RAILROAD SUBWAY QUESTION NOT SO SIMPLE AS IT SEEMS

(BY H. D. S.)

ONE official publication of the city ordinance covering the proposed sinking of the railroad tracks in the heart of the city has been made. It is probable that very few citizens took the trouble to read through the long ordinance, and that very few citizens have more than the vaguest idea of what it contains.

Two separate elections must be called to ascertain the will of the people before the purpose of the ordinance can be carried out. The ordinance itself does not have to be passed on by the people, and the people have no voice in the matter directly, the council having acted within its rights and within its lawful discretion. But the whole ordinance becomes void by its own terms if the people vote against closing the public street crossing now existing at Main and Durango streets over the G. H. & S. A. and the E. P. & S. W. railroads. And bonds must be voted in order to enable the city to carry out its contract by installing storm water sewers for the protection of the proposed depressed tracks in the open subway from flooding.

Seldom has a matter of such tremendous importance been brought before the people of El Paso for their decision. Action taken now will affect the present comfort and convenience of the people, but even more vital will be the effect of the action now taken on the comfort and convenience of the El Paso of the future—upon the development of the city during the next generation or two, perhaps for a century. Even the squirrels "take thought for the morrow" and look ahead with marvelous foresight, as do the birds and many of the wild beasts. The average human does not concern himself very much about posterity, or even about his own affairs of a few years in the future. He is prone to look at things as affecting him only in this moment—which is already past as we write But somebody has to be looking ahead all the time, or there could be no rational progress.

In the ordinance—which already has the force of law conditioned only on the action of the people in closing the street crossing and voting bonds as above explained—there are two paragraphs which should be carefully studied. They appear to constitute a complete abdication of public rights which The Herald deems it vital to retain in the hands of the people; or if it be deemed advisable or necessary to abdicate them in part at this time, certain specific rights should be specifically retained, as The Herald purposes to indicate.

The paragraphs to which reference has just been made are numbers 11 and 13, which read as follows (the portion omitted and indicated by a dotted line does not affect the purport of the portions reprinted here, but covers a different topic):

"Section 11. When the said Railroad Company has completed the work required to be done under this ordinance, then and thereupon the several ordinances of the City of El Paso, now in effect or hereafter passed relating to the speed of railroad engines, cars or trains and the necessity of ringing of locomtive bells, the blowing of locomotive whistles, the stopping or switching of trains, the length of trains, or the maintenance of gates or flagmen or watchmen at street crossings shall cease to be applicable to the part of said railroad so depressed.

"Section 13. After the depression of said tracks as herein provided the said Railroad Company's operation of its engines, cars and trains over, through and upon the same [shall] be under and in accordance with its own rules and regulations and without interference by the City by any ordinances, rules or regulations, save and except reasonable regulations for abatement of nuisances, . . .

"And said City shall not have the power and hereby guarantees that it will not at any time require said El Paso & Southwestern Railroad Company to abandon the use of said tracks or remove them to any other place or cover said open subway, except as above provided, or pass any ordinance repealing this ordinance or any part of the same or which conflicts with the same or any part thereof, or is more burdensome upon said Railroad Company than the provisions hereof or that requires said Railroad Company to do anything further with reference to that part of its track so depressed than is required hereby."

The phrase "except as above provided" in the last paragraph just quoted refers only to the bridges or street viaducts required at certain streets—North Santa Fe to North Campbell inclusive—on or near the present grade level.

Perhaps the mayor and council who enacted this ordinance (the city administration which retired from office a few weeks ago) lay great store by the phrase in the second paragraph above quoted, "save and except reasonable regulations for abatement of nuisances." Anybody who has ever tried to abate nuisances by regulations, reasonable or unreasonable, knows how far the people of El Paso would get under this ordinance in case of need. That is no protection to the people at all.

If the paragraphs quoted had been so worded as specifically to bar the city from ever requiring the substitution of electric traction through the subway in place of coal and oil burners, they could not more effectually have tied the city's hands.

Electric traction, in future or immediately—that should be provided in the ordinance for immediate adoption or the right to require it in future after some fixed period should be specifically reserved.

