THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL

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KANSAS AND STANDARD OIL.

EARLY in the history of the Standard Oil Company the genius of Mr. Rockefeller saw the relation of transportation to the competition which he desired to destroy. Out of this came the oil pipe line system, an original and excellent device for the transportation of oil, wherever practicable. But it was not as universally practicable as was necessary to secure the entire control of the oil market, at which Mr. Rockefeller aimed. Then he resorted to compulsion of the railroads to secure for himself secret rebates, which made him the master and the tyrant of the situation. Competition was destroyed, dead, and without a monument other than the ruin of enterprises. Mr. Rockefeller became dictator of the price of crude oil to the producer, and of refined in all its forms to the consumer.

This is merely the restatement of an admitted fact. In reply to the somewhat hysterical attacks upon Mr. Rockefeller, his attorney has admitted the rebates and defended them on the ground that when they were forced upon the railroads and enjoyed by his client there was no law against that form of discrimination. That is both true and false. There was no statute law against an evil and discrimination that had not been noticed nor discussed. But the common law of common carriers, enforceable by the courts in the absence of a statute, requires that they give equal service at equal and reasonable rate to all alike. The attorney's defense was made in vindication of the morality of Mr. Rockefeller's business methods, but it was an inadequate defense.

However, with the vast oil business field to himself Mr. Rockefeller did not lose sight of his early discovery that whoso controls the transportation of a country controls also its production and consumption. His profits on the monopoly of oil were enormous, and he began their systematic investment in the stocks of the established railroads of the country. He has not been like Gould, a builder of new systems or wrecker and rebuilder of old, but a steady investor in existing lines, until no one except himself and his associates and the roads concerned knows the extent nor location of his railroad holdings, nor what mileage he absolutely controls. There are, in places, revelations of his power over transportation. His hand is shown when attempts are made to molest his use of that power, and that is all the people know about it.

His invasion of the Kansas oil field was accomplished by his usual methods, tempting the cupidity of some producers and rousing the fear of others, until he secured a control that made rival refineries impossible. Then the State attempted the foolish, socialistic experiment of a State oil refinery, under public ownership. The advocates of that cure-all went into spasms of delight over that State refinery. It was to be the proof and demonstration that public ownership of everything is the sole cure for Rockefellerism. But the State Supreme Court very properly, and on constitutional grounds, invalidated the law which created the State refinery, and Kansas drew on common sense for a remedy and found it, not in public ownership of public utilities, but in State control of its creatures, the corporations, the artificial persons which are subject to law the same as natural persons. This remedy was achieved in a maximum rate and anti-discrimination law, which no railroad dare violate in Kansas. Under the influence of these statutes independent refineries rose in that State, and Mr. Rockefeller, deprived of preferences and special privilege, found that there was one spot on the planet where he must do business like other people, subject to the same limitations and liable to the same law.

It is no digression to say that the incident illustrates the superiority of public control over public ownership, and is a direct and distinct vindication of the views of President Roosevelt. When Mr. Rockefeller found himself reduced to business equality with his competitors, by Kansas law, he did not have to experiment with means of reprisal. In that he is no empiric. Long practice and genius have made him an expert. He resorted at once to his control of transportation outside of Kansas and beyond the arm of State law. The rate on Kansas oil received by railroads at the State line was fixed at an impossible figure. His competitors could do business in Kansas on equal terms with him, protected by the law, but he shut them out of an outside market by his control of transportation outside. The Kansas oil producers say that the law secures for them in Kansas a square deal, but when they cross the State line they are commercially dead. That means that Mr. Rockefeller, by control of the railroads, has established "a dead line," and kills all oil business that tries to cross it. The rate on oil from Chanute to Kansas City, Kansas, 110 miles, is 7 1-2 cents, and from Kansas City, Kansas, to Kansas City, Missouri, one mile, it is 17 cents. Mr. Rockefeller will not permit the invasion of his old province of Missouri by his independent competitors of Kansas.

