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UNCLE WALT'S Denatured Poem

THE other day, or the day before, a cop was shown to the station door: "You're fired, my friend," said the sad-eyed chief, and his voice was grim with a strong man's grief.

Copyright, 1909, by George Matthews A. Gerns. The Coward Cop

SIDELIGHTS Along Washington Byways.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 3.—"There goes Santa Claus," said representative Swager Sherley to a group of Democratic members of the house.



strong opposition he wires Mr. McKinley that defeat is staring him in the face and that he must have assistance.

"No," responded the clerk. "The Democrats were trying to slip over Lloyd's resignation from the Ballinger committee, but they changed their minds after we got a few of you fellows out of Turkish baths."



trip to the Philippines. Every place he went Mr. McKinley spent his time in the oriental shops. He showered the members of the party with gifts.

"Fighting Bob" Evans get his amusement in the evening of his life in a much different fashion. The rear admiral has, to use a slang expression, got a literary bug.



When the house and senate office buildings were constructed Mr. Elliot Woods, superintendent of the capitol, made every provision for the convenience and comfort of members of congress.

14 Years Ago Today COL. A. J. FOUNTAIN REPORTED MURDERED ON NEW MEXICO ROAD

Constable Ben Williams, of Las Cruces, now in El Paso, received a telegram this morning, stating that Col. A. J. Fountain is believed to have been murdered on the road, while on his way to Lincoln county, to secure indictments against cattle thieves.

TECHNICALITIES OF THE LAW.

MEANS BY WHICH JUSTICE IS DELAYED

THE convention which president Taft hopes to call for the purpose of finding ways and means of simplifying legal procedure, will have work a plenty.

Admits Guilt, Acquitted. A legislator once was indicted for bribery. He was tried and acquitted.

Another case an old colored man appeared before a police judge for stealing chickens. As he came before the bar the judge asked him if he was the defendant.

Some years ago, a man by the name of John Smith, owed a St. Louis merchant a sum of money.

Chicago offers a well known instance of the ends of justice being defeated by a technicality.

In Missouri, a woman and her child were murdered by a man who wanted the victim to leave her husband and follow him to the west.

President Taft himself has had some experience with the delays of the law. Years ago he was in the home city, weary tired of these delays and injustices.

Years afterward, when the court's last resort was reached, it was found that one of the parties to the suit had died of old age before seeing the end of the litigation.

Nearly every court in the land is clogged with business. Especially is this true of the courts of appeal.

Two farmers became involved in a dispute over the ownership of a calf. They could not settle their differences between themselves.

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Brightside and His Boy

Those Merry Man-Hunting Widows. Their Latest Tantalizing Sketch. By Lafayette Parks.

WED a widow with children when you decide to enter the matrimonial estate, is the advice of a man who has tried it and found happiness.

"I love those merry widows, but, oh, you kids," responds Father's pride, angrily puffing smoke rings toward the blaring gas log.

"I'll bet that was the only kind of ring that gink stood for when they hunted up the justice of peace to be sentenced. Instead of a diamond solitaire when they became engaged, he probably bought new shoes for the kids.

"Both have probably learned through hard experience that it doesn't pay to squander one's resources on the superficial things of life."

"If anybody had the nerve to try the rice throwing game on 'em, I'd lay odds that they'd scoop it up and take it home to make a pudding for the children.

"There is no doubt vanity is the reason for wanting a great deal of money that might be put to better uses.



thoughtless age where she thinks of nothing but clothes. Father says: "The family depends on her."

"They'll keep him so busy he's sure to forget all of his old troubles. Then if he has a couple of kids of his own to join the merry widows, he'll find it safe to be safely guaranteed to explode each and every evening, rain or shine.

"Properly reared children should prove a joy in any household," Father protests.

"Any widow who takes time to go out and hunt up a second victim usually turns her kids into the street and locks up her flat so the furniture will be whole when she gets back.

"This man that advocates widows," explains Father, "says their temper is likely to be more even than the new bride."

"By that I suppose she means she's always got it with her like a buzz saw its teeth, and it's just as safe to sidestep," retorts Son. "Nix on the merry widow for muth. Pop, I'll take my chances with sweet old Mrs. Farnout of her class. It's time enough then to beat it for the remnant counter," concludes Papa's paragon.

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TO TALK ABOUT "THE TEMPLE."

The Talk Will Be in the Temple, El Paso Temple of "Justice."

Sydney Newnes Hillyard and Grace Tanquary Hillyard, of "The Temple Halycon, San Luis Obispo county, California, will speak Saturday night at the court house on the work and the message of "The Temple of the People."