Under the ordinance as now written, the destructive smudge of soft coal smoke, the choking and sickening oil fumes, and danger of live sparks could go right on forever unhindered; excessive blowing of whistles, the roar of blowing off while awaiting a block signal, could not be interfered with, except under the "abatement of nuisances" clause to which little weight is to be attached in this instance, as everybody knows without argument.

There is reason to believe that the railroads had tentatively agreed between themselves that the best solution would be a covered subway with electric traction. Electric traction certainly entered into their consideration and was probably regarded by them as inevitable—until they met the council. They gave up the idea of roofing the subway, and that in itself is not important inasmuch as the subway is to be on private rightofway through the middle of the blocks and not in a public street. But it is probable that the railroad presidents and managers, and their attorneys, chuckled with glee when they got their ordinance through in such shape that the city would be forever barred from requiring that electric traction be used through the heart of the city to do away with the smoke, fumes, and spark nuisance.

Note that the city is FOREVER BARRED. The ordinance has no time limit whatever. The state constitution says: "Perpetuities an.. monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free government, and shall never be allowed." What is this but a perpetuity?

It looks as if the paragraphs quoted had been drawn with the particular purpose o earring the city from ever requiring electric traction through the subway. Read very carefully once more the third paragraph quoted above. Evidently the .ailroads were not asleep.

Three railroads, or five counting the east and west systems as two each, will use the subway. In a few years, with the steadily increasing traffic, there will be freight trains passing almost constantly—night and day with only a few minutes headway. Recall that every bit of transcontinental freight through El Paso both ways will use these tracks; that excepting for the Santa Fe's traffic, every bit of freight transahipped between Mexico and the west will use these tracks; that every pound of freight for Arizona and southern New Mexico, and originating there for the east, including the vast traffic with the mines, will pass over these tracks, and all California freight for El Paso territory; leave the passenger trains wholly out of account, and you can get some idea of what this huge traffic will amount to a few years from now.

With electric traction in a subway, the nuisance of such heavy traffic in the city would be largely done away with. With soft coal and oil burning steam locomotives, it will become almost intolerable. The funnels of the locomotives will be just below the level of the street surface. The neighborhood ought to be as joyous as sitting on the top of the smokestack of the El Paso Ice company or the Sheldon hotel. Oil fumes that sometimes fill San Jacinto plaza now so as almost to choke people, will not be less disagreeable because they are blown directly under people's noses.

Unless the railroads will agree to adopt electric traction within a reasonable numl.r of years, all freight traffic should be sent around the southern part of the city, even if passenger traffic be allowed to use the surface on the present E. P. & S. W. rightofway after consolidating trackage with the G. H. & S. A. and abandoning, or partly abandoning as the present ordinance provides, the use of Main street for rail traffic. The railroads have got so far together, there ought to be little difficulty in working out an even better plan.

The new ordinance under discussion provides for the closing of a very important crossing, the only one west of Santa Fe street, that at Durango and Main streets. This closing would cut off from direct connection with the upper valley about 15 city blocks which now enjoy that privilege, and would "dead-end" five blocks or nearly a third of a mile of San Francisco street between Santa Fe street and the union station. It does seem as if some way ought to be found to carry this crossing either under or over the new subway.

The ordinance is now in effect. Section 20 provides:

Section 20. Upon the filing by the said Railroad Company in the office of the City Clerk of the City of El Paso, Texas, of a written acceptance of this ordinance the same shall constitute a contract between the City and the said Railroad Company, and as such all of its terms, provisions and conditions shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the City and the said Railroad Company."

The railroad companies filed their acceptance at Thursday's council meeting, so that it is now a binding contract in perpetuity.

Section 13 bars the city forever from repealing the ordinance or any part of it, or from changing it.

The general negotiations between the city and the two railroads took place at various times over several months. But they were always in secret, and the public was not allowed to know what was going on. The ordinance itself was rushed through during the closing days of the old administration, and notwithstanding its tremendous importance, and the fact that the matter could wait a week without prejudice, the council passed it as an emergency act, expressly waiving and suspending the provision in the city charter which requires all ordinances to be read in open meeting of the city council at two regular meetings. Such excessive haste was not fair to the people.