In the old days the Kansas line was a dead line, alternately held by the border ruffians and the free State men. Mr. Rockefeller is the new type of border ruffian and holds the dead line as securely with a freight schedule as his antetype held it with a Winchester. This situation joins the issue. It is between the United States and John D. Rockefeller. The Interstate Commerce Commission is the agent of the United States. Its powers must be enlarged so as to give the independent oil interests in Kansas, and everywhere, equality of right with Mr. Rockefeller. The Kansas dead line only intensifies the issue. Socialist propositions are cards in Mr. Rockefeller's hand. Public control of natural and artificial persons alike, as parties to the social compact, is the solution, and a square deal for all is the goal.

We are persuaded that Mr. Rockefeller will have to come down and submit to the law and be penalized for the same acts that penalize others.

POLITICS IN THE SCHOOLS.

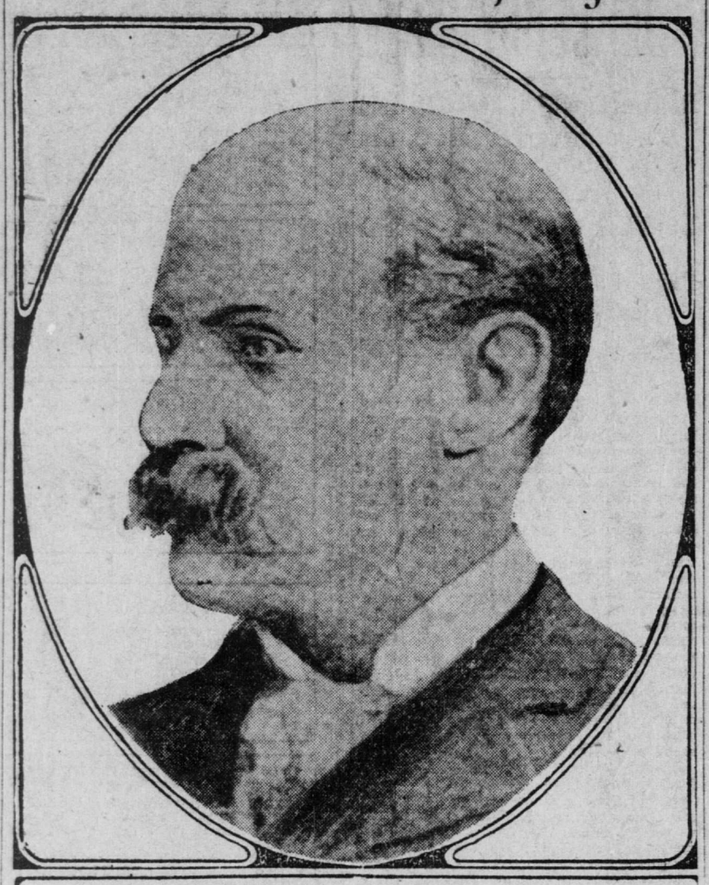
PRESIDENT WHEELER has hit an evil square in the vitals in attacking partisan selection of officers to administer the school laws. School management and partisanship do not mix well. It makes every teacher, janitor and charwoman subservient to the boss, whoever he is. They get employment by favor and hold it by sycophancy, unless they are exceptionally strong. We know what partisanship has done in the debasing of municipal government, and no one need feel secure that it excludes the schools from its methods.

One remedy is to separate the election of school officers from the general or regular municipal election, and hold it on a separate day. This abolishes trading votes and avoids the consequences of straight ticket voting, which was the means of injuring the schools of Oakland at the last election by the defeat of Dr. Myra Knox, one of the most expert school officers in the State.

But a different day for the school election does not complete the measures needed for safeguarding the schools against partisan control. The selection by nomination must be considered. In other States this is accomplished by the appointment in the regular party conventions of joint school committees, which meet and nominate the school ticket. These committeemen are a sort of selected electors, whose choice goes to the people for affirmation. Where this has been tried it has worked satisfactorily. The only complaint made is that the nominees of the joint committee are usually so fit and satisfactory that the people do not generally vote in large numbers at the school election. This is not an insuperable objection to the system, since whenever an unfit person is nominated by the committee a rival candidate appears and the contest calls out the voters.

By such a system of selection and election the people have a chance to manifest their interest in public education, which they are denied when the school ticket is merged in the partisan ticket, to be used in trades and usually suffers in its personnel from the methods by which it is chosen.

