

## THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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Tuesday, July 15, 1913.

Little wonder that the "invisible government" desires to remain "invisible." What an ugly thing it is!

New York received \$5,000 as its share of exhibiting a new steamship at 50 cents a ticket. Ship builders and inventors seem to be graduating into great showmen.

The women are taking lessons in governing Chicago, in view of taking advantage of the right to vote. If they learn the lesson they will do more than men have ever done.

Egg production in the United States increased from 450,000,000 dozen in 1880 to 1,300,000,000 dozen in 1900 and to 1,750,000,000 dozen in 1912, the exports last year amounting to 19,000,000 dozen.

The reason many men don't make money is that they devote all their energy toward preventing the other fellow from making money and begrudging his possession of it after he has made it.

We move that the signal service bureau be brought to Rock Island, where the observer will get into better touch with what is liable or not liable to happen here. This is a peculiar old town of the go as you please kind.

They can't say the mayor of Rock Island is not a good sport, in not only taking condemnation at the hands of his associate commissioners philosophically but in making it unannounced.

Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels visited Chicago the other day. He came unheralded—incog it might be said. He came with that simplicity of manner characteristic of the movements of all the members of President Wilson's official family. He came as a democrat, not in its official significance, but in its real meaning.

## WILSON SETTLES A STRIKE.

Through the good offices of President Wilson a strike of the conductors and trainmen of 42 railroads east of the Mississippi has been averted, and at the president's instance the differences will be submitted to the only just and equitable method of adjudication—arbitration. It is the principle for which labor has always righteously contended, despite the claims invariably set up by corporations, beginning with the Pullman strike, "there is nothing to arbitrate."

There is always something to arbitrate where men differ in opinions, a realization of which fact is shown in the Erdman act now before congress as one of the corrective measures of progressive democracy and under the provisions of which the impending difficulties in the case in point are to be adjusted.

Arbitration is fair to all parties in any controversy and if the principle is generally employed and honestly applied, differences will eventually be done away with, discord cease and the public will no longer be the sufferer.

## MAYOR VOTES FOR OWN CENSURE.

The rather unusual spectacle of a mayor voting affirmatively on a resolution embodying his own censure was presented in the regular weekly meeting of the municipal commission yesterday afternoon. The resolution offered by Commissioner Rudgren, and unanimously adopted with the mayor's assenting vote, "called" the head of the city government for exceeding his prerogatives in allowing greater fees for paying commissionerships than the ordinance stipulated.

The mayor in a frank but brief explanation admitted the allegation which by his own vote he had sustained, but said that if he had exceeded his authority it was in his zeal to get improvements through; that he had overcome obstacles not only by raising the fees for commissionerships, but in giving places to people along the line of improvements who could not afford their proportion, with the understanding that the amount received be applied on the cost of paving.

It proved, of course, a peculiar procedure in all its bearings, and while The Argus, as a matter of course, does not sustain the mayor in exceeding his authority in any instance, it is fair to say that his stated motives are worthy of some consideration, as well as his remarkable action in publicly condemning himself. As far as the other commissioners are concerned, they could not have failed with their knowledge of the facts to adopt the resolution.

Rock Island meanwhile wants legitimate public improvements legitimately provided for—and more of them.

## SMALL CHANCE FOR LEN SMALL.

Republican friends are rushing to the relief of Len Small, assistant United States treasurer at Chicago. They are anxious that he hold his office two years longer, and they are sending along protests against his removal. They are asking Senator Lewis to take up the cudgel for Small.

Republican brethren should not get disturbed over Len Small. If he should quit right now and never again hold office, he would have about all that is coming to him. It is not suspected it will be written by future historians that the country owed Small more than he got.

He has held office since pussy was a cat. In addition to this he is a prosperous man. He has many broad acres in the neighborhood of Kankakee, and the records do not show any mortgage. He has been more or less in the limelight for a generation, and while thus engaged he took on a big share of the world's goods. He looks much like a man who is ahead of the game.

If the republican brethren are bound to get excited about anybody losing his political job, they should at least pick someone who will be left in distress after getting fired.

Len Small is not calculated to excite sympathy.

## PROGRESSIVE CLEVELAND.

Just what progress the city of Cleveland is making we are not certain, but Cleveland is certainly working constantly for better government.

