The man who uses "cute."
The comedian in a male quartet;
The man who hands out loaded
cigars;
The man who argues that big
league ball games are fixed;
The man who leads the laughter at
one of his own jokes.

Hanging will remain in vogue, after all, and the chair will be the punishment only for certain crimes. Selection, oh?

Firm though we are in our stand for woman's suffrage, there are occasions when we vacillate—oh, ever so slightly. Mrs. Anita C. Brooks, for example, will wear diamond-heeled slippers in the suffrage.

We're sold on the other hand, for the suffragettes who are advising women to give up bridge whist. Out of seventy-nine lady bridgewhists, our acquaintance, seventy-seven are secretly tickled to death when they're dummies, seventy-eight kick in with their ace the first time their opponents lead a suit, and seventy-nine will sneeze for an opponent's king by leading away from the ace, and up to queen-jack. Suffrage for women, by all means. But bridge whist and auction for men.

Some Actress Is Right.

(From a moving picture ad in The Times.)

Today: "Auld Lang Syne," with Florence Turner in Title Role.

It seems that we have shamefully maligned members of the committee on ball room decorations, as it isn't true that theirs is an easy job. They have to go down to the station, March 3, to welcome Mr. Wilson.

The tax for a choice seat in one of the Lafayette Square stands will be five bones, exclusive, of course, of the doctor's bill for treating the cold.

There is soon to be with us, according to advance announcements, "the radiantly young and beautiful actress, Maude Gilbert." Which is quite some young, believe us.

THE ENERGY WASTERS.
CLEMENT: "Admonishing a barber to be sure not to baptize you in witch hazel."

G. H. J.: "Telling the gas company that you simply must have the gas turned on by 6 o'clock that evening."

A meeting of the Personal Friends Club was held last evening to hear the report of the membership committee on the eligibility of "new recruits." Favorable action was taken.

"Five cent nickel pieces," however, nominated by the "Star," was refused admission by a close vote.

The lowering of the duty on Parisian gowns hinges on whether these articles are to be regarded as necessities or luxuries—and the w. and m. committee asked the association of American tailors what it thought about it. Gliding Goldbers, as you might say.

WERE BRINGING THEM AROUND.
"From the 'Post.'"
The Democratic Club will march in the inaugural parade. "Dark waterproof coats will be worn as uniforms."

The president of the fruit trust practically admits that his company is the greatest little public benefactor that this country ever has seen. The House committee, we understand, has placed an order for one halo, size 74.

The Democrats, ere the Senate wangle be ended, will probably get their fill-o'-buster.