RAILROAD CONDUCTOR GETS A $10,000 JOB



HENRY N. ROCKWELL.

GOVERNOR HIGGINS of New York made a sudden transformation in the position of Henry N. Rockwell, a railroad conductor, by appointing him a member of the State Board of Railroad Commissioners, a post paying $10,000 a year, says the Chicago Tribune. Rockwell, who has been in railroad service forty years, was at his usual work on the Empire State Express when it pulled into Albany on December 3. As he swung off to get his orders a delegation, headed by the Governor's secretary, approached him and handed him an elaborately decorated document which made him Railroad Commissioner. He is 56 years old. As a boy he was an office boy in a railroad office, where he learned telegraphy. He became successively operator, assistant dispatcher, assistant conductor and conductor in the service of the New York Central. In an interview he said he does not believe in Government ownership of railroads and that in his belief a railroad operative gives the best service after he has reached 40.

ANSWERS TO VARIOUS QUERIES.

PENSION—A. C. R., Chinese Camp, Cal. The United States Government does not pay pensions to soldiers who served in the Confederate army and navy.

"MOUNTAIN MISERY"—Reader, City. The plant commonly called "Mountain Misery" has a blossom. It resembles the blossom of the strawberry. It is white with a yellow center.

LEASE—H. M., City. There is no law that requires that a lease shall be recorded. Either party to a lease may have the same recorded as a matter of protection. The fact that a lease is not recorded does not invalidate it.

HALF-DIME—D. N., Stockton, Cal. Had you carefully read this department you would have discovered that it does not answer questions as to the value of coins, except by mail, when a self-addressed and stamped envelope accompanies the question.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN—J. B., City. According to a table of figures published last September relative to the Russo-Japanese war, the total dead and wounded, including the battle of the Sea of Japan, was: Russia, 192,000, and Japan, 154,000. The figures do not segregate the number of dead from the number of wounded.

WIDOW'S PENSION—E. W., City. The widow of a United States soldier who has been receiving a pension is entitled to receive such pension as long as she remains unmarried, but it ceases on her remarriage. Should she marry an ex-soldier receiving a pension and again become a widow she would receive her second husband's pension during her second widowhood.

OCEAN DEPTH—Subscriber, City. According to the publications of the latter part of 1905, the greatest depth of ocean is in the Guam Trench—five thousand two hundred and sixty-nine fathoms, or 31,614 feet. Other depths are as follows: Murray (Challenger expedition) states the greatest depth of the Atlantic Ocean at 27,366 feet; Pacific Ocean, 30,000 feet; Indian Ocean, 18,582 feet; Southern Ocean, 25,200 feet; Arctic Ocean, 9,000 feet.

The Atlantic Ocean has an area, in square miles, of 24,536,000; Pacific Ocean, 50,309,000; Indian Ocean, 17,084,000; Arctic Ocean, 4,781,000; Southern Ocean, 30,592,000.

MICA—J. L. V., Redding, Cal. The value of mica, sheet or scrap depends upon the demand. The product of the United States in 1902 was valued at $83,843 for sheet and $13,081 for scrap; the following year it was $17,128 for the former and $41,490 for the latter. These figures are the aggregate value for the product of each of the years given. Mica is used in Siberia, China, Peru and other countries as a substitute for window glass. It is also used for lanterns and fronts of stoves. For additional information on this subject on the line of a mineral, address a communication to the California Mining Bureau, Ferry Depot, San Francisco, Cal.

CITIZENSHIP—A. Alameda, Cal. An alien who desires to become a citizen of the United States must make a declaration of intention to become such at any time after arrival, and after five years' residence in the United States he may apply for naturalization or "second papers," as they are commonly called. An alien cannot become a naturalized citizen until after he has declared intention to become such, no matter how long he may have resided in the country. At the time an alien applies to be naturalized it must appear that he has resided continuously in the United States for five years, that he has resided in the State or Territory for one year in which is located the court in which he applies for final papers, and that two years before making such application he made declaration of intention to become a citizen.

LIGHTER SIDE OF LIFE

HER METHOD.

"Does your wife call you down when you get home late?"

"No. She's got the parrot and the phonograph so that they'll both say it as soon as I enter the room."