This does not refer to the courthouse, which in fact is the local temple of the people, since every organization from socialists to sons of rest meet there. It is of "The Temple" at Halycon, California, which is in San Luis Obispo county, that Sydney and Grace, who are in reality Mr. and Mrs. Hillyard, will speak Saturday night commencing at 8, and with no admission or collection attachment to their talks.

Hillyard's talk will be along the line of thought pursued by Tolstol, Ruskin, Morris and the other thinkers along original cooperative lines and he will tell of the practical principles of cooperation as practiced at "The Temple," and also how the golden age can be realized in a civilization which is rushing madly in the other direction as the desire of education among all the people, the public schools of the territory are forging to the front with increased interest, better methods and larger attendance this year than in any former year.

The only requirement for membership in "The Temple," the El Paso exponent of the cause says, is a belief in the essential unity of all life, whatever that means.

Mexico Industrial Progress

THAT Mexico is not backward in the matter of irrigation, is demonstrated by the number of big undertakings now in progress in that country.

In Durango, Sonora, Chihuahua, Aguascalientes and many other localities such undertakings are in process of construction. In some of these immense light and power plants are being combined and in a number of other instances power and light plants, as badly needed for mining development as the irrigation plants in the farming districts, are being erected alone.

A dozen of these big electric light and power projects are described in the annual report of V. M. Gutierrez, industrial agent of the National Railways of Mexico.

At Sabinas, state of Coahuila, the Sabinas Electric Light and Power company placed a new plant in commission. The Hydro Electric company installed a plant at Balsam, Guerrero. Trinidad Herrera built a light and power plant five miles from Paucio, Hidalgo, from which transmission lines convey the current 13 miles to Tulancingo, for light and power.

With a capitalization of \$150,000, gold, the Colima Electric Power company, promoted by Luis Brasuela and company, is installing an electric equipment at Colima. Paul Ginther is manager of a \$50,000 corporation which is erecting an electric light and ice factory at Santa Rosalia, Chihuahua.

The Michoacan Power company is putting in an electric transmission installation at Botello, 11 miles from Villanor, Guanajuato, to develop 30,000 horsepower. At the town of Tepetango, state of Mexico, Antonio Pacheco is erecting a power plant for the Electric and Irrigation company.

Five big schemes remain for future execution. The Chapala Hydro Electric company will likely assume control of the Aguascalientes Electric Street Car company and electric light plant and extend transmission wires to Zacatecas and San Luis Potosi. A lighting plant will be built at Parlat to take its power from the tunnel being driven by W. Labaton.

The Mexican Iron and Steel company will add a hydro-electric plant to its iron works at Union de Tula, state of Jalisco, and preliminary work for the installation of an electric lighting plant has begun at Morelia, Michoacan, to take the place of the equipment upon which the city now depends.

Even the president is not above the law in this country. The mikado of Japan sent Mrs. Taft 200 flowering cherry trees and they had dangerous parasites on them. Result: They were all burned by the customs authorities.

El Paso, the past. They used to say—in the gambling days—"I pass." Now, the only persons that pass are tramps and tourists. Times have changed us.

Gen. Diaz is getting his portraits pretty well distributed over the world. A big one has just been completed for the Smithsonian institute at Washington.

The Savings Bank

WITH president Taft recommending postal savings banks in this country and many statesmen and politicians advocating their establishment, statements from government institutions of this character in other parts of the world are interesting.

Such institutions have proved popular in Germany, Great Britain and the colonies, and in many other European countries. They find many supporters in this country, but there are many opponents of the measure, principally those who declare that it would tie up too much money that is now kept in circulation through the national banks.

The government savings bank of New South Wales has just issued its report for the last calendar year from which consul general John P. Bray of Sydney has prepared a summary:

Balances standing to the credit of depositors on Dec. 31 amounted to \$58,897,232, as against \$54,084,481, at the end of 1907. The depositors numbered 309,982, an increase for the year of 4717. The average amount to the credit of each depositor was \$190, or an increase of \$11.60 per depositor.

The open door to the cold storage warehouse is a more important question to more people these days than the open door in the far east.

They have found a "petrified bird down in Virginia." A close look therabouts will probably reveal the father of the Cardiff Giant.

It sounds funny to hear the Rhode Island legislature talking of probing the high cost of food, when senator Aldrich resides within a stone's throw of the capitol and could be called in to explain it any time.

Anyhow, Joe Sweeney is not responsible for the high prices of food products in El Paso—he never argued for a protective tariff and he never sold beef.

The various patented anti-friction metals used for high-speed machinery contain antimony. Matrimony is also a high speed machine.

The New York Telegram has discovered what those three carloads of peanut shells were probably for. It says that when ground and properly mixed the shells make excellent snuff or spices, and by the addition of a little red lead are converted into an excellent cayenne pepper.