

## ARGUS.

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Tuesday, December 16, 1913.

## SHOP EARLY

Buy your Christmas presents EARLY—early in the day, and do it now. That will be your biggest gift of the holidays to the workers behind the counters and on the delivery wagons.

Talking about the goose that laid the golden egg, what's the matter with the hen?

It is costing more, now, even to look at an egg. Egg candlers are demanding higher wages.

Moral suasion seeming to be ineffectual, why not try the "honor system," baseball or football on the Mexicans?

Probably it is just as well that San Francisco didn't happen to ask congress for the Yosemite Valley as well as the Hetch Hetchy.

Probably Huerta's stock of champagne is considerably lower than it was before he read President Wilson's message to congress.

Commissioner Hart is right. Rock Island needs more policemen—more than it does a finger-print detective system—or even bloodhounds.

Twenty-two hunters were killed in Minnesota during the deer hunting season, but the business of the state is being carried on just the same by those who are too busy to hunt.

Nineteen reasons why a Connecticut woman should not be hanged have been filed officially. And there is only one reason on the other side—the fact that she committed murder in the first degree.

The same army officers who are opposing the proposition to take the fat government contract away from the ammunition ring are also insisting that the Taylor system of shop management be installed in the government arsenals. It will be recalled that the Taylor system had its beginning in the Midvale Steel company plant, which is one of the largest spokes in the armor ring and the ammunition ring. The Midvale company has drawn down contracts from the navy department alone amounting to \$12,044,217.41.

**BEATING ABOUT THE BUSH.** That the result of the most recent "election" in Mexico was "framed" is established beyond doubt by the publication of Huerta's secret instructions to the election officers. Knowing full well that the United States government would refuse recognition to any president friendly to Huerta, the latter, unwilling to admit the election of a rival, deliberately directed that less than the constitutional number of votes should be cast so that he might declare the election a failure and thus perpetuate himself in power.

How well his plans succeeded is now made evident. Of 14,225 voting precincts in the country, there were returns from only 797. With this fact as its pretext the newly elected congress, responding to Huerta's pull on the strings, has annulled the whole election, even though this compelled its members' own retirement. Thus Huerta is left dictator and in position free to follow his own sweet will without being answerable to anybody.

The resourcefulness of Huerta commands admiration where there is contempt for the man and his methods.

As surely as he is dying, as surely is he fighting every inch of the way.

**MONA LISA'S ESCAPADES.** When the wife of Francisco del Gioccondo seated herself in a low chair in the studio of Leonardo da Vinci, 499 years ago, to begin the pose for the portrait of the Madonna, Lisa del Gioccondo, she didn't have the slightest idea that people would be talking about her portrait on December 13, 1913. Two years ago the art world was thrown into consternation by the report of the loss

of the painting. Search for the picture was made in every country on the globe, but not the slightest clue was discovered. The loss of Mona Lisa was reported all over the world and the police of all countries were set on the trail of the case. And yet it wasn't discovered until a half-crazy Italian offered it for sale the other day to a Florentine resident of Paris.

The portrait of Mona Lisa is the most famous portrait in the world and is second in intrinsic value only to the Sistine Madonna. The value of the painting can only be imagined. Five million dollars was refused for it. It has for centuries been the most popular painting with all classes of people.

Thousands who never knew the slightest thing about art have been enthralled by the sphinx-like smile. Arguments as to what the smile means have almost broken up families. Its history has been of more interest to more different kinds of people than that of any other painting in the world. It drew visitors to the Louvre by the thousands. It got itself stolen and into the thoughts and conversation of millions of people. It got itself found again and into the minds of millions more.

And Da Vinci never had a press agent.

### THE REPORT ON INSIDIOUS LOBBYING.

The report of the house committee that investigated the insidious lobbying at Washington and the methods employed has been submitted to congress. The report is an exhaustive one, and its recommendations, including that of the progressive minority member, should be promptly considered by congress and the recommendations made be carried into effect.

