

HIGGARDY POLICY OF STREET CAR CO.

Refuse to Let the Pupils Have a Half Rate Every Week Day

Democratic politicians have begun a movement to urge democratic city councilmen not to allow another street car franchise in this city, unless the applicants are willing to allow all children between the ages of 8 and 18 years to ride for half fare on the street cars on every day in the week.

This action is taken in the belief that it will meet with public approval; that the people are beginning to believe that franchises worth hundreds of thousands of dollars have been given to the street car companies practically for nothing. It is true the street car companies pay for the paving along a 17-foot strip in the streets occupied by their tracks, but this expense is merely regarded as a joke. In American municipalities the fact is becoming apparent to all thinking people, that these franchises increase in value with a rapidity that is only equaled by the increasing in capital stock of such com-

panies as the Bethlehem Steel company and the United States Shipbuilding company—concerns that have become a stench in the public nostrils within the last few weeks.

When President Daggett of the school board and Superintendent of Schools Torney called on Mr. Graves of the Spokane Traction company yesterday to ask for half fare for children, they were given a small plum in the way of half fare for all school children, including high school pupils, during five days of each week, but they were turned down absolutely in the matter of half fares for all the children for every day of the week. This slight favor was agreeable to the school men, but it did not go far enough in showing appreciation for the gift of the people's streets to the traction company.

The Washington Water Power company has a 3-cent rate for everybody, and it will have it sooner or later.

FIGURING ON GOOD JOBS

County Commissioners to Have Some to Give Out Soon

"If 79 men have county jobs which net them \$2.50 a day while working part of the season, how can we take their jobs away and give them to three men who will get \$4 a day nearly all the year around and not hurt the feelings of anyone?"

That is the problem which the county commissioners will try to solve between now and the close of next month. It relates to the change in the state road supervisor law, by which the county road districts are reduced to three and the pay raised, as well as opportunity for more days of work.

There are about 55 applications for the new jobs before the county supervisors. Nearly all the present 79 supervisors want a job under the new law, and there are a number at present outside the pay who have their tin cups out. The authority of the supervisors of the new districts will be about the same as that under the old law, but the supervisors will have more work and more pay, and the job appeals to the rural statesman as a good thing. Consequently he is pulling all the wires that he knows of and asking his friends to lend a hand.

CALL ARMY OF ITALIANS TO MEET DEATH THIS MORNING

Thirty-five Burned to a Crisp and a Large Number Fatally Injured in a Death Trap

ALTOONA, Pa., Nov. 21.—In a fight for the gold they received on pay day (yesterday) 35 Italians collapsed the one small room to their bunk house at 2 o'clock this morning and were burned to death.

In the shanty 150 men, all Italians, all employed on the Pennsylvania railroad improvement in this city, were sleeping. To the shanty there was but one door, and either side of the door was lined with straw-filled bunks. A ponderous stove sat in the center of the room.

At 2 o'clock one of the men near the door was roused by the smell of burning straw. In an instant a mass of

James burst before the man's eyes from near the stove and swept towards him like lightning. He gave a scream of alarm and dashed for the door.

In an instant a mass of burning men was charging down on the door. Half a dozen who succeeded in escaping lost their heads completely and washed back, insane, in an effort to get their money, which had been hid within the bunks.

Like animals the men fought, completely clogging the door with the injured and dying from knife thrusts.

By this time the building was burning from end to end, and there was not a man but who was as fire.

The fire department responded and

took out the bodies of 14 dead men, who were wedged and piled in and about the doorway.

Of the number who were taken out to be buried, it is believed that the officials could make no estimate. Some of the victims were burned from the waist to the feet. Others were bled from the waist to the face. In some instances not a vestige of beard or hair was left on the head.

A special train was immediately provided by the railroad company and the injured, attended by the doctors of Altoona, were placed aboard and speeded to the railroad hospital in Johnstown.

This was by far the worst catastrophe that has ever occurred in Al-

toona. Loud complaint has gone up against the railroad company for caring for the laborers in the way they were housed; but, on the other hand, it is said that the men who lived in the bunk house with a single door and ventilate windows near the roof too small for the passage of a man's body, is the same size and kind that can be found anywhere along the company's line, and that the men who went in it to sleep did so at their own risk.

Most of the men who lost their lives were single, although a few were married and have families living in the Italian colonies of New York and Philadelphia.

THOUSANDS OF MEN HERE WITHOUT LIFE PARTNERS

Astonishing Facts and Figures From the United States Government Reports---A Bright "Marriage Broker" Sees Millions Ahead.

