

**STARTS LIFE AS UNDERGROUND TOILER;  
NOW MENTIONED FOR A CABINET PLACE**



David J. Lewis.

BY ROBERT F. WILSON.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Do you know the story of Davy Lewis of Maryland? There is inspiration in it, and it is especially timely now, for Davy Lewis—the Hon. David J. Lewis, member of congress from the sixth district of Maryland—may be the postmaster general in President Wilson's cabinet. Coming to Washington as an unknown less than two years ago, Davy Lewis, who was a child labor victim and who toiled underground in the coal

mines until he was of age, has made such a profound impression on public life in his single term in congress that he is being seriously considered for one of the highest and most important posts in the American government. Lewis' folks came to America from a Welsh mining village with a jaw-breaker name as long as your arm. Davy was born in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, and when he was nine years old the poverty of his family

forced him into the mines as a laborer. Those were the days before labor inspections. The miner was paid by the weight of the coal he produced, and it was customary for him to take his children with him into the mine as his assistants. So there was Davy's father, a brawny man, cutting the Moshannon coal "off the face" with mighty strokes of his big pick, and hoisting it into the mine car with his big shovel; and Davy with his little pick chipping off the ledges his father left and helping throw on the load with his little shovel.

Sometimes he drove the mine mules, and sometimes he was a smutty faced breaker boy. The net physical result of cutting off his natural childhood at the age of nine was to stunt his growth so that in height he is little more than five feet, but to thicken his bone and muscular structure into the squat powerfulness of an ox. His shoulders are those of a giant; his torso, arms and legs are mighty. Seeing his gnome-like stature, his slightly saturnine cast of countenance and hearing the big voice boom from his barrel of a chest, it is easy to imagine him a dweller in subterranean caverns.

Somehow in that childhood spent in the darkness he managed to learn to read—probably at Sunday school, the only school he ever attended. He developed an insatiable thirst for reading. He used to pack a book in his dinner bucket and read it by the light of the lamp on his cap whenever there was an opportunity in the mine.

He drifted to Cumberland, Md., where ambition sought him out when he was seventeen years old. He chose to study the usual combination of Latin and law. A kindly preacher helped him with the Latin; a lawyer, who sympathized with his struggle to reach the light, lent him the legal text books. It took six years of forcing his flagging brain to study after exhausting days of labor in the mines—but at the age of twenty-three he was admitted to the bar.

Those unsung philosophers who compose the mottoes for office cards and calendars advise the young man, whatever his station in life, to take up one subject for study and learn everything there is to be learned

about it. Young Lewis did that, though he probably had never seen a motto card. But he chose for study about the hardest, most intricate and abstract subject anyone could find—the subject of railroad economics.

This young lawyer, doing a justice of the peace court business, settling petty squabbles and executing an occasional deed or will, in a mountain town of Maryland, burned the midnight oil probing such abstruse subjects as railroad and express rate differentials and declensions. Who would think he ever could find use for his knowledge?

Let us jump now to the spring of 1911, when Lewis, at the age of forty-two, and after a hard fight which had put his district in the democratic column for the first time in twenty-two years, was in congress. He had asked and obtained permission to make a ten-minute speech on parcels post. As is usual when a new congressman arises to make his maiden speech, most of the bored older members fled to the cloak room. But a few who had curiously observed the powerful stunted figure of the man lingered to hear what he had to say. At the expiration of his ten minutes they were still lingering, and Oscar Underwood, the democratic floor leader, moved that the time of the gentleman from Maryland be extended one hour.