WOULD HAVE TO.

George—We'd die for one another, wouldn't we, dearest?

Hilda—Yes—er—er—I think we would have to on your salary.

BRIGHT BOY.

Cholly—Well, Johnny, you must have learned a good deal at school. Can you name ten animals to be found in Africa?

Johnny—Yes. An elephant and nine tigers.

BETWEEN FRIENDS.

Lena—Fred kissed me in the dark last night.

Flora—Must have been awfully dark.

Occidental Accidentals

By A. J. Waterhouse.

UNLESS WE FAIL.

HEIGHO! Heigho! As on we go,
The world and I together,
The roses bud, the roses blow,
The tiny birds wing to and fro,
And ever in an elfin dance
The sunbeams gleam, the sunbeams glance,
And life is fair as I would know—
Unless I fail to make it so—
And golden is its weather.
Ay, sweet the song of life, I trow—
Unless we fail to make it so.

In fairy dells where Music dwells
I hear the brooks a-chatter,
And timid creatures, rarely seen,
Peep out at me from nooks of green;
I hear them whisper, "Comrades dear,
Perhaps this one we need not fear,"
While I reply, "Ye people small,
Ye need not fear my hand at all."
Then patter, patter, patter,
Away they frisk in elfin glee—
Ah, life is sweet, if we will see.

Heigho! Heigho! One thing I know,
If ne'er I know another:
The soul is greater than its ill;
Though oft it fall, it standeth still.
Though ghouls of night be now released,
The dawn shall crimson-point the east,
And tuneful birds shall wake to say,
"It comes—it comes! The day—the day!"
Ay, this is truth, my brother.
Oh, sweet the life that all may know—
Unless we fail to make it so.

THEY WERE IMPORTANT.

Once upon a time, Heloise, there was a man who was very important, as everybody admitted; and he married a woman who was extremely important, as everybody conceded; and the wedding was an important function, as was freely mentioned in the papers; and they lived in an important house on an important avenue, as you would have known merely by looking at the house; and the man accumulated much money, which, as everybody knows, is the most important of all; and it is an important fact that he used the important money to benefit nobody in particular—not even himself; and the couple lent importance to a certain important church by wearing their best clothing and attending it every Sunday; and after a while they secured a divorce which was so supremely important that the papers published columns and columns concerning it; and they——

What's that, Heloise? You want to ask a few questions? Well, fire 'em in! That's what I am here for. What is there so important about these things? you ask. Blessed if I know, my dear girl; I never could find out, but you may bet a nice, new pair of gloves that they are important, and very important, else we would not all so readily concede that they are. Are these people still as important as they were? you inquire. Well, I cannot say definitely as to that, but I greatly fear that they are not. You see, on two important days they had two important funerals, and since then I have not heard much about them. They may be enjoying an important and soft snap where they have gone, but, if so, they do not mention the fact. It is strange, is it not, Heloise, how our importance does get mixed with crude and unimportant dust?

"Vanity of vanities," saith the preacher; "and claptrap and poppycock," saith (or might say) the layman. How big in our eyes are the little things! And how important are the worthless!

But there, Heloise, if you wish to hear the rest of this sermon you should go and hear Rev. Prettyman next Sunday, and if you do, I do not doubt that you will hear from his inspired lips such a spiritual message as will cause you to cease wondering what Mrs. Bonton's new cloak cost for as much as six or eight seconds. So long, dear girl! I really must be going.

BUTTED IN.

The man who got there, I wish you to note,
Butted in.
He didn't stand still with his heart in his throat;
He knew he must move if the bonds he would float;
So he buttonholed one, and he collared another,
Was really a pest that nobody could smother.
They named him a fool, and they called him a bore,
But he pocketed cash as he still evermore
Butted in.

His case was not singular; others there are
Butting in,
Whose "nerve" is a thing to admire from afar,
For if you get closer it's likely to jar;
Yet oftentimes these are the fellows, I note,
Whose doings we heed and whose sayings we quote,
And often a tribute we're tendering still
To him who is merely displaying his skill
Butting in.

"What a perfect complexion she has!"

"Well, it ought to be. She pays more for it than any other woman in her set."

MOTTOES FOR ALL PROFESSIONS.