Seven thousand men in this town without wife, sweetheart or lady friend.

The startling statement was made to The Press by D. H. Work at the Hotel Spokane, this noon. He had come, he guardedly declared, to open a matrimonial bureau here.

The Press man's eyes began to stick out at the thought of the dollars rolling into this novel enterprise. The marriage broker said, in part:

"I'm not talking through my hat. The excess of men over women, in this town, has long been a matter of comment over the whole United States. Spokane has 7000 men who are hounding for the companionship of women, lovely women, but alas, there are not enough women to go around."

"The population of this town, in round numbers, is 50,000. If called off on by one, each man to select a partner from the fair sex, there would be just 7000 men left in the cold."

"Have you counted 'em," suggested the Press, mildly.

"I have," said the United States government has spent millions to compile the twelfth census, mark you, and I'm following the figures laid down there. According to the report of the U. S. statisticians, Spokane had in 1900 21,167 men and only 15,631 women. Now I add 5000 to each column, to bring the population up to date, and have 27,167 men and only 20,631 women. What more simple demonstration do you need?"

"My plan, then, is to establish here a matrimonial bureau on a large co-

operative scale, and by special arrangement with branches east of Chicago get the girls in the middle west interested, enough to make the trip out here to be rewarded by a rich and handsome Spokane husband. The proposition is strictly business, all the way through. There is no sentiment about it, my dear Press. We're going to make the contracting parties pay for it, of course. Incidentally, if we can do anything to help along the town, and make things less luscious, that, too, will give us joy. But we are not philanthropists, not on your life. The 7000 men will be our customers, and I guess I'll be easy to amuse a \$10 gold piece from each happy, pleased fellow; so you see, there's tens of thousands in it, at the least calculation."

The Press, full of doubt, took Work's figures to the reference room of the public library. Here they were closely compared with the United States twelfth census. The figures given by the "marriage broker" are correct, in all details. Spokane is given by the United States authorities an excess of 5000 men over the fair sex, the latter set down at 15,631, or, according to Work, now 20,631.

Work's figures will undoubtedly be widely discussed, at Spokane's tea tables tonight. It was hinted by a man in the local directory business that Work's figures are conservative; that, in short, there are more than 7000 in excess of 5000 men over the ladies, each her favorite gentleman partner.

YOUNG LADY'S BAD LUCK

Angry at the Policeman Because His Help Was in Vain

H. P. "Fatty" Rogers, facetiously dubbed "The King of the Dump" because he is special policeman at the city dump, was the hero in rescuing a prominent young lady from an unfortunate predicament on North Monroe street this morning.

The aforementioned young lady was coming sauntering down the hill on the way to her daily employment in a downtown office, when suddenly her No. 2 high-heeled patent shoe excepted to the slippery pavement and skidded towards the rain clouds.

The young lady instantly clapped her delicate mits in the rear to save herself, but forgot that one of the mits contained her daily lunch, done up in a brown leather lunch basket.

An instant later she thought of the little leather box, and a second thought compelled her to ejaculate:

"There! My lunch is smashed."

"Was it all," said Rogers, as he gallantly tried to raise her from the lunch, but in the words of an Englishman, she weighed about 8 stone, and "Fatty's" efforts were even more ludicrous than the mishap to the lunch.

"Madam," said he with dignity, after one or two more tugs, "I guess your lunch is busted."

The aforementioned young lady then tried to get her feet under her, remarking icily: "If you had let me alone I'd have got up by my own accord."

Rogers answered not to the contrary, having been a married man, and returned the lady to his domain beside the dump.

YOUNG LADY'S BAD LUCK

Angry at the Policeman Because His Help Was in Vain

ASHLAND, O., Nov. 21.—In view of the effort for eight-hour legislation which organized labor's representatives have already begun in Washington, E. E. Myers of this place, president of the National Association of Agricultural Implement and Vehicle dealers and a leader among the prominent employers of the country, who have organized for the purpose of combating what they regard as the unreasonable and unjust demands of the labor unions, has given forth the following statement of his views:

"The tendency in the direction of an eight-hour schedule for labor demands the attention of every employer. From a manufacturer's standpoint the future of our country depends very largely on whether we can have the labor of our employes nine to ten hours per day and get results as we have heretofore, or be compelled to recognize the eight-hour schedule.

"I have always taken the position that if we can have the services of our artisans and mechanics from nine to ten hours per day, we can compete against any country in the world, practically without protection, and that the future of our country and its growth in the introduction of manufactured articles into foreign lands depends very largely on our ability to do this. During my travels in foreign countries I found where the eight-hour schedule existed that conditions were

EIGHT HOUR LABOR WILL BE FOUGHT

Manufacturers Say Cannot Fight Competition With Short Days

men on the farm and is another reason why we should have the nerve to fight every effort on the part of politicians to secure an eight-hour schedule. They are largely the investigators of this plan, and for political promotion solely.