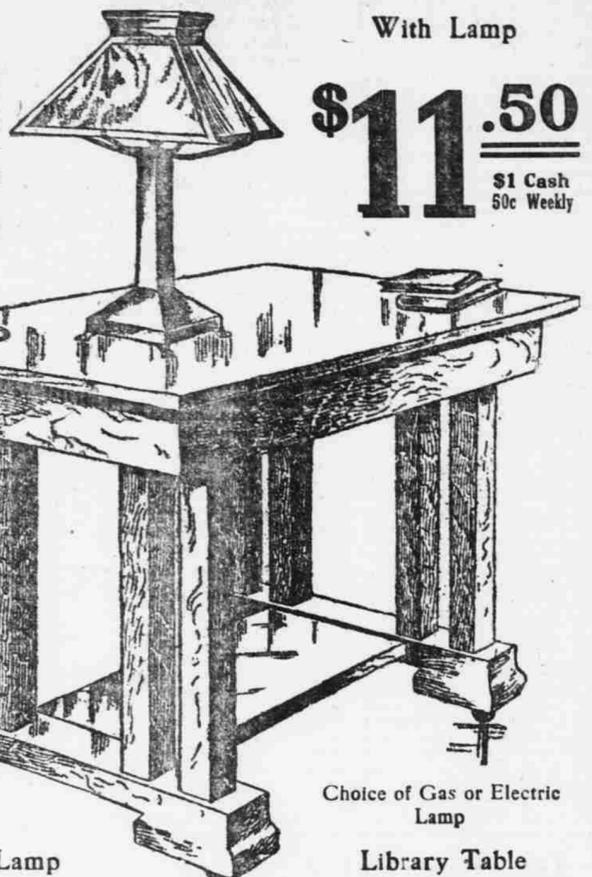
At the end of the hour there was a close-packed group about the speaker, whose head scarcely rose higher than his desk, and the galleries were filling, while there was rapt silence in the chamber. Then Underwood asked that the gentleman's time be extended another hour. At the end of the second hour the chamber was crowded with listeners. Underwood then suggested to Representative Mann, the republican floor leader, that he move for another hour's extension of time. And Mann, instead of asking for an hour, asked that Lewis' time be extended indefinitely.

Lewis began his ten-minute speech at 2 p. m. and he finished shortly after 7 o'clock that evening, and he held his crowd the whole time. In that speech he told congress more about the postoffice and the express systems than it ever knew before. He amazed veteran members of the post-office committee by telling them that the United States postoffice is the most efficient in the world, and later they were compelled to admit the truth of this statement. He showed them that, because of more advantageous contracts with the railroads, the express companies could always carry packages cheaper than a parcels post could do. He advocated the condemnation and government purchase of the express companies to get those contracts.

Such is the story of Davy Lewis, a story with a beginning only. Largely due to his speech and his subsequent efforts, a parcels post bill was passed. Many of the best features of that bill, such as admitting farm products to the mails, and providing for the C. O. D. feature of the act, were due entirely to his efforts. Lewis is commonly regarded now as the highest authority on parcels post in the house, if not the greatest who has ever sat in that chamber. The new law grants the postmaster general wide power in extending the operation of the parcels post. And that is why strong influences are urging President-elect Wilson to put the administration of the law into the hands of the ex-coal miner of Cumberland.

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The entire base of the lamp is made of heavy polished lacquered brass, and rests on claw feet. The shade is made of art glass and the light shining through gives a beautiful effect. Fully equipped for gas mantle or with electric connections.

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Plain Figure Prices on every article in the store. One price to all.



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The Uni-Motion represents the perfection of folding bed construction—the mattress is under the seat and comes into position when the seat is turned. The frames are solid oak and well finished, upholstered in Imperial leather—made with sanitary steel springs and is very easy to operate. Special price for Thursday and Friday only

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**Santa Claus is Coming to Our Store Next Thursday afternoon, December 12th. Tell the Little Folks.**

Every customer who buys over 25c anywhere in our store, groceries not excepted, Thursday, will be given a pretty little "Santa Claus Ticket" which reads like this: Don't throw these tickets away. Keep them and give them to the children. Every child who brings one of these tickets to Santa Claus when he comes, Thursday, or any day after Thursday until Christmas, will be given a pretty little Christmas gift by Santa Claus himself.