President Wilson inaugurated a reform when he called attention to the insidious lobby that infested the federal capital that can scarcely be overestimated in its benefits to the people, if it should result in the abolition of lobbying "as it was." Lobbying, as it is carried on by Mulhall and his employers, and by some of our government officials in character and should be prohibited by law under severe penalties. The exposure of the methods of insidious lobbying has had the effect of temporarily putting a stop to it, but congress should see to it that it shall permanently hide its diminished head, and that the haunts that once knew it shall know it no more forever.

Insidious lobbying was one method employed by the invisible government to enable the special interests to exploit the people. It must never be permitted to be so used again.

All honor to President Wilson for throwing the brick that hit the insidious lobby in a vital spot.

### AN EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORY.

The "Educational Directory" for the year 1913-14, containing lists of state school officers, city school superintendents in all cities and towns in the United States over 4,000 population, county, township, and district superintendents; presidents of colleges and universities; principals of normal schools; summer school directors; educational associations, etc., has just been issued for free distribution by the United States bureau of education. The directory, a book of 160 pages, contains all changes reported to the bureau to November 8, 1913, and represents the very latest available information with regard to school officers and school agencies.

The list of city school superintendents gives the name of the officer, his term of office, date of original appointment, date when his present term expires, and the salary he receives. In the case of the county, township, and district superintendents, only the name of the official and his county headquarters are given.

Many new features appear in this year's directory. With the various state superintendents are given the state supervisors of rural schools, inspectors of high schools, and other state school officers. There is a list of officers of state boards of education, officers of state library commissions, boards of trustees of universities and colleges, presidents and deans of schools of theology, law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and veterinary medicine. Whether a college is "co-ed" or not is carefully indicated. Schools for the blind and schools for the deaf are represented by the name of the superintendent. There is a list of schools for the feeble-minded; directors of schools of art; and directors of museums. The list of summer school directors contains the probable date of the 1914 session.

To the list of educational associations is added that of boards and foundations and church educational boards and societies. Superintendents of Catholic parochial schools are listed, as are also Jewish educational organizations; international associations of education; meetings of state teachers' associations; mothers' congresses; and state federations of women's clubs. A list of educational periodicals is appended.

### Announce Civil Service Lists.

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 16.—The state civil service commission announces eligible lists for institutional chief clerks and matrons as follows:

Chief Clerk—James E. McInturney, Luke D. McCoy, James B. Hughes, Patrick H. Hart, Springfield; Helen I. Meilin, Patrick Lynn, Felix J. Quigley, James J. Doyle, James Flynn and Edward Pettit, Chicago; H. R. Watkins, Normal; George M. Burris, Arensville; Josiah Q. Snedeker, Marshall; Mountford E. Lockhart, Niantic; Thomas S. Yates, Jacksonville; Charles W. Armistead, Kankakee.

Matron—Mary Y. Stacy, Mary L. Mitchell, Emma L. Hoffmann, Minnie Dawson, Geneva; Alice J. Montgomery, Normal; Katharine M. Smith, Peoria; Agnes A. Doyle, Jacksonville.

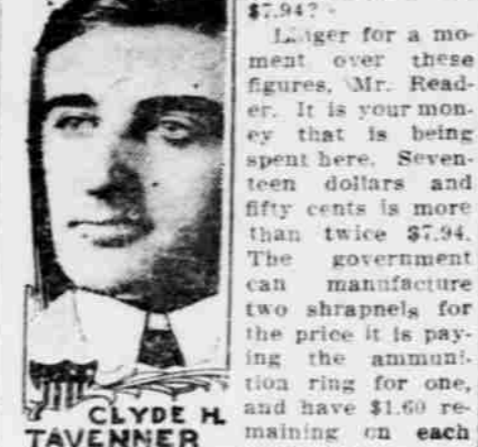
## Capital Comment

BY CLYDE H. TAVENNER

Congressman from the Fourteenth District.

(Special Correspondence of The Argus.)