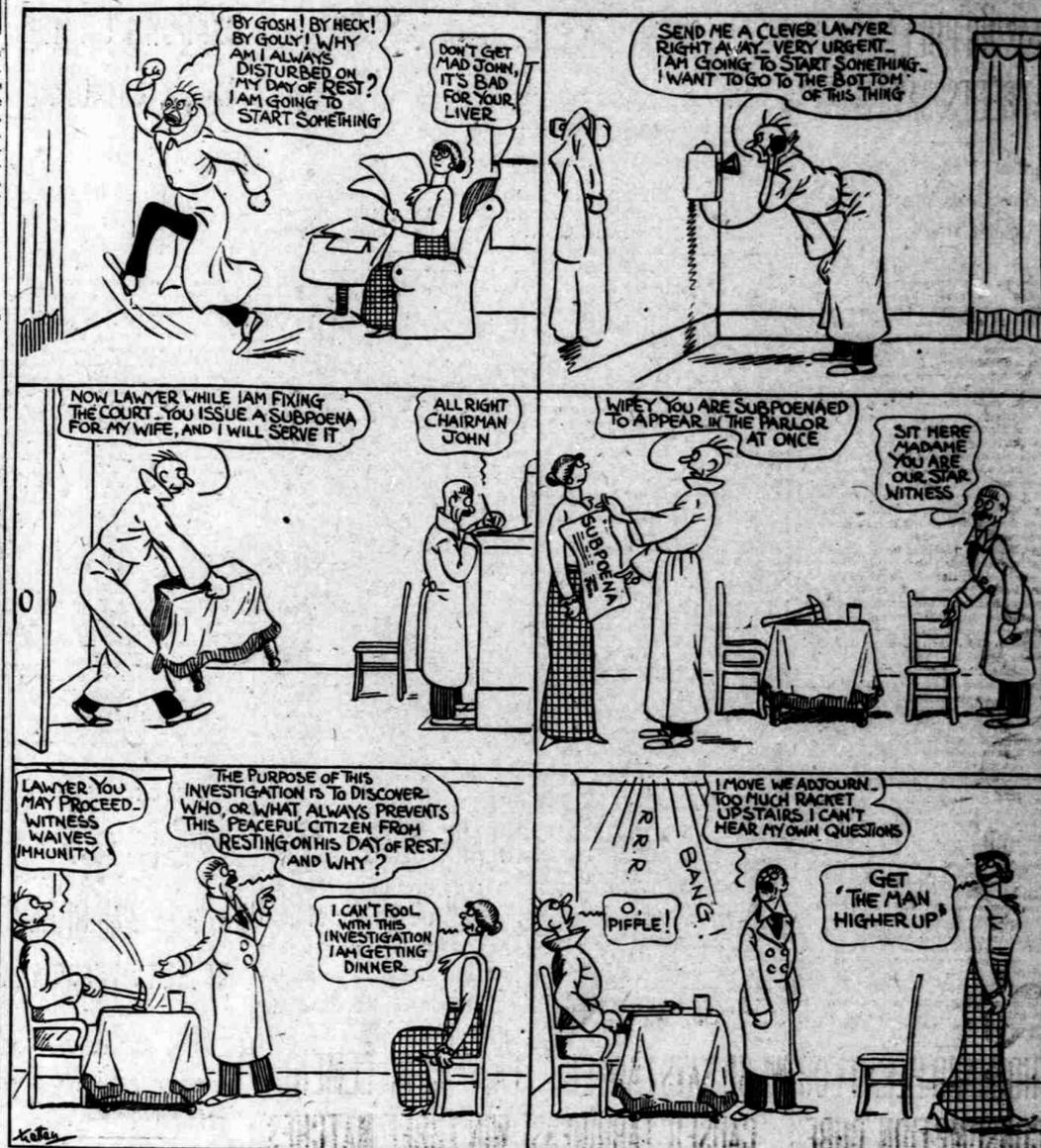
Official song of the insurance probe: "And they went ram-bulling—"

Add McCombs Club: Wilfred T. Webb.

If one of the Boy Scouts who "will be assigned to assist the police in handling the crowds" on March 4, should take a notion to handle YOU, would you do the same thing we would?

If so, you ought to be ashamed of yourself.

THE DAY OF REST! By MAURICE KETTEN



The Jarr Family

By Roy L. Gardner

right and take the whole family out to dinner.

"Yes, if he'd take us all out to all meals I wouldn't need the raise," said Mr. Jarr. "But I tell you what you can do: you can sew rubber pockets in my dress suit and I'll distract the boss' attention and fill the pockets with soup and salad and cafe parfait and asparagus and bring it all home to you and our little ones."

"Oh, don't talk nonsense," Mrs. Jarr had retorted. "Don't you let him put you off any more by telling you his troubles. Why, he would never have married Clara Audridge but for us. Remind him of that."

"No," Mr. Jarr had answered, "that isn't what a good salesman would call a talking point."

So here they were, Jarr and his boss, at a high priced restaurant, and Mr. Jarr waiting a chance to ask for a raise.

"What are all these waiters striking for?" asked the boss. "They must have gone out on strike when we came in. None has come for our order!"

Mr. Jarr felt he'd better wait till the boss was in a better humor before he broached the subject of salary.

"I feel like going on a strike myself," began Mr. Jarr gloomily, but the boss called to a bellboy who was passing and asked him to page a waiter, and so wasn't hearing Mr. Jarr's remark.