The present council cannot repeal or change the ordinance. But it cannot close the Durango street crossing unless a majority of those voting at an election called for the purpose of deciding the question shall vote to close it. And if the people vote against the closing of Durango street, the whole ordinance fails by its terms. Moreover the railroads are not obligated under the ordinance until the city builds the storm sewer, and the city cannot do that until the taxpayers vote bonds for the purpose.

No other citizen or taxpayer in the city can have a greater interest in bringing about a correct solution of this railroad question than The Herald has. The Herald relies on the good faith and good will of the railroads to keep working on the problem, and to agree anew on some plan better than the present one, if this one should fail to receive the sanction of the people. The present condition of blocked crossings is almost intolerable, and the railroads will find it increasingly hard to operate on present trackage and under present methods. In self defence they must change. The Herald regards the proposed solution as injurious to the future interests of the city for all time, in spite of its apparent present improvement of condtiions; electric traction through the subway should at the very least be provided for, now or within a few years; the city should not so completely abdicate its rights of regulation; and a further effort should be made to solve the Durango street crossing problem more fairly. The south side belt line plan should be further considered.

By the way, what does section 4 mean? It provides that the railroad shall construct a paved roadway over the street viaducts "of a width of not less than ten (10) feet." Can anybody tell us what use a ten foot roadway would be on such streets as Oregon, Mesa, and Stanton? The same section says the bridges are to be "of the width of the street." Are they to be skeleton bridges only, with a mere passageway across the center for one-way traffic? Maybe this is a mere error in transcription, but if so, it just goes to indicate that the ordinance needs careful revision.

In telling a few things about this ordinance, The Herald is doing a thing that many people will call foolish. For, strange as it may seem to some, The Herald is arguing directly against its pocketbook. The Herald has about 150 feet of frontage on Main street which the G. H. & S. A. railroad purposes by this ordinance to vacate and turn over for ordinary street traffic; The Herald also has 65 feet of frontage on North El Paso street at the corner of Main, so that it would get the benefit of the opening up of North El Paso street by a street-level viaduct over the subway. It is probable that real estate men would say that The Herald would add some $30,000 or $200 per front foot to the potential value of its property at Main and North El Paso streets if the subway plan should go through exactly as now proposed by the railroads and provided for in this ordinance. Yet, being convinced that the proposed plan as it stands is against public policy, a bad thing for the El Paso of the future, it did not take The Herald long to decide to follow the line of duty clearly imposed by its public trust, forgetting the immediate increment of realty value which it might be in position to enjoy if it kept quiet. People who are held up at the crossings a while longer until the question is settled right may damn The Herald for its poor judgment, but the El Paso of the future may be grateful, and The Herald, like all other thoughtful and loyal El Pasoans, is trying to build for the future.

The sections of the ordinance quoted herein speak for themselves, and citizens are competent to make their own decisions when they are put in possession of the facts. The Herald has simply performed its duty as a newspaper in bringing these matters to public attention. What citizens do with them is entirely their own affair. All they have to do now to make the ordinance perpetually binding in its precise and unchangeable terms—if they want it to stand—is to vote bonds for the storm sewer and to vote in favor of closing the Durango- ain street crossing.

LETTERS to THE HERALD

(All communications must bear the signature of the writer, but the name will be withheld if requested.)

"BUY A HOME."

Editor El Paso Herald:

For several days I have been reading the "Buy-a-Home" articles in the papers, and each succeeding one has "got onto my nerves" more and more, till I am constrained to give another side, which has not seemed to occur to the enthusiastic boosters.

Now no one can believe more thoroughly in a home than I. The home is the cradle and bulwark of the nation—and all good citizenship. Well reared children—in a home, not in an apartment house—seldom give trouble at school, or later on in society. You won't find men and women from good homes in the jails and penitentiaries and seldom will you find them in the divorce court.

Then, too, it is comforting at the end of a year of monthly payments to have a house, partly owned, over your head instead of 12 "scraps of paper"—receipts for rent.