That city has adopted a new charter that is quite interesting. The voters will hereafter elect a mayor and at the same time elect one alderman from each of 26 wards. This leaves the old aldermanic system of ward representation, but there are no party primaries. Partisan politics is eliminated. The nominations are made by petition with election by preferential voting. Each voter may designate his first and second choice to prevent the necessity of a second election. The charter also provides for the recall of the mayor and of aldermen and is fortified with a referendum.

This sounds like a good plan. The commission form is better because responsibility is more definite and easier to fix. The fundamentals of the Cleveland charter and the Illinois municipal commission plan are the same, however.

The best thing that any city can do is to eliminate partisan politics from municipal government. It has no place there. It is a retarding factor. It can cause only chaos and confusion. The Cleveland plan therefore is a big improvement over the old plan.

Chicago with all its municipal political upheavals needs a form of government such as provided in the Cleveland charter. The legislature should make it possible for Chicago to have this much needed relief. Illinoisans are all interested in Chicago because we believe that as Chicago is such a big part of Illinois, good municipal government in that city would indirectly prove a benefit to the rest of the state.

## BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS AND THE RURAL SCHOOL.

The importance of the boys' and girls' club movement as affecting the rural school is discussed in a recent report by A. C. Monahan of the United States bureau of education. Mr. Monahan points out that the clubs are at present more closely identified with the schools than ever before, and that their work is becoming a more definite part of the school program. The tremendous influence of these clubs in aid of better farming, better living conditions and better schools, is therefore exerted as part of the movement to make the rural school the real center of rural civilization.

After showing how the clubs are organized through the school authorities, Mr. Monahan speaks particularly of the girls' garden and canning clubs, which in an incredibly short time have assumed an importance second only to the better known boys' corn clubs. Furthermore, while the government's activities in behalf of the clubs have until recently been confined mainly to the south, they are now extended to the northern and western states. Boys' and girls' agricultural clubs are now organized under national auspices in most of the states.

These newer clubs are organized in much the same way as in the south, except that they will be in closer connection with the state college of agriculture. The work has been planned directly for the farm and home, rather than for the school, but in most instances it is carried on through the agency of the school, and may therefore be made an integral part of the educational work by the school authorities.

Besides the boys' and girls' clubs, a number of other agencies are at work throughout the United States aiding in the rural school advance. Mr. Monahan gives an account of these in his report. He describes, among other things, the creation of a rural school division in the bureau of education, specially provided for by congress; state rural commissions in several of the states; work of state and county rural supervisors; and school improvement associations in the country districts. He also discusses the important literature of the year dealing with rural life and rural education.

Billie Burke Better. Carlisle, July 15.—Miss Billie Burke, an American actress, has recovered from a slight inflammation of the vermiform appendix, from which she had been suffering several days. She has not been operated upon.

Hamburg Strike Spreads. Hamburg, July 15.—The strike declared by workmen in the shipbuilding yards extended today to other trades, and it is estimated, over 20,000 laid down their tools.

## CAPITAL COMMENT

(Special Correspondence of The Argus.)

Washington, D. C., July 13.—What posal that the United States government should manufacture its own armor plate?

United States Senator Henry F. Ashurst of Arizona declares that the answer to the above query is that there isn't any sensible objection, and, therefore, contented that the government should hereafter manufacture its own armor plate. He declares, and facts seem to bear him out, that millions of dollars could be saved to the government annually if a government armor plate factory is established.

The government now manufactures its own naval guns and much of its own ammunition, yet when it is proposed that the government should manufacture armor plate for the use of its own ships, the idea is boo-hoed by some statesmen as "socialistic," "paternalistic" and "maternalistic."

It being ascertained a few years ago that the powder trust was charging exorbitant prices for powder, the government constructed its own plant and now manufactures much of its own powder.

The powder which the government purchases costs about 65 cents a pound, while the powder the government makes for its own use costs about 37 cents a pound.

The government has been in the habit of paying from \$400 to \$700 per ton for armor plate.

The steel trust was too strongly represented in the senate at that time to permit favorable action on the subject. On May 22, 1913, Senator Ashurst introduced a bill providing for government armor plate factory and it is now under consideration.