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a present to all my little friends. Bring this Card to Me at FISK & LOOSLEY'S STORE Moline, Ill., any day after Dec. 13th. SANTA CLAUS.**

**The Biggest Fur Event of the Year in Moline.**

Until Saturday, December 14th, special sale for Manufacturer's account, magnificent new fur collars, fur muffs, fur sets; furs worth up to \$200.00, on sale at about usual wholesale cost. **Three Thousand Dollars' worth of New Furs**, sent us by our favorite fur manufacturer to sell for him. Overstocked as he is because of the unusually warm November, he has asked us to help him out by selling these furs for his account. It's the first time we ever have been able to offer our customers such a fur opportunity as this, before Christmas.

**Selling the Chicago Novelty Cloak Co.'s Coats Like Hot Cakes.**

Our buyer's big Chicago "scoop" on new fall and winter coats gives us the biggest coat bargains ever here. Handsome new winter coats, novelties, mixtures, chinchillas—coats of the very latest styles, muffler collars, "Johnny Coats," combination plaid styles, Norfoks, etc., not the left overs from an autumn's selling, but up-to-the-minute styles, coats direct from the best coat makers in the country, worth \$25 and \$30, choice while this lot lasts, for just \$15, Fifteen Dollars, \$15. (At the close margin at which we are selling these coats we are forced to add a small charge, not over 50c, if alteration are required). A small lot of children's new \$5 coats ages 4 to 8 years. Norfolk styles, while they last, not \$5.00 but \$2.98.

**Dress Goods and Silks.**

Desirable new whipcords, worsteds, fancy serges, 50-inch, 54-inch and 56-inch widths—the widths that are most economical, because they make up with almost no loss of materials: \$1.55 down to 98c yard. A special purchase gives us a nice lot of 54-inch suitings such as fancy broadcloths, basket cloths, bouclés, etc., worth really \$1.00 to \$1.50 a yard, on sale in just two price lots: 89c and 75c yard. New Viyella dress and waist goods in good variety, 75c yard. New all-wool French dress challoes in all the wanted colors, choice desirable patterns 59c yard. New dress velveteens in most satisfactory assortment; blues, browns, wines, green, etc.—all the wanted colors, \$1.10, 98c, 85c, 59c, 49c yard. New dress corduroys, leading shades, the good dependable widths, 59c a yard, and 98c for the silk finish. Every quality you wish to choose from in new storm serges, especially in blues; \$1.50, \$1.50, \$1.25, 98c, 85c, 75c, 69c, 59c, 49c yard. New colored back silks—one face blue, lavender, purple, rose, green, etc.—woven so that the colored back gives the beautiful, soft, changeable effect to the black surface which is so pleasing to wearers of good black silks. Two widths and weights: 36-inch and 27-inch, \$1.40 and 98c yard.

**In the Grocery Basement:**

New English walnuts, lb 17 1/2c. New Brazil or "nigger toe" nuts, lb 17 1/2c. New filberts, lb 17 1/2c. New mixed nuts, lb 15c. New English walnuts, shelled, lb 50c. See our new 10c assortment of groceries: A big table piled with such wanted eatables as these: Canned corn, tomatoes, beans, etc. Granulated sugar. Packages of potatoes, raisins, dried fruit. Bottles of pickles, olives, chow chow, etc. Breakfast foods, etc. A big variety of all sorts on sale by the dime's worth at the same rate as if bought by the dollar's worth.

**Holiday Suggestions from Our Third Floor Furniture Department.**

New shirtwaist boxes—the useful and ornamental hinge-top long low boxes in which to keep shirtwaists, cloaks, skirts, etc.; two kinds: matting covered, \$1.97 to \$8.50; beautiful red cedar boxes \$5.00 to \$12.50. "Sleepy hollow" leather finished rockers, \$10.00, \$13.50, \$18.50. Music cabinets, golden oak and mahogany, \$6.50, \$7.50, \$10.00. Ladies' writing desks, golden oak, or Early English, \$5.75 to \$10.00. Buffets, massive, handsome, useful home gifts to the good house-wife, \$18.75 to \$30.00. China closets, choice of styles, \$15.00 to \$22.50. Handsome rockers, brown leather or black leather sets, special price, \$10.00. Every wanted kind of chair or rocker for the little folks from 25c up to \$3.50. The famous "National" carpet sweepers—the kind with the new adjustable brush: \$2.50 to \$4.50. You Can Sleep Warm Under These Blankets. All wool blankets, only 4 inches short of 6 feet wide, worth \$6.00; special, \$4.97. Heavy wool finish plaid cotton blankets, not \$1.50, but 97c each. The best and biggest cotton blanket in the three cities for the price—97c—is here: 97c.