But—and I'd like to write that "but" in large capitals—what about the man of moderate means; the man of low wages or a small salary? He has no cash to pay for a home, and has to buy on the installment plan, borrowing the worth of the house and paying 8 and 10 percent interest on that money. Besides the insurance and the taxes must come out of the poor man's pocket. I know from experience what that means, and it simply means such a handicap that the man can never pay for his home, or if he does succeed, it is by keeping his, his wife's and his children's nose to the grindstone in a very literal manner. Twenty dollars makes all the difference of shoes or no shoes, ragged, patched clothes or good clothes to the poor man's child.

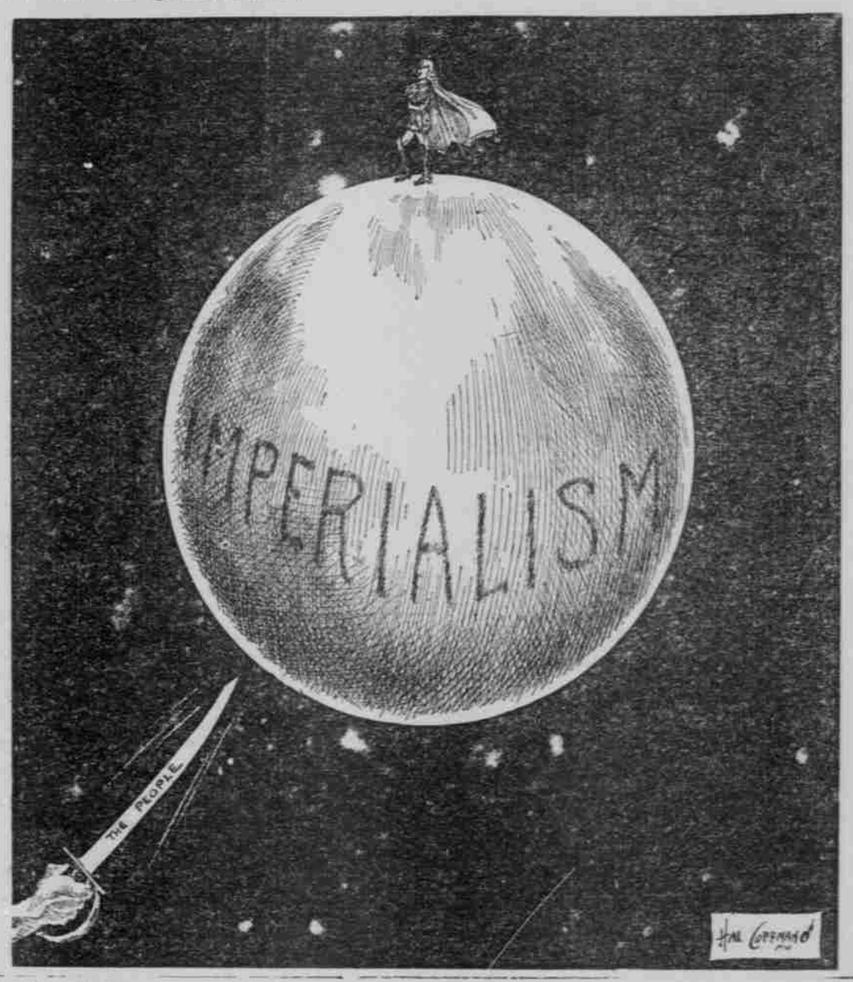
You real estate men and others may preach "Buy-a-Home" as much as you please after you have reduced the interest in Texas to less than that usurious percent—and not before. As it is, no poor man can raise a family and buy a home at the same time. Certainly not in a reasonable number of years.

One Who Is "Buying a Home."

Miss Jeanette Rankin, congresswoman from Montana, used only five words to write her biography for the Congressional Directory.

Miss Sally Simpson, of Smith's college, is traveling around the country addressing female students and urging them to become dairymaids and plow girls.

THE BUBBLE - - - BY COFFMAN



Abe Martin

What's become o' th' ole time patriotic citizen that used t' say, "Well, I didn't vote fer him, but he's my president jest th' same?" Actions speak louder'n flage.