The physician's—Cut it out.
The lawyer's—Anything that's fees-ible.
The clergyman's—Behold! the call-dron boileth.
The journalist's—What's write's write.
The politician's—Keep it dark.
The merchant's—Buy and buy.
The life insurance official's—Honesty is the best policy; but any other old policy will do.

"Mabel is attending the university, you know."

"Yes."

"Well, her mother happened to tell young Dr. Sageman that she was a little weak in her ethnology. You can't guess what he said."

"No; what did he say?"

"He said he feared that an operation might be necessary."

CINDERELLA AND THE SLIPPER.

"The Prince," said the fairy godmother, "is going to all the maidens in his realm in order to find and marry the one whom your slipper will fit."

"It's a cinch for me," the beautiful Cinderella murmured.

"And you must let him try it on your foot when he comes to you," the fairy godmother continued.

"Will I wear the hose you gave me when he does it?" Cinderella anxiously inquired.

"Sure!" was the soothing response.

"Well, then, he may do it," Cinderella blushingly remarked, "but—but—"

"But what, my dear?"

"I do wish that the slipper was a boot."

So her fairy godmother assured her that everything would pan out all right and things went beautifully, just as you have read about them in the books.

You are a sinner; so am I—
Of guilt may we be shriven;
But those who sin in other ways—
They should not be forgiven.

If Christian e'er be counted this,
A futile, worthless name,
Be thine and mine, whom He did teach,
The sore disgrace and shame.
He taught us love, He lived for love,
He died for love alone;
And if His name is dragged in mire,
The shame is all our own.

THE SMART SET

BY SALLY SHARP.

The most elaborate of the season's home events took place last evening at the handsome residence of Mrs. Eleanor Martin, who was hostess at a large dinner dance in honor of her granddaughter, Miss Genevieve Harvey. This affair has been eagerly awaited by the smart set members, who readily recall the delights of last year's ball at the St. Francis given by Mrs. Martin to Miss Anita Harvey.

Over sixty guests were present at last evening's function, which was a sight not soon to be forgotten, with its wealth of flowers and rich gowns.

The large square entrance hall was lined with genuine English holly, the drawing-rooms being filled with American Beauty roses bowing from great, artistic vases. In the dining-room were five tables, four small round ones surrounding a very large one, upon each of which was a profusion of the same graceful rose, with the accompanying glow of crimson-shaded candelabra.

The conclusion of dinner saw the arrival of a score of men to participate in the dance that followed, the total number of guests including Miss Genevieve Harvey, Miss Anita Harvey, Miss Margaret Barron, Miss Leonore Brewer, Miss Marie Brewer, Miss Helen Bailey, Miss Suzanne Blanding, Miss Violet Buckley, Miss Helen Chesebrough, Miss Lucy Gwin Coleman, Miss Linda Cadwallader, Miss Constance de Young, Miss Newell Drown, Miss Dorothy Eells, Miss Marion Huntington, Miss Gertrude Jolliffe, Miss Marjorie Josselyn, Miss Maisee Langhorne, Miss Ruth McNutt, Miss Margaret Newhall, Miss Christine Pomeroy, Miss Barbara Parrott, Miss Emily Parrott, Miss Florence Cole, Miss Alice Sullivan, Miss Ethel Shorb, Miss Frances Stewart, Miss Gertrude Hyde-Smith, Miss Bertha Goodrich, Mrs. Peter D. Martin, Mrs. Walter S. Martin, Mrs. Cutter, Gerald Rathbone, Raymond Armsby, Gordon Armsby, Percy King, Thomas C. Van Ness, King Van Rensselaer, Willard W. Drown, Edward Barron, Wilberforce Williams, James D. Phelan, James W. Byrne, Dr. Harry Tevis, Baldwin Wood, Arthur Chesebrough, Almer Newhall, Charles de Young, John Lawson, Clarence McKinstry, John A. Wilcox, Eyre Pinckard, Edward M. Greenway, Oscar F. Cooper, Prescott Scott, Edward Tobin, Courtney Ford, John Brockway Metcalf, Richard Tobin, Sidney Salisbury, Latham McMullen, Clarence Follis, Joseph Tobin, J. Downey Harvey, Peter D. Martin, Walter S. Martin, Cyril Tobin, Count de la Rocca, Philip Paschel, Dr. James Pressley, Leon Bocquerez, Roger Bocquerez, Grantland Voorhies, Dr. Reiloff, Lieutenant Morris E. Locke, Perry Evans, Bradley Wallace, Willard Barton, Lieutenant Higgins, U. S. A., Covington Pringle, Horace Pratt and Edward A. Davis.