"When the waiter arrived, Mr. Jarr's boss, who thought because he was rich he could get what he wanted to pay for, began to tell the waiter just what he wanted and just how he wanted it.

"First," said Mr. Jarr's boss, "I want trout, genuine trout, the speckled trout. And tell the chef it must be LIVE trout, understand?"

The waiter nodded condescendingly.

"Then I want the four crusted chicken crumble—not cracker dust—C-R-U-M-B-S. Then I want it rubbed with fresh butter—not salt butter—and grilled over hickory wood embers to a light golden brown. Understand, a light golden brown."

"Yes, sir," said the waiter.

"Then tell the chef to make a sauce with Madeira, not sherry, and serve with the sauce on the side—not over the trout. Understand that?"

The waiter understood it perfectly. The kitchen was right behind where Mr. Jarr was sitting. Through the thin partition Mr. Jarr heard the waiter bawl to the chef:

"Baked trout!"

"I don't care what they cost," said Mr. Jarr's boss, not hearing this. "I must have my trout just so! What were you saying?"

Mr. Jarr Gets Inside Facts On How the 'Other Half' Eat.

THE boss had taken Mr. Jarr out to luncheon. Mr. Jarr had asked for a raise of salary. He knew Mr. Jarr's boss had felt the need of a raise of salary; he knew Mr. Jarr needed a raise of salary; he was aware of the fact that Mr. Jarr's stipend had stayed at a fixed point for ten years at the same sum, while the cost of living had almost doubled.

Mr. Jarr's boss had felt the increased cost of living with an expensive young wife) also. He had

the price of the goods he handled at wholesale in consequence. He knew Mr. Jarr ought to have the raise of salary—but he couldn't get his hand open. He couldn't.

Consequently, every time Mr. Jarr broached the subject the boss took him out to dinner, and over the highest priced food and costliest wine, told Mr. Jarr, with choking voice, how he "just kept his head above water and the business going" by manifold financial ambidextrous feats.

Before Mr. Jarr could get to the point of telling his boss how he simply had to have five dollars more a week or quit, the boss's own financial difficulties would have Mr. Jarr so worried that the other would be compelled to elect him up by opening a few more bottles of rare vintage at about \$15 a vino.

Then the boss would buy a box, at speculative prices, at the reigning theatrical success, just to keep Mr. Jarr from worrying any more over his (the boss's) troubles. In fact, Mr. Jarr would get so upset after listening to his boss's financial worries, that as he took Mr. Jarr home in his automobile, it used nearly to break the boss's heart to see Mr. Jarr so blue about it.

Mr. Jarr had been keeping up a strenuous fight for his salary raise. Every morning he went downtown determined to get it, and every evening the boss brought him home, with Mr. Jarr fretting himself over the money the boss was losing.

The prospect of the \$5 a week raise was not very bright, but Mr. Jarr had had fifteen dinners, and had been taken to the theater afterwards, at a total cost to the boss of enough to pay for a year the extra salary Mr. Jarr had asked for.

"Much good that does me or the children," Mrs. Jarr had whimpered that very day. "Why don't he do the thing

Defenseless Woman.

ONE of Blanche Bates' most intimate friends is telling a rather funny story about this clever actress, says the Toledo Blade.

"She came into my house one evening very much excited, and I said to her: 'Blanche, for heaven's sake, what is the matter with you? You seem to be all gone to pieces.'"

"'Matter enough,' she answered as her voice shook with anger. 'I have been accosted by a man in the street.'"

"'What did you do?' I asked."

"'I hauled off and hit him in the face,' she answered, 'and I said to him: "You'd ought to speak to a defenseless woman!"'

"'And where he when you said this?' I again inquired."

"'Rolling in the gutter where he fell when I hit him,' she said in a surprised tone at my question."

Memories of Players Of Other Days.