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Short Snatches From Everywhere

When the United States gets 2000 merchant vessels running to Europe it will require a block system to prevent rear end collisions.—Philadelphia North American.

If you should come to any place where soldiers are on guard and one of them orders you to "halt," halt. Don't ask questions, and don't start an argument.—Syracuse Post-Standard.

The deposed czar, it is reported, has a private fortune of two billion dollars. But the tough part of it is that just at this time he can't get out to buy anything with it.—Macon Telegraph.

The abdication of the kaiser and the accession of the crown prince would make Prussianism more of a menace than ever. The extinction of the Hohenzollern dynasty is the remedy.—Rochester Herald.

A Narration of Everyday Affairs.

Their Married Life

Helen Adopts New Tactics in Dealing With Warren And They Seem To Be Successful.

"I HEARD an interesting story today," Helen remarked as they went in to dinner.

"What kind of a story?" Warren asked noncomittally. He was not going to be too ready to seem interested. He had had a long, hard day at the office and really preferred a dinner eaten in silence to being compelled to respond to Helen.

"It was about those friends of Lulu Holmes. You know I told you of calling on them, Warren. They live down near the square, and the girl does silhouettes."

"Well, what's their name? You don't think I remember the names of everyone in New York, do you?" "Hunt, dear—Billie and Queenie Hunt."

"Yes," Warren returned with the first show of interest he had evinced. "Well, what about them?"

"Well, I'm not so anxious to tell you about it, if you're not anxious to hear," Helen said, calmly beginning to sip her soup.

"This always made Warren furious. "How often have I told you that I hate to have you begin a story you can't finish," he growled.

Helen looked up and smiled provokingly.

"I'll tell you, Warren, I don't feel any more like being spoken to that way than you feel like being bothered, so let's call it off, shall we?"

Tactics Surprise Warren.

Warren looked surprised at these tactics. It was so seldom that Helen fought back, when he got into a mood of this kind. As a general rule she would have been either anxious to appease him and tell the story, or she would have kept silent like a martyr until Warren chose to speak and then she would raise eyes half filled with tears.

Warren really despised Helen's ready tears, but it gave him a feeling of despotism in the home that rather pleased his masculine vanity. Tonight Helen did not act in the usual manner. The truth of the matter was that she felt too well. She had had a pleasant day, and the recent gift from Mollie Bangs's father, which had evoked several sarcastic remarks from Warren, had filled Helen with self confidence. Warren began to take different tactics after the meal had proceeded in silence for a few minutes.

"You women don't seem to realize that after a man has had a hard day at the office it's a difficult thing for him to appear cheerful and respond to everything on the instant."

Helen said nothing. It was useless to begin that age old argument. Warren would never realize that a woman had just as many things to see to as a man. But to her surprise he said reasonably.

"I don't mean the work so much, but a man is tied down to an office seeing the same people day in and day out. A woman, no matter how many little things she has to do, has more variety in her day. I go right from here to the office in the morning and come directly home at night. It is very seldom that I have a few minutes I can call my own. When I come home, the evenings are generally planned for me. Did you ever stop to look at the question from a man's standpoint?"

Helen was regarding Warren interestedly. "Why no, Warren, I don't believe I ever have, but I can see your point very plainly, and I'd like to do whatever I can."

Warren Recovers Good Nature.

Warren, restored to good nature, grinned.

"Well, don't you think we might cut out seeing so many people? We have been going pretty heavily of late, and it keeps me on the rush all the time."

"Certainly I do, dear. We'll begin with next week and spend more evenings at home." Helen was thrilled all over at the thought that Warren was actually proposing more evenings at home with her. She had thought that he preferred evenings out or people coming in. How glad she was now that the argument had started!

"All right," he rejoined; "that makes a better lookout. Now go on with the story. I really want to hear it."

"Why, it wasn't anything at all," protested Helen. "I simply thought that it was awfully characteristic and rather timely. It seems that this Billie Hunt spent six months at the border. He belongs to one of the regiments, so that when the troops began to be called out again he was almost afraid to get up in the morning for fear that he would be taken away from his wife again. They have been married only a year."