"At present we pay the steel trust two prices for armor," says Senator Ashurst, "and then trust to its patriotism as to whether the armor plate it furnishes contains blow holes or defects, and that patriotism has never been above par. The present contract system opens the door to graft and favoritism. It is the same of folly to decline to manufacture our own armor plate when it has been demonstrated that the government could save enormous sums of money in the manufacture of its own armor."

Fairy Book." A daughter born in 1870 died four years later.

King Charles' object in declaring war is territory he demands as a reward for neutrality during the struggle of the Balkan allies with Turkey.

The declaration of war came as a severe blow to "Carmen Sylvia," a lifelong advocate of peace. She fainted when the king was first forced into calling out troops by the stubborn demand of the premier and a threatened revolt of the populace.

Roumania's war strength is estimated at 500,000.

## NEW FIGURE IN WAR IN BALKANS

Valley City, N. D.—Flames enveloped the balloon of M. A. Evans, a parachute jumper, when it had reached a height of only 100, but the man clung pluckily to the craft until 600 feet from the ground that he might release the parachute. He was uninjured. The balloon burst a moment after he jumped and came to earth a mass of burning fabric.

Cleveland, O.—Michael Juhas and Michael Judd, foundry employees, were killed by sewer gas in an effort to rescue John Donnelly, an employee of the city sewer department who was rescued by city firemen when the bodies of the other two men were taken out of a manhole.

Dubuque, Ia.—Whether J. C. Croy, manager for the Gately & Co.'s stores, Dubuque, committed suicide or swam ashore after jumping overboard from the steamer G. W. Hill is still undetermined.

Fort Qu'appelle, Sask.—Eric Westman and A. H. Johnson were drowned when a sudden squall hit their sailboat and capsized it in a lake near here. The men became entangled in some weeds.

Bucharest, July 15.—Declaration of war by King Charles of Roumania against Bulgaria brings a new central figure into the great tragedy of the Balkans. His consort is the famous poet-queen, who has written under the name of "Carmen Sylvia."

Her majesty was born Dec. 29, 1843, was formerly known as Princess Elizabeth of Wied and is the daughter of the late Prince Hermann of Wied and the Princess Maria of Nassau. In November, 1869, she married Prince Charles of Roumania, second son of Prince Anthony of Hohenzollern.

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testifying before the senate committee on naval affairs on February 11, 1897, expressed the belief that the government could manufacture its own armor plate for from \$250 to \$300 per ton. When it is considered that between March 3, 1887 and January 15, 1912, this government paid out \$77,103,483 for armor plate, this state of affairs becomes serious. Had the government manufactured its own armor plate during the period mentioned there is reason to believe that one-third of this huge sum, or \$25,701,161, could have been saved to the people.

The armor plate trust has never played fair with Uncle Sam. When the Carnegie Steel company was selling armor plate to our government at a figure of from \$520 per ton to \$700 per ton, it was selling armor plate to Russia at about \$249 per ton, as shown by the report of the investigating committee of 1894.

The senate naval affairs committee which investigated the subject in 1897 reported that a government armor plate factory could be erected for \$1,500,000, and that "it was expedient to establish such a factory." But the steel trust was too strongly represented in the senate at that time to permit favorable action on the subject.

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The ONLOOKER  
HENRY HOWLAND  
PROMISE of a WOULD-BE STEWARD

One of our rich men has explained that he regards his fortune as a trust, and that he is ever conscious of the responsibility of his stewardship.

If I could by some hook or crook become a multimillionaire—that is, if people's interests might be entrusted to my care—

If I possessed a stewardship which I, somehow, had won from those who had no wish to let me rule, who might remain my bitter foes. I'd hold my fortune as a trust to be returned when I was through. With all the joys it brought and when my heirs had finished with it, too.

If I had millions other men had given up reluctantly. I'd feel that God who knoweth best had in His wisdom chosen me to be a steward and to hold my fortune only as a trust.

And those who sought to stay my hand I'd brand as foolish or unjust. And I would calmly suit myself in finding ways and means through which to justify my stewardship—if I were very, very rich.

If I possessed a trust I, too, would wear a very pious air. And let the public see that I was sadly weighted down by care; I'd talk about my stewardship and spend my money where and when I chanced to please, and covet still the little gains of poorer men.