"In my judgment every member of the National Association of Agricultural Implement and Vehicle dealers should make it a point to reach the ear of every one in power in his district and oppose this growing sentiment that will certainly prove disastrous to our interests for the reasons given and many others that might be enumerated. In my judgment, it is decidedly better to advance the pay of labor working nine to ten hours per day than to grant a reduction in time for the same pay, and produce goods for the markets of the world."

decidedly unfavorable, resulting disastrously to the employer because of his loss of business that went to others more favorably situated, and the fact that the employer who hesitates to stop at questionable resorts on his way to work before 8 a. m., and to do so on returning at 5 p. m., becomes demoralized.

"I have also taken the position that it is manifestly unfair to the farmer, who, to make it pay, is compelled to go to work at 6 or 7 a. m., and continue until 6 or 7 p. m. The farmer boy would become discontented with his lot to the extent of leaving the farm still more rapidly if he were to hear our whistle and that of others at 8 o'clock in the morning, and on completion of the day at 5 o'clock. This would certainly have its effect on the young

THE UNION PLUMBERS STILL HOLDING OUT

"The plumbers' union claims to have 25 men at work for their union plumbing company," said President Evans of the Master Plumbers' association today. "The fact of the matter is, he continued, 'as near as I can learn there are but three or four men at work for the union.'"

It is stated today that the firm of Maxwell & Hollingbery have let out about one-half of the plumbers employed by them. This firm is the only independent concern in the city—that is, they do not belong to the Master Plumbers' association. A peculiar state of affairs brought this about. All the other plumbing establishments of the city still hold their original contracts through their doing enough of the work themselves. Practically all the build-

BADGE TAX IS ILLEGAL SAYS SUPT. MASTERS

"We've a number of messenger boys who are supporting parents," said T. P. Masters, acting superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph company. "To make the ladies pay 50 cents for a badge is unjust, in my estimation. Many stay only a week or so and decide that they don't want to do it. Their earnings are small. In several cases, our young chaps are taking care of an aged mother. Dad's out of work, and the little kids' hustling. Why, the city couldn't raise over \$500 a year from messenger boys, anyway. There isn't enough of 'em to contribute."

"There is also a legal condition, especially in the case of the Western Union. We are the authorized agents for the United States government, and the badge tax is illegal. Technically, the city fathers could not lay a tax on the mail boys, any more than on Uncle Sam's grown up mail carriers."

"I am glad The Press is trying to knock out the whole thing," said the proprietor of a private messenger concern. "It is a rank outrage. The tax on business men here is high enough as it is. The idea of trying to tax merchants for the mistakes of the city's financiers is preposterous. If it is money the aldermen are after, why in the world don't they call in Dubuque, Ia., and divide on a broad, statesman-like plan for financing the town, and then go about it in a business-like way, instead of poking around sticking a 50-cent tax on a dollar's worth of boarding house keepers. It makes me very, very weary."

Rev. Geo. R. Wallace.

At Westminster (First) Congregational church, Fourth avenue and Washington street, Rev. George R. Wallace preached a sermon celebrating the twentieth anniversary of his ordination to the ministry. His theme will be "Experiences and Observations During 20 Years of Ministerial Service." The musical selections at the morning service will be:

Anthem—"Christian The Morn" (Shelley).

Unaccompanied quartette—"Heaven Is My Home" (Marston).

Response—"Hear My Prayer" (Hanscom).

The evening service will be given up entirely to music. The choir will sing Arthur Sullivan's famous oratorio, "The Prophet of Sam." This will be given complete.

Choir: Miss Arnetta Owen, soprano; Miss Rose Prather, contralto; Mr. Buchholz, tenor; Mr. Perrine, bass and director; Mrs. Baxter, organist.

ENGINEER'S GRIMY HAND GRIPPED BY ELLIOTT

It will undoubtedly take time for Northern Pacific train crews to learn to call him "President" Elliott. Perhaps that official prefers simply Howard Elliott. It is the sign of camaraderie between the employer and employee, good, wholesome fellowship, not the kind that makes for lack of respect.

When the new president came along the line the men looked him over, saw him in action, heard his talk, then picked him as Howard Elliott. The new president revealed himself as an ex-employee, a fellow workman, with them.