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The Sequoia Club is making a splendid record for entertainments of cleverness and success, many of the members exhibiting latent and unsuspected talent in the line of culinary art.

Yesterday Will Sparks, the artist, gave a luncheon in the clubrooms, entertaining seven of his pupils as guests, the host performing the duties and arts of chef.

Wednesday evening saw a congenial gathering of Sequoians at the bidding of Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus Graupner, who gave a dinner in the club and likewise executed the intricacies of its preparation with master hands.

A jolly time followed, with toasts complimentary to the delicate viands, host and hostess.

Those partaking and enjoying included Miss Helen Robson, Miss Vivian Gedge, Miss Lalla Wenzelburger, Miss Griswold, Mrs. Linda H. Bryan, Mrs. Louis H. Long, Mrs. Risley, Mrs. Solly Walter, Dr. Sumner Hardy, Dr. Godfrey Broderick, Charles Sedgwick Aiken, Rothwell Hyde, E. Myron Wolf, R. Masson Smith, Charles H. Lombard, Robert Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Graupner.

* * *

The Presidio Club was filled with gay dancers last evening, a very large attendance representing the various military posts about the bay, with several of the smart set from town, also adding their presence. This affair was the most successful of the season and the Presidio dances are always filled with pleasure of an informal nature, though the more elaborate preparations of last evening abstracted nothing from the usual jollity.

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With the waning of Christmas tide and the oncoming new year, eggnogg parties continue to fill the intervening space with merriment and holiday greeting. Several have taken place, among the pleasant informal gatherings being that yesterday at the home of Miss Laura Farnsworth.

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Mrs. Charles Plummer Perkins was also an eggnogg hostess, aboard the Pensacola yesterday, lying off Yerba Buena. A number of guests crossed over from town.

* * *

Mrs. Henry Payot will receive to-day in her old home, 922 Ellis street, where she will be at home Fridays during the season.

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Mrs. William G. Morrow is entertaining at a luncheon to-day in her Sausalito home. The affair, in honor of Miss Mabel Bacon of Santa Barbara, will call several guests from this city to greet the young visitor. Bridge will follow luncheon and Miss Bacon will then make her adieu, for she leaves in a few days with her mother, Mrs. Jacob Bacon, for the south.

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A banquet was given to the State Superintendents of Schools last evening in the White and Gold room of the St. Francis by the executive committee of the State Educational Association.

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The Entre Nous Cotillon Club will give a dance and banquet next Saturday evening in the Palace Hotel.

Knowing Good From Evil

BY WALLACE RICE.

SOMETIMES I wonder, when I listen to the conversations about recent revelations of dishonorable conduct in high places, whether the average man really knows what is right and what is wrong.

You are told that there was nothing wrong in Chauncey M. Depew's taking a retainer from an insurance company as a lawyer, when it was merely given him to secure his political influence in advancing or suppressing legislation at Albany, as the company wished. As a lawyer he was without power of the sort; if he possessed it as a Senator of the United States or as a politician it seems plain to me that he was selling his Senatorship or declaring himself a venal politician.

Personally, it appears to me that a man who will take his seat in the United States Senate and swear the solemn oath he is compelled to take as a Senator, knowing all the time that his first duty is not to the United States or the people thereof at all, but to a certain railway company and set of railway interests, has shown so blunt a sense of his own honor that anything may be expected of him except good.

I am told that there is nothing wrong in giving the members of one's own family the preference in appointments to fat positions, since it is a man's duty to care for his own. Of course, it is his duty—at his own expense. In officials holding positions of trust, whether under the Government or not, it is nothing less than wicked to provide for kinsfolk at the expense of the public. Nepotism has always been thought wrong by high-minded men at all times and in all places.