And promise that my riches all should be returned when I was through. With trusts and stewardships, and when my heirs had finished with them, too.

Candid Confession. "What brought you to this?" asked the good woman who had visited the jail for the purpose of distributing tracts among the prisoners.

"The hurry wagon and four policemen," proudly replied Peter the Lockpicker. "I could of licked any two of 'em, and you can take it from me that they all got chewed up considerable as it was."

Shah! Don't Tell Anybody. "Who," asked the new reporter, "is the pretty girl at the desk over there in the corner? By George, she's a beauty! It's too bad that a young, innocent girl like that has to be out in the world earning her own living."

"That's Miss Laurens," replied the assistant city editor. "She runs our 'Advice to Mothers' department."

NO REST FOR HIM. "Yes," said the scientist, "I've discovered another germ."

"I'm so glad," replied his wife. "Now you can take a good, long, much needed rest."

"Oh, no. The hardest part is still to be done. I've got to invent a name for the thing."

This Only. Bring me not wisdom, Though folly be vain; Bring me not riches, Though poverty's pain; Bring me not splendor, Though rags mark me vile; Bring me not glory, But teach me to smile.

Give me not power, Though smallness be mean; Give me not grandeur, But make me serene; Bring me not homage, But leave me obscure. If mine be the courage To hope and endure.

Part of the Business. "Why is it that oculists and opticians always wear glasses?"

"I don't know, unless it's for the same reason that tailors always wear good clothes."

Not in the Same Class. "Aren't you and Mrs. Tillinghast on friendly terms?"

"Gracious, no! Her husband runs a retail establishment. Mine is in the wholesale trade."

They Knew Where to Stop. Women always chide their husbands for working overtime, but they never spurn the money which is earned that way.

His Splendid Wife. "What are you thinking about?"

"Oh, I was just wishing."

"What were you wishing, dear?"

"I was just wishing that my salary was as big as we were trying to make our friends think it must be."—Chicago Record-Herald.

## The Daily Story

THE SCHOOLMA'AM'S WAY—BY CLARISSA MACKIE.  
Copyrighted, 1912, by Associated Literary Bureau.

The trail to Red Spider postoffice was a dusty streak of white twisting through the purple sagebrush.

Tony Goff and Bert Reid yanked their horses aside as the schoolma'am came flying up the trail on her little black pony.

"There ain't a fire nowhere?" called Tony jocosely as she swept past them. "No," she laughed. "I'm just out for a breath of fresh air."

"Just like a woman to go tearing around losing her breath so to get a fresh breath," mused Tony as they watched her graceful, receding form.

"Yes," agreed Bert. Tony looked at him narrowly. "You and Miss Nan Laren ain't so chummy as you was," he said bluntly. "Not so you'd notice it," growled Bert.

"So she handed you yours, eh? Jest as sweetly as she handed me mine and Mason Pepper his. Well, when I get to housekeeping I'm not going to put out a sign 'Beware of the Dog.' My sign's going to read, 'Beware of the Schoolma'am!'"

"We're going to have rain," remarked Bert. "You can change a subject most delicately, Bert. Speaking of schoolma'ams makes me weep; weeping makes me think of tears; tears are like rain; hence and therefore it looks like rain!" Tony threw back his head and laughed merrily, and Bert joined him with a rueful glance.

"She wouldn't even let me ask her," he confessed suddenly. "She seems mad about something."

"Mebbe she just can't stand seeing you around, on general principles," chuckled Tony, with a glance at Bert's handsome, moody countenance.

"That sounds likely. Well, you fellows can count me out of the game. There's Dan Cox. I've got to see him a minute, Tony." Bert dashed ahead to intercept the postmaster at Red Spider, while Tony Goff pulled his horse to a standstill and mused thoughtfully.

Suddenly he wheeled the animal about and dashed back along the trail in pursuit of Nan Laren.

He was surprised to find that young lady sitting shoulder high in the purple sage, looking mournfully at the setting sun.

The schoolma'am turned around, and Tony saw a look of bitter disappointment sweep her fair face.

"Oh, it's you, Mr. Goff," she said in a constrained tone. "It's only me," admitted Tony in a thrilling tone. "Somehow nobody ever wants me. Now, if it had been Bert Reid—" The pause was eloquent.