This impression comes to the chap who mixes with the engineers and trainmen when they are off duty, chatting about the road. Perhaps the secret lies in just such incidents as was

Always in Court.

Hazel Solomon Greenwood has commenced action against the Mutual Life Insurance company of New York to recover \$2000, the amount of life insurance of her father, Benjamin Solomon, on the 20-year distribution plan. The first premium was paid before the death of Solomon, but the company has refused to honor the demand for payment, alleging non-payment of a premium.

Mrs. McClure's Suit.

A second amended complaint has been filed in the action commenced by Anna McClure against the Review Publishing company in her action for \$20,000 for publishing false, scandalous and defamatory matter concerning the plaintiff, in which the woman was charged with being a professional thief in Tacoma, when she claims to have been a respectable wife on a ranch in the Caspian valley.

BEATING THE BUSH FOR A CANDIDATE

With the growing belief that the republican party will select its candidate for governor from this city next year, Spokane democrats are getting busy discussing the wisdom of the democratic nominee also coming from Spokane.

As yet the two democratic names most frequently mentioned are those of Attorney W. W. Tolman and Dr. P. S. Byrne. Each of these men is being pushed forward by his different friends. In view of the fact that Senator Tolman has refused to consider the gubernatorial nomination, these two are the only men yet put forward seriously by the local branch of the party.

Mr. Tolman is not well known as a lawyer, although a resident of long standing, but has been successful in being elected school director and to the state legislature. He is a quiet man, and not widely known throughout the state.

Dr. Byrne, the other name suggested, depends largely on his having been mayor of the city and having polled more votes at the last city election than the regular democratic machine

Unions Now Split.

The threatened split in the building trades council has come to pass. At a meeting of the carpenters' union last night it was unanimously voted to withdraw their affiliation with the building trades. This action was no surprise to the balance of the unions of the city. When the carpenters three weeks ago refused to endorse the strike of the plumbers it was then predicted the action would result in a split in the ranks of the building trades. This now makes two independent unions in Spokane, the other being the stone and brick masons. Though not a surprise to the other unions, the action is deprecated as it only leads to discontent among all classes. Next to the federal union, the carpenters are the strongest in the city, there being some 300 members. The building trades council still comprises the paper-hangers and painters, electricians, plasterers, lathers and shinglers, plumbers and steam and gas fitters.

Tacoma.—The union carpenters resumed work yesterday, having patched up their differences with the contractors.

SPokane Will Have LOTS OF WEALTH

With bank deposits of \$200 per capita, Spokane is surpassed by no other western city of corresponding size and is equalled by few.

The statement just issued by the Spokane banks shows that \$10,000,000 are on deposit.

Dubuque, Ia., figured on the same population, 50,000, has \$6,600,000 of deposits, or but a little over half the per capita deposits of Spokane. This fact is remarkable considering the age of Dubuque as compared with Spokane, the rich farming country surrounding and the payroll of its manufacturers.

Butte, Mont.—the much vaunted Butte—with its magnificent payroll, has but \$9,000,000 on deposit, outside the private deposits of Senator Clark, which have not been made public, and has an estimated population of 50,000. The figures would indicate that either Butte's citizens are not so circumspect in preparing for a rainy day as the people of Spokane, or the farming industry of this section, combined with mining, amounts to more than the vaunted mining industry of Butte.

Tacoma, with an estimated population of 50,000, has deposits of only \$7,000,000, a trifle better than the deposits in Dubuque, but not in the running with Spokane. Considering the closeness of her citizens, however, Tacoma probably does well to have two-thirds the deposits of Spokane.

Quincy, Ill., with an estimated population of only 40,000, comes up with the fine showing of \$8,000,000. Quincy's factories and railroads have done much to keep up the earnings of her population.

In the south, Fort Worth, whose population is estimated at 40,000, has only \$4,500,000 deposits.

Dallas, Texas, with an estimated population of 60,000, can show only \$9,600,000 deposits.

Another southern city far below the per capita deposit of Spokane is Nashville, with a population of 100,000 and deposits of only \$12,000,000.

From present indications Spokane is destined in a short time to have more wealth deposited in her banks per capita than any other city in the country. The indications are more remarkable in view of the fact that only a few years ago, in the early '90s, bank after bank and commercial institution after commercial institution failed, leaving in their wake a bankrupt city.

Belle McFadden.

Justice R. D. Speck of Rockford Springs brings in another story of the mysterious Belle McFadden, which makes her case even more mysterious than ever. The girl was held for the superior court by the Rockford justice on a charge of larceny in stealing from her grandfather, but after she was brought to Spokane and told her story about a prospective wedding at Harrison, Idaho, and the need of money to buy a dress for that occasion, she was released from custody by Judge Kennan and given to her grandfather, who started back with her to his home at Rock Creek.