"Gee! that was tough. But there must be lots of similar cases," rejoined Warren.

"Of course there are; and I guess the men are proud to be called. But Billie was hoping that the married men of his regiment would not be called until later. Finally the regiment was called out; and what do you think—the requirements are so much more rigid now that he was rejected physically."

"What was the matter?"

"Fallen arches, but he was rejected, and just as soon as he discovered that he was he felt horribly ashamed and humiliated, and so did his wife. What do you think of that for human nature?"

"Pretty good," said Warren, stretching back in his chair and lighting a cigar. "Well, what is the program for tonight? I hope we're not going out anywhere."

Helen flushed. "We are, dear; we promised to go down to the Browns."

"Well, can you beat that!" exploded Warren. "I'll bet you made the date, all right. This is the first I've heard of it. After this you can let me know a little bit more about our engagements. I think I am entitled to a little consideration."—Copyright, 1917, International News Service.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, of New York, will be active in relief work for our soldiers and sailors.

DEAR MR. KABIBBLE,
I'M SUSPICIOUS THAT MY FIANCE WAS MARRIED BEFORE—HOW CAN I FIND OUT?
—MISS GORGIE

NOTICE IF HE WEARS HIS RUBBERS ON RAINY DAYS

Roundabout Town

Enlistment In Navy Penalized By Government Tom Clements Loses Cadetship For Patriotism

By G. A. MARTIN.

ACCORDING to the laws and regulations of the United States, a boy with a patriotic desire to serve his country, is placed at a disadvantage over one who stays at home, at least in some things. When war was declared, Tom Clements, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Clements, enlisted. Friends of the young man later interested themselves in an effort to have him appointed by secretary Daniels to a cadetship at Annapolis. The secretary wrote that it would be impossible to name him until he had served a year in the navy; that a boy who has enlisted in the navy must first serve a year and must be under 21 at the end of the year to be appointed to the academy. Tom will be 21 four months before he has served his year in the navy and therefore cannot be appointed a cadet. If he had not enlisted, the secretary could have appointed him at any time. Great encouragement we hold out to young men to be patriotic.

* * *

Brides are not given the hilarious sendoffs these days that they formerly received. The old shoes are being half-soled for further use and rice is too valuable to scatter even for a bride.

* * *

Edwin Maxwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Maxwell, was born on the same day of the month that his two grand parents on his mother's side were born, January 24. It is rather unusual for a man and wife to celebrate the same date of the month as their birthday anniversaries, but to have a grandson born on the same day, makes it still dore unusual.

* * *

You are quick to see the blemish in the distant neighbor's style,
You can point to all his errors and may sneer at him the while,
And your prejudices fatten and your hates more violent grow
As you talk about the failures of the man you do not know,
But when drawn a little closer, and your hands and shoulders touch,
You find the traits you hated really don't amount to much.
—Edgar A. Guest.

* * *

A. S. Howren, city sewer commissioner, was a busy man all fall and winter, trying, in futherance of mayor Lea's instructions, to make the militia troops as comfortable as possible. The 21st Michigan infantry, in Camp Cotton, was doing some work and the provost sergeant borrowed some rods to work on the sewers with. Days went by and they were not returned, so Al went to the colonel about it. The colonel sent for the sergeant and directed him to find them at once. The sergeant explained that he had been full when he put them away and to locate them again, he would have to take on another "jag" and this he proceeded to do, when he recalled where they had been placed and they were returned to the city!

* * *

This ordinance absolutely prohibits the placing of a billboard so as to hide the view from the front porch of any residence in the city.

The above is from an advertisement in the interest of the billboards. If it is true, then there is hardly a billboard in the city that does not violate the ordinance.

* * *

It is going to take a mighty good talker for the billboard interests to convince all the organizations of El Paso that they are mistaken in their dislike for the billboards disfiguring the residential section of the city and that, instead of being the nuisance people have believed them, they are not only a boon but a joy to the city.

* * *

The Golden Rule is so seldom used in these modern times of selfishness that it is not being worn out at all at all.