**Three Thousand Square Feet**

On Our Second Floor. **Given Up to the Display and Sale of Dolls, Books, Toys, China.** Tuesday, These Specials. Daisy air rifles, the 350 shot, \$1.00 kind, one to each for 79c. Hill-climber engines, 18 inches long 39c. Toy enameled tin wash tub and wash board 10c. Kindergarten A. B. C. books 9c. Alger's Books for boys 17c. 15-inch kid body 45c dolls, "shut eyes" 25c each. Pretty framed pictures, 13 by 6 inches, 10c. Baby plates, deep rim, 25c. Austrian china dinner ware, open stock, rose pattern, tea plates, regularly \$3.45, Tuesday \$1.75 dozen.



**BLACK LETTERS AND WHITE.**

The Former More Distinct at a Distance Than the Latter. There is a tendency on the part of railroads to adopt signs with white letters on a black background, not realizing that the black letter on a white background is easier to read and can be seen at a greater distance. This follows in an interesting way from the structure of the retina of the eye. The impression of a letter at the limit of vision is received on the ends

**THE FIRST GRAY HAIR SIGN OF AGE**

Easy Way to Preserve Natural Color of the Hair and Make It Grow.

A harmless remedy, made from common garden sage, quickly restores gray hair to natural color. The care of the hair, to prevent it from losing its color and lustre, is just as important as to care for teeth to keep them from discoloring. Why spend money for cosmetics and creams to improve the complexion, and yet neglect your hair, when gray hair is even more conspicuous and suggestive of age than wrinkles or a poor complexion? Of the two, it is easier to preserve the natural color and beauty of the hair than it is to have a good complexion. All that is necessary is the occasional use of Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy, a preparation of common garden Sage and Sulphur, combined with other valuable remedies for dry, harsh, faded hair, dandruff, itching scalp and falling hair. After a few applications of this simple, harmless remedy, your hair will gradually be restored to its natural color, in a short time the dandruff will be removed, and your hair will no longer come out but will start to grow as Nature intended it should. Don't neglect your hair, for it goes further than anything else to make or mar your good looks. You can buy this remedy at any drug store for fifty cents a bottle, and your drug-gist will give your money back if you are not satisfied after using. Purchase a bottle today. You will never regret it when you realize the difference it will make in your appearance. Special agents, Harper House pharmacy, 19th St. and 2nd Ave.—(Advertisement).

or a small bundle of nerves which convey to the brain a sort of mosaic impression. A nerve can only transmit to the brain information as to whether or not a ray of light is falling upon it, and when a nerve is partly in the light and partly in darkness the sensation is the same as though all of it was in the light. It follows, therefore, according to the Scientific American, that all nerves on the dividing edge between any black and white area transmit the sensation of light so that all white lines and white areas appear wider and all black lines and black areas appear narrower than they really are. Black letters grow thinner at the limit of vision and are still recognizable, while at the same distance white letters grow thicker and cannot be distinguished. There are circumstances when it is necessary to use white letters, but in such cases legibility will be improved if they are made with a thin stroke and strongly lighted. Black letters are more distinct if made with a heavy stroke.

She Saw. "Why is Mrs. Wombat wearing such dowdy clothes lately? She spends half her husband's income on dress. But why is she wearing such mean looking clothes just now?" "Her husband's mother is visiting her just now. See?" The other woman saw.—Pittsburgh Post. All the news all the time — The Argus.

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