The story now comes to Spokane that Belle would not remain at the home of her grandfather and unceremoniously left between two nights with enough of the old man's money to reach her sweetheart at Harrison, who has promised to make her his wife.

Largest Ship Afloat.

BELFAST, Nov. 21.—The new White Star liner Baltic, the largest ocean steamer in the world, was launched here today with great ceremony. She is 720 feet long, with 23,000 tons displacement.

MARRIED IN HASTE TO REPENT AT LEISURE

Misses I the tale that I relate
This lessons seems to carry—
Choose not alone a proper mate,
But a proper time to marry.
—Copper's "Pairing Time."

"How does it feel to be a divorced man?" The Press asked Mr. Williams, a divorced husband, who was yesterday released by the law, at her request, of Ada V., his former wife. The case was reported in last night's Press.

Williams thought it over carefully. "It's a relief," he ventured. "I'm real glad it's over. I married Ada only nine months ago. I am willing to say that I still have a high regard for her many good qualities. We'd be together yet if it hadn't been for relatives. I'm sorry we didn't get along better."

"You were happy with Ada, Mr. Williams?" asked the Press, delicately.

"She was a bit jealous—her one weakness. She wanted me to stay close to home, and be in early."

"How long had you known Ada before you married her?" gradually ventured the Press.

"Only a short time. I was green in Spokane, I might say. I met her by correspondence, and after passing letters back and forth I had her send me her picture. I will say this, at first sight of her picture I felt she was a beautiful, charming and attractive lady. The picture caught my fancy. I came on to Spokane and Ada and she told me in her letters was straight."

Strike Still On.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—Settlement of the great street car strike still hangs in the balance. The company up to noon failed to reply to the latest overtures and there is renewed activity in operating the lines. All is quiet. Practically all the policemen who have been guarding the lines have been withdrawn, although the cars carry guards. Three large torpedoes were discovered on the tracks of the Twenty-seventh Street line. Non-union conductor was beaten into insubordination within a block of the barn. Two striking conductors were arrested. The unions notified the strikers that notwithstanding all concessions the strike is still on.

FITZSIMMONS STILL IS THE FAVORITE

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 21.—With the battle between Robert Fitzsimmons and George Gardner for the light heavyweight championship of the world but four days' of the public interest in the event has reached a high pitch. The bout is the subject of conversation in all places where sporting men are wont to congregate and from all appearances the contest is due to receive as much attention as ever did a championship fight pulled off in this city. The popular interest may be ascribed in a large measure to the prevailing belief that the fight will be an even one and certainly interesting from a scientific standpoint.

Fitzsimmons continues to be a slight favorite over Gardner in the betting that is being done on the result. The former champion continues hard at work at his training quarters and those who have seen him box have been so impressed that they are willing to back him to carry off the honors.

While Fitzsimmons is working like a Trojan, Gardner is by no means neglecting to put himself in the best condition to defend the title of light heavyweight champion, which he won from Jack Root at Port Erie last July. The Lowell boxer realizes that Fitzsimmons is one of the most dangerous fighters in the ring today, and Gardner is nevertheless confident and believes he will be satisfied the winner.

Although the betting odds favor Fitzsimmons, Gardner is by no means

Gompers Re-elected.

BOSTON, Nov. 21.—The American Federation of Labor this morning re-elected Samuel Gompers president by a vote of 12,324. Krotz received 1124 votes. Great excitement prevailed during the election.

W. S. Kirk Leaving City.

Mr. W. S. Kirk, who has been conducting a retail business in army materials at 915 Sprague avenue for some time, is about to leave the city. To \$400 the cost of shipping the remainder of his stock he has decided to sell his boys' overcoats, made of army cloth, for one-fourth less than his former low price of \$4.00. The price now is but \$3.00. If you value the boy's health, you certainly will buy one of these coats. Don't let him go cold.

Trial for Murder.

LEAVENWORTH, Nov. 21.—Seven mutineers of the federal prison were taken to Topeka today to stand trial for the murder of Guard Waldrip. Seven accomplices were recently tried and sentenced to life imprisonment.

F. O. Huednutt, general manager of the Golden Dyke Mining company, has sued the company for \$337.57 alleged unpaid salary on a contract calling for \$200 a month.

TO YOUR INTEREST.
Why use strong or stale breakfast foods when you can get What Man's, Uncle Sam's Rolled Oats and Cornmeal Rolled Oats manufactured fresh daily.