* * *

If German prisoners are really becoming a hardship on the allies, we ought to be able to make use of quite a few in this region, now that the Mexicans are emigrating southward for some unaccountable reason and leaving smelter furnaces untended, farms uncultivated and railroad roadbeds unweeded.

* * *

NOBODY EVER SAW A BASEBALL BUG KEEP COOL AT AN EXCITING BALL GAME, YET WE CALL THEM FANS.

* * *

John Wyatt might have told this story, but he didn't.

Two negroes bought a piece of pork, and Sam, having no place to put his share, trusted it to Henry's keeping. They met the next night, and Henry said, "A mos' strange thing done happen at ma house las' night, Sam, All myst'ry to me."

"What dat, Henry?"

"Well, Sam," explained Henry solemnly, "dis mawnin' I go down in de cellar for to git a piece of hawg fo' breakfas', an' I put my han' down in de brine an' feels 'roun', but dey ain't no po'k dar—all gone; so I tun up de barl, an, Sam, sho' as preachin', de rats had done et a hole cl'ar froo de bottom of dat bar'l an' dragged de meat all out."

Sam was silent in astonishment for a moment. "Why didn't be brine run outen de hole?" he asked then.

"Well, yo' see, Sam," replied Henry, "dat's de myst'ry."

* * *

Writing John M. Wyatt, from Chicago, Percival Brooks Coffin, a big bond buyer and investment broker of that city, asks this question: "Have you realized that if our government borrows this year $7,000,000,000 this sum exceeds the amount of all the savings deposits in the United States by over $1,500,000,000?" Some little borrowing expedition we are entering on, eh?

* * *

Paul Richards, Herald staff photographer, is the man who was accosted in front of Lamar school on Montana street one night recently by Roger Brown. Mr. Richards makes this statement: "I was commissioned by Dr. John H. Jackson to make a photograph of the First Methodist church at night, in order to get a picture of the electric cross. I had stopped the car and my assistant, Mr. Mentzer, had got out to make the picture. I was asleep in the car waiting for him. A young man drove up and asked if we were in trouble. I said no; that we were making a photograph. I did not say we were photographing a billboard and we were not." Next.

TIGHE, WORLD TRAVELER, TO LECTURE AT SUMMER NORMAL

Europe before and after the war will be the lecture subject of Supt. R. J. Tighe, of the city schools, before the summer normal school, the sessions of which will continue from June 1 to July 12. Mr. Tighe has been a world traveler and formerly was well known on the lecture platform. While traveling in Europe he took views of the historic institutions out of which have grown the ideals which are basis of the democracy of a free people. His pictures, in the form of stereopticon slides, will be shown and will be valuable, because many of the sights they represent have been destroyed in battles.

The illustrated lecture will be open to the public, as well as to the normal students, as all of the lectures will be. They will be given in the high school auditorium, which seats 1600 people.

Mrs. George de Long, the former Mrs. Richard Lounsberry and one of the wealthy daughters of the late James B. Haggin, owns a private railroad car.

Mrs. W. R. Grace, who recently opened the Nassau county, L. I., rifle range, is a crack shot with a rifle.

Hogwallow Locals

By GEORGE BINGHAM

Cricket Hicks, who has always yearned to be fat, has had his picture enlarged while he has the mumps.

* * *

A good bonehdry argument is that of the man who boasts of the fact that he drinks it when he has it and lets it entirely alone when it is impossible for him to get it.

* * *

The road to Tickville is being repaired so that the blacksmith won't have to hear the auto owners brag so much about the endurance of their cars.

The Warrior

WHEN I begin to kill off Germans, my motives will be just; no thirst for blood my course determines—I slay because I must. I prayed for peace while there seemed chances of gaining such a boon; but now I grind my swords and lances, and hum a martial tune. Long, long I hoped the nutty kaiser would see where he was wrong, that he'd have counsel, saner, wiser, than he has had for long. But he is drunk with blood, besotted, in carnage he would swim; he'll have no sense till I have swatted the sauerkraut out of him. We've stood and looked on bloody murther, by lying "notes" explained, until the thing could go no further, if honor were retained. The patience of this mighty nation, made no appeal to Bill; so now we tire of "explanation," we load our guns to kill. No more I'm preaching tiresome sermons on peace, and kindred boons; I'm out to shoot a bunch of Germans and swipe their pantaloons. I'm done with peace, O men and brothers, until this war shall cease; and I have little use for others who still are prating "Peace."