E. L. DAVENPORT. By Robert Grau.

Achieve the reputation of being versatile has always operated against the actor. And undoubtedly the very fact that Edward L. Davenport was one of the most versatile actors the American stage has ever known may account for his career being less notable than that of Edwin Booth.

Yet Davenport had no superior in a dozen roles; while in such parts as Sir Giles Overleach in "A New Way to Pay Old Debts," and Claude Melnotte in "The Lady of Lyons," he was without a peer.

Born in Boston, in 1816, the youthful years of Davenport were spent in that city in mercantile pursuits. But during his spare hours the lad was active in amateur work, and at the age of eighteen he became the leading man of the Booth Amateur Dramatic Association in Boston, where his success was such as to attract the attention of a manager in Providence, R. I.

Here Davenport appeared under an assumed name, being in doubt as to the outcome. But as fate would have it he scored his first success as a professional actor in the very play with which his name will be associated as long as dramatic history endures.

Davenport played the Parson in "A New Way to Pay Old Debts" so well that he was given the important parts in future productions. At the age of twenty he assumed the role of William in "Black-Eyed Susan," and he continued to play it almost throughout his unexampled career, even when his reputation as a Shakespearean exponent should have meant the elimination of everything else.

But Davenport believed that an actor should not be a specialist. Hence he was wont to interrupt a successful run of "Othello" or "King Lear" in order that he might be seen in "Black-Eyed Susan," preceded by a wild farce.

This versatility of Davenport's went so far that the height of his career he would come before the curtain between the acts of "Hamlet" or "Richard III" and sing a ballad. He could sing so well that occasionally he would go on short tours in small towns where versatility would find a greater appeal.

For many years after Davenport's death, in 1877, the attitude of the public toward him was greatly deepened by some of the best known writers; who also expressed regret that the deceased actor had not emphasized his extraordinary talents in such a way that they would have been permanently endowed by his pupils.

And all agreed that his principles, worthy and artistic as they were, served to retard his way over a public unlearned as to his ideas.

E. L. Davenport was the father of the late Fanny Davenport and of two sons who are now on the stage.

Good Stories

He Didn't Forget.

ATTORNEY EPHRAIM LIP-SCHUTZ recently had a client who was to come up for a hearing before Magistrate Gallagher.

"What is your name?" asked Mr. Lipschutz of his client when the latter came to him with the case.

"James P. O'Brode," was the reply.

"What is your middle name?"

"Patrick."

"Well, now when Magistrate Gallagher asks you your name say James Patrick O'Brode, and don't forget the Patrick."

"Sure, I won't," promised the client.

When O'Brode was arraigned and Magistrate Gallagher asked the first question, "What is your name?" the prisoner said in stentorian tones, "James Patrick O'Brode, and don't forget the Patrick."

He was discharged.—Philadelphia Press.

His Dream.

IT was 3 o'clock in the morning and the whole world was hushed in sleep. Suddenly there was a piercing yell. It was in the house of the milkman.

"What could it mean?"

The milkman's wife was roused from her sleep by another gurgling shriek. Shaking her husband by the shoulders, she awakened him.

"What on earth is the matter with you?" she demanded.

"Oh, he could only gasp as he wiped the beads of perspiration from his brow. 'I've had a most horrible dream!'

"'What was it?' demanded his wife anxiously.

"'I dreamed the pump had been stolen,'" answered the milkman.—Philadelphia Record.

Amusements.

National—"The Quaker Girl," 2:15 and 8:15 p. m.
Belasco—"Zaza," 2 and 8 p. m.
Columbia—"The Sunshine Girl," 8:15 p. m.
Chase—"Polite Vaudeville," 2:15 and 8:15 p. m.
Poll-Vaudeville, afternoon and evening.
Academy—"Six Honolins," 8:15 p. m.
Cosmos-Vaudeville.
Casino-Vaudeville.
Lyceum—"Bohemian Burlesquers," 2:15 and 8:15 p. m.
Gaiety—"College Girl Burlesquers," 2:15 and 8:15 p. m.