Washington, Dec. 14.—Why is the war department paying private manufacturers \$17.50 for a 3.8-inch shrapnel when it can, and is manufacturing the identical article in its own arsenals for \$7.94?



CLYDE H. TAVENNER

Larger for a moment over these figures, Mr. Reader. It is your money that is being spent here. Seventeen dollars and fifty cents is more than twice \$7.94. The government can manufacture two shrapnels for the price it is paying the ammunition ring for one, and have \$1.60 remaining on each transaction.

General William Crozier, chief of ordnance, testified before house committee that the government can save 35 per cent by manufacturing its own artillery ammunition, and 25 per cent on artillery equipment. The program of the war department calls for \$20,000,000 worth of ammunition, \$6,000,000 worth this year and \$14,000,000 in succeeding years, and \$11,000,000 worth of artillery equipment.

Were a business man in Uncle Sam's place, would he give a large portion of this \$31,000,000 order to private manufacturers, or would he enlarge his own plants and save from 20 to 50 per cent on that portion of the order he would thus be able to take care of himself?

The solution of the problem is for congress to provide in all bills appropriating money for munitions of war that the work must be done in the government arsenals and navy yards. Such a provision would save millions of dollars annually to the taxpayers.

And, incidentally, it might have a tendency to diminish the systematic agitation carried on in this country for an ever and ever increased amount of armament, which agitation is especially systematic and pronounced about

the time the army and navy bills are before congress.

Those who urge that the policy of giving the contracts for munitions of war to the private manufacturers be not interfered with, argue that if these companies refused to accept the price fixed by congress after investigation as a just rate, and declined to manufacture any armor until they got their own price of \$100 a ton more than that which congress had determined on. The love of country possessed by these companies did not prevent them, however, from furnishing armor to Russia, as reported to congress, in 1894, at \$249 a ton, while they were charging the United States \$616 a ton.

"I do not see how it is possible for congress to justify to the people a refusal to erect a government plant, nor how it can answer the charge that the same mysterious Providence which saved this profitable business to the steel companies three times in the past, even after money for a government plant had actually been appropriated, is not still at work exercising its beneficent protection over these lusty specimens of infant industries, who are even now under investigation as violators of the anti-trust law."

The "armor ring" does not come under the head of invisible government, as it is possible to definitely locate it and place our finger upon it. It is composed of the Bethlehem Steel company, Carnegie Steel company and the Midvale Steel company. So far, these three concerns have drawn down \$78,000,000 worth of contracts from the navy department alone, conspiring by their own admission to prevent competitive bidding between them, and dividing the orders as follows: Bethlehem, \$34,215,112.58; Carnegie, \$30,844,153.56; Midvale, \$12,944,217.41.

## EDUCATIONAL NOTES

"Teach the facts about your home city in the public schools," urges the Bureau of Municipal Research, New York City.

In order to furnish high class entertainment to communities in their states, the universities of Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota have banded together for lyceum service.

On the theory that healthy children should have the fresh-air benefits usually reserved for the sickly, Superintendent Wheatley of Middletown, Conn., has introduced a modified open-air school plan throughout his entire school system.

The Junior high school at Grand Rapids, Mich., consisting of pupils of the seventh, eighth and ninth grades, has grown in two years from a school of 420 pupils and 15 teachers to one of 851 pupils and 26 teachers. More boys and girls have stayed in school under the new plan.

The model school at Bryn Mawr, Pa., at the entrance to the college, has been made an open-air school. Only

the dressing room and laboratories will be indoors. There will be seven separate, one-story, out-of-door classrooms facing full south. Each classroom opens on a large uncovered platform 8x36 feet, which will be used for the gymnastics and alleys that are part of open-air school work.