Copyright, by George Matthew Adams. WALT MASON

INKLINGS and THINKLINGS

By WEX JONES.

London, April 24.—In response to urgent popular demands, the Kahn of Khiva will grant a democratic constitution. Rushing the Kahn.

Getting armies out of their trenches is as easy as getting the works out of a watch. The trouble is getting 'em back again.

Hope the food dictator will insist upon at least one clam being posted in every pot of clam chowder.

Salesgirl laughed at boss's joke and swallowed mouthful of pins. Moral: If you have a sense of humor, sifter to the old pincushion.

The salesgirl, by the way, obtained damages of $5 a week, which the jocular boss, we presume, will call pin money.

British army's entrance into the city of Gaza must have been greatly facilitated by the forethought of Sampson, who carried away the gates some centuries previous.

Speaking of intensive cultivation, there are the roof gardens.

President Wilson should beat Mr. Balfour at golf, if it's true that when Mr. Balfour slices he exclaims, "Dear me!"

French want Hindenburg to drop them a line.

Meatless days would affect some dear fellows less than would treatless days.

Wish we could get these spring days by selective draft.

Argentine pacifists fought as hard for peace that they licked the war party in a stret fight.

Sultan of Turkey has sent the German emperor a sword, but forgot to send anything to carve with it.

Paul Revere would have called off his midnight ride if gasoline had been at modern prices.

Should be a rush for roast beef sandwiches on meatless days.

Our idea of a simple menu is cranberry sauce without turkey.

The Smith having sighted the first submarine, we must reply on the Brown or Robinson to sink it.

Horrors of war: British government prohibits manufacture of muffins and crumpets.

Mrs. Emily Vandecook Browne, a woman navigator, has offered her services to the United States

Little Interviews

Every Student Officer to Have Chance Later On Fort Bliss Drill Grounds Are Full *of* "Rookies"

"IF I am not mistaken those applicants for the officers' reserve corps who will not be accommodated now at the Leon Springs, Tex., training camp will have another opportunity to join the camp after the present batch of applicants have their three months' training," said Fred Nash. "It is my understanding that as soon as the 2500 student officers complete their training at Leon Springs, another call will be made for student officers. The army plans are to have about 75,000 or 80,000 trained officers in the United States and everyone who aspires for a commission will have a chance for one before we are through with the war with Germany."

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"The training of the recruits being sent here to fill up the regiments to war strength give Fort Bliss an appearance of increased active army life," said John Wilson. "You can go to Fort Bliss at any time of the day and see the parade ground crowded with detachments of 'rookies' who are learning the first principles of military work. The detachments are divided into squads of 20 to 30 men each and are being taught by noncommissioned officers, who are as good a lot of drill masters as there are in any army in the world."

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"The large searchlight that plays on the Stars and Stripes flying over San Jacinto plaza each night gives every patriotic citizen a thrill," said George Burri. "The searchlight illuminates the flag until it can be seen for several miles. It can be distinctly seen by residents of Highland Park, Government Hill, the mesa and other suburban districts. It also attracts the attention of tourists and other travelers passing through the city on trains. I believe this is the only city in the United States that has a searchlight trained on a flag at night."

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"The belligerent nations in this great world war have been forced to increase their food supply and supply of flour by eating 'war bread,' which is flour containing a higher percentage than usual of the whole wheat berry," said Carl S. Vrooman. "Seventy-two percent of the wheat in this country is converted into flour, 85 percent in Italy, 81 percent in England and 77 percent in France. All Europe is conserving the wheat supply by mixing the flour with the flour of corn, potatoes, barley and rye, and this nation will soon be using the same method. 'War bread' is for most people more healthful than whole wheat bread. The sooner this country goes on a war diet the better it will be in the end and the better will the people be living."

EL PASO HERALD

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H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 19 years; J. C. Wilmarth is Manager and G. A. Martin is News Editor.

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