Nor is it a sufficient answer to say to those who urge that these things are wrong, "You would do the same thing in his place." The high ideals persist in this world, no matter what sinful deeds are done.

The ten commandments do not cease to be operative merely because they are frequently broken. All the thieves in the world cannot make stealing right. If the person who objects to a low standard of honor and integrity succumbs to temptation and himself sinks down toward death, the high standards nevertheless remain.

And of all the blunted notions of what constitutes true probity and uprightness the conception that a sneer at protestations of righteousness is even permissible seems to me the most wicked. Devils can do no more.

PEOPLE IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

Rev. David Hillhouse Buel, the new president of Georgetown University, is one of the pronounced opponents of the present methods in football and says one of the greatest drawbacks a college has to combat with is that "the public too often judges of the strength of a college by its strength in the line of athletics."

Ontario's new Postmaster General, A. B. Aylesworth, who is seeking election to Parliament in succession to Sir William Mulock, is described as closely resembling Abraham Lincoln in appearance, being 6 feet 6 inches in height, spare, a life-long temperance worker, a champion of provincial rights and a strict Presbyterian.

Police Justice Pollard of St. Louis has for several years followed a rule with cases of drunkenness which has for its sole idea reformation instead of punishment. When men are brought before him for the first time he requires them to sign a total abstinence pledge for a year or more and stays the sentence as long as the pledge is kept.

John Hawkes, a Cincinnati lumberman who arrived on the new turbine liner Carmania, has completed 114 voyages across the Atlantic, or 228 crossings. He has enjoyed the unusual opportunity of crossing the Atlantic on the initial trips of five Cunard steamers—the Batavia, Bothnia, Servia, Lucania and Carmania. Hawkes is known among travelers as "the old man of the sea."

Vice President Fairbanks has a sweet tooth, ice cream being his special weakness. He would not enjoy the finest kind of a repast unless assured that it would be topped off with his favorite dainty. Next to ice cream in his gastronomic affection comes a sort of fruit salad made of cherries, chopped grapes, oranges and bananas. The whole is covered with old Madeira, then frozen and is served with whipped cream.

George W. Vanderbilt has created Biltmore village, a model settlement near Asheville, N. C., and instituted many benevolent and educational enterprises for the benefit of his own employes and the community in general. There are fifty cottages, besides the stores and public buildings, a village green and a plaza, macadam streets lighted with electricity, a Protestant Episcopal church, a hospital and dispensary, a parish school with equipment for industrial and manual training for 115 pupils and a girls' and boys' club.

COHEN'S LITTLE JOKE

Cohen, being an influential man in his own certain "select" society, naturally could poll a great many votes for his favorite candidate. Assured of corresponding individual benefit in exchange for his influence, Cohen "boosts" for the "bosses'" man.

The man wins and Cohen gets the desired position.

Cohen struts around in a grand uniform at the railroad station, and in a most condescending manner gives the people any information concerning train times, etc., which they may require.

A lady steps up to Cohen and politely asks him "When the last train leaves for Chicago."

Cohen looks at her and laughs.

She thinks he misunderstands and ask him again.

Cohen simply howls with laughter this time.

Lady becomes indignant, and after giving him a severe tongue lashing demands that he inform her "When the last train leaves for Chicago."

Cohen looks at her again and says with his richest Yiddish accent:

"Matama, I shoot only vish you—you shoot liff so long unt you cud see it."—Magazine of Fun.

LOADED AFFECTION.

"A practical joke," said Barney Oldfield, the automobilist, to a St. Louis Dispatch man, "was played on me last season. I had my revenge, though.

"The practical joke took the form of a telegram from a friend of mine traveling in Italy. It came 'collect.' It cost me $7, and when I opened it all I read was:

"'I am well.'

"To get back at my friend I went out and found a cobblestone of about eleven pounds weight. I wrapped this stone in excelsior and pink paper, sealed it up in a handsome box and sent it by express, 'collect,' to my friend abroad.

"It cost him $8 for the box and on opening it he found, along with the stone, a note from me that said:

"'On receipt of the news that you were in good health the accompanying load rolled off my heart.'"

Townsend's California glace fruits and choicest candies in artistic fancy etched boxes. New store, 767 Market.

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