Foreign universities are now receiving some of the large private benefactions for which they have long envied American institutions. Cambridge university has recently received \$450,000 for general purposes and \$50,000 for a chair of astrophysics; Bristol university has had a gift of \$100,000 from one donor, \$80,000 from another and \$750,000 from two others; Glasgow has been willed \$50,000 for a research lectureship in medicine and \$170,000 from three other benefactors; and Leeds has an anonymous gift of \$50,000 for the erection of a school of agriculture. In Germany \$2,000,000 has been subscribed for transforming the scientific institute at Frankfurt-on-Main into a university and the University of Hamburg is to start with an endowment of \$6,250,000. In the case of Hamburg, however, the money has been entirely appropriated by the city.

## "The Young Lady Across the Way"



The young lady across the way says she knows her father must have been wonderfully successful in building up his banking business as she overheard him say that it may be necessary for the state to take charge of it.

## The ONLOOKER

HENRY HOWLAND

### A PLEA to MISTER WINTER



Mister Winter, here's a plea. That a little child is making: Look around and try to see. Little fingers that are aching: Make the North Wind cease to roar. Flatter at the poor child's door. Treat the hungry orphans kindly: Don't you let the Storm King tear. Up and down and here and there Striking at poor people blindly.

Mister Winter, won't you please Try to keep from spreading sadness: Don't bring hunger or disease. Where you might as well bring gladness. Make the North Wind cease to blow Where the fires are burning low. And the children's hearts are aching: Please be mild and soft and fair: Mister Winter, hear the prayer That a little child is making.

### No Place for Fooling Away Time.

"I intend," said the campaign orator, "to avoid appealing to your passions. It is my purpose to reason with you. I am going to talk to you calmly and honestly. I shall not call any man a liar, and I have no wish to gain favor for the cause I represent by questioning the motives of those who have seen fit to pursue another course than mine. Nor do I purpose to promise you things, in the event of our success at the polls, that only Providence could grant. If a clear exposition of the issues that are presented shall fail to serve the purpose which I have at heart my effort this evening will have been in vain. Let me say, furthermore—"

"Come on, Bill," said a man in the rear of the hall, "what's the use of hangin' around here? This man's only goin' to talk common sense."

**One Thing.** "I see they are now showing circus performances in the moving picture houses."

"Well, I suppose the time is coming when we'll not have a chance to see anything real. They will merely let us look at moving pictures of the real things."

"There's one thing we'll have to experience in reality, instead of merely looking at a moving picture of it."

"What's that?"

"Getting a tooth filled."

### THE DIFFERENCE.

"Well, I suppose the women will all be voting at the next presidential election."

"Do you think it will make any difference?"

"Sure. Nearly every woman in the country will be friendly with her maid for at least a week before election day."

**His Object.** "I've read your play through twice."

"I can't find a suggestive line in it."

"Of course you can't," replied the aspiring dramatist. "I have taken care to keep it perfectly clean."

"What did you write it for—exercise?"

**Few.** The wisest man may occasionally be mistaken; but few men are wise enough to refrain from trying, when they are mistaken, to prove that they are right.

**Not Strong on Particulars.** "What was that story about Hero and Leander?"

"I don't remember the particulars. There was a woman in the case, but I don't happen to recall her name."

**Real Trouble.** "Ah, but you don't know what real trouble is."

"Don't! My wife and I once permitted it to be known that we intended to buy a piano."

**The Powers.** We hear about the powers that prey. We hear about them day by day. But in this age in which we live Few people are inclined to give Attention to the powers that prey.

"I was in mourning for my husband a whole year, from the 5th of March to the 5th of May."

"But—excuse me—that's fourteen months."

"Yes. But in the carnival season I stopped for two months."—Meggen-dorfer Blätter.

## The Daily Story

A MECHANICAL CHAUFFEUR—BY MILLARD MALTBYE.

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"Mamma," said Winifred Knowlton, who the day before had got her license to run an automobile, "I'm going out in the car."

"It's too cold. You'll freeze. Besides, there's ice on the road, and your machine is liable to skid."

"Oh, I shall drive very carefully around corners and keep my speed down to a dozen miles an hour!"

Winifred, who was used to doing pretty much as she pleased, called for her car. By the time it was brought up to the door she was arrayed in a fur coat, cap and goggles and, getting into the driver's seat, was soon whirling along at what she considered nothing more than a fair pace. She stopped at the house of a friend and invited her to drive, but the young lady had other matters on hand. She tried another and another, but they were either out or busy, and at last she made up her mind that she must spin alone.

The air was crisp, with plenty of ozone in it, and, since Winifred was well protected, she was not cold. As soon as she got out of the city, coming to a straight wide road, she put on more speed. It was delightful bowling along with her hands on the steering gear and her foot on the brake, ready to reduce speed at the slightest sign of danger. She had been impatiently waiting for a birthday which would give her the age required to obtain a license, and, this being the first time she had been out without some one to act as instructor, she was very proud of herself, besides being much exhilarated. She put on a little more speed and still a little more till she was going at a pretty good gait.

Auto drivers seldom realize how fast they are going. Winifred certainly did not. Coming to a turn in the road, she slowed down, as she thought, quite enough to go around the curve safely, but did not count on ice. To weather that turn she would have needed to move no faster than a person would walk. Instead of that she was going at the rate of five or six miles an hour. The consequence was that she skidded into a ditch beside the road and remained at an angle not quite sufficient to throw her car over.

What was to be done? Nothing but jump out, for she was not sure that the machine might turn turtle, after all. This she did and stood looking at it ruefully. She dare not try to run it by its own power up on to the road, and there was no other way to get it there. She cast an inquiring glance up the road and was relieved to see a car coming. When it reached her the driver, who occupied it alone, came to a stop and took in the situation.

He was evidently either a mechanic or a chauffeur, for, throwing off an overcoat, he displayed a suit of overalls. Jumping out of his car, he stood looking at Winifred's as if deliberating on the best plan to get it up on to the road.

"I could pull it up with my machine," he said, "but I have no tackle. I see no way for me to proceed except by going for a rope. Will you go with me or wait here till I return?"

Winifred concluded to remain with her machine. The wind was blowing cold, but she could walk to and fro. The man thought he could get back with some sort of tackle without going very far and, promising to hurry, left her. She sauntered back and forth, remaining near her car. In order to keep warm, now and again teams or cars passed her, and she received offers of help, but declined them all, stating that she was being served already. It was not long before the man in overalls returned with a chain and some rope, besides a stout piece of wood to place under the wheels on the lower side of the car to prevent it from going over. Having got the wood under the wheels, he connected the auto with his own and succeeded in drawing it up on the road.

But on examining its machinery he found that certain parts had been bent or broken, and the car could not be moved by its own power. He told Winifred that he would drag it to his shop and fix it for her.

"I haven't any money with me to pay for all this," she said, "but I can do it to you."

"Oh, that's all right," said the man. "Don't worry about that. I think you would better get into your auto to steer it and put on the brake when necessary."

Winifred did as she was bidden, and the two autos made their way slowly till the mechanic turned into the grounds of a country place and brought up at what was evidently a private garage.

"Have you the tools here to enable you to do the work?" asked Winifred.

"Yes," was the reply. "I do most of the repairing on the cars in this garage."

"I see," said Winifred. "You are a mechanic and chauffeur in one. I wish you would employ such a man; it would be so nice to have the repairing done without sending the car some where else. I should think it would be less expensive too."

The young man by this time was engaged in putting Winifred's car into the garage and over a pit from which he could work on its lower machinery. As soon as he had got it into position he drew up a chair for Winifred and asked her to be seated. The garage was artificially heated, and, throwing back her wraps, she sat down in a position where she could see the man work. She had been so absorbed in her accident and what to do in the matter that she had not especially noticed him. Now she saw that he was about twenty-two years old and had not been in overalls would doubtless have been quite good looking. She had noticed, too, that his voice was well modulated and there were no breaks in his English. His eyes were particularly attractive, being expres-

sive gray ones. Yet the position he occupied—in a depression in the floor over which he had rolled her car—did not present him in a favorable light. He soon got more or less begrimed in his work, and altogether it did not appear a fitting employment for a good looking young man. But he hammered away as though used to the dirt and grease, while Winifred sat waiting.

Winifred tried to engage him in conversation while he worked, but the effort was not successful. He gave her very brief replies and now and again showed by their irrelevance that he did not know what she was talking about. So at last she gave it up, thinking that, after all, interesting chat was not to be expected of a greasy mechanic.

After awhile Winifred inquired if there was a telephone handy, and upon being directed to a room in the garage where it was she called up her mother, informed her of the accident and said that she would not be home in time for luncheon. As soon as she had delivered this message the mechanic went to the telephone room and shut the door. When he came out he informed Winifred that the lady of the house on the grounds would be happy to have her lunch with her. He had informed her of the accident and her presence at the garage, and the invitation had resulted.

Winifred decided to accept the invitation and await the repairing of her car at the house. So she walked up the roadway a short distance, meeting a young lady who was coming to fetch her and who received her very kindly, taking her to the house and introducing her to her mother. Winifred was informed that luncheon would not be served immediately, and, meanwhile, she was welcome to the use of a room or the library or to make herself at home in any way she liked. But she found her hosts so affable, so engaging that she preferred chatting with them.

She gave an account of her accident and dwelt especially on the valuable services of their chauffeur. How kind he had been! She did not know what she would have done had he not come along to help her. She became sufficiently at home with her hosts to rally the young lady on the danger of having so attractive a chauffeur. Both mother and daughter smiled and said that in this case no misalliance was possible.

Winifred spent an hour in this way before luncheon was announced. On entering the dining room she stopped on the threshold, paralyzed. A young man stood at the head of the table ready to drop into a seat. When he and the ladies saw the expression on Winifred's face all three burst into a laugh. The young man was the mechanic-chauffeur, but he was without his overalls.

"I should have refused my consent," said the mother, "to this deception. I was overpersuaded."

"No harm done, I'm sure," said the young man. "The young lady took me for a chauffeur, and I simply didn't disabuse her mind."

By this time Winifred had regained some of her equanimity and joined in the laugh or at least tried to, assuring her hosts that she could not possibly blame any one who had been so kind to her, whereupon the mother made an explanation. She told Winifred that the young man, her son, had not recently graduated from a school of technology and had a great fancy for mechanics. They found his ability to repair their automobiles very convenient.

"Since he is my brother," put in the young lady, with a sparkle in her eye, "there can be no fear."

But she was stopped by a warning look from her mother and a blush she saw rising on Winifred's cheek.

And so it was that Winifred Knowlton went out in her car at 10 o'clock in the morning and a few hours later was lurching familiarly with persons whose names she did not yet know. The mechanic told her that he had finished the repairs on her car and instead of sending a bill for his work he would feel repaid if she would permit him to drive her to her home. The matter was compromised on this basis, and after an hour agreeably spent by the party together the young man went for Winifred's car, while she telephoned her mother that she would shortly be at home, herself and her car both in good condition, thanks to the man who had repaired it and his mother and sister, who had entertained and refreshed her.

Winifred did not avail herself of her recently acquired privilege of guiding her car home, leaving the wheel to her escort. But he availed himself of the privilege of driving a very roundabout course, and they did not reach her home till dinner time. Then Winifred would not let her escort return until he had dined with them.

The convenience of having a mechanic and chauffeur in one was transferred to the Knowltons, since the said mechanic-chauffeur married Winifred.

## Dec. 16 in American History.

1775—"Boston tea party." In resentment of a heavy tax on tea imposed by Great Britain, citizens invaded the ships and threw several hundred chests overboard.

1777—"The United States republic recognized by France."

1835—Great fire in New York; loss \$20,000,000.

1862—General John Buford, noted Federal cavalry leader conspicuous in the first day's battle at Gettysburg, died.

1910—Melville D. London, humorous writer and lecturer, known as "M. Perkins," died; born 1829.