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Independence Rquare, Philadelphia. MUTRIMO AT THE PHILADELPHIA CONTOFFICE AS SECOND-CRARE MATERIA.

EHHADELPHIA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1914. The best dressed man or woman is the one whose clothes are paid for.

> Muddle, More Muddle and Discrimination

THE discrimination of the coal-carrying roads against Philadelphia has been notorious for years. The Public Service Commission's decision on this point is conclusive. Not only has this discrimination existed, but It has been energetically persisted in, despite publicity, and every user of coal in the city and the metropolitan district has in effect been paying an extra-legal tax. It amounts In the aggregate to millions.

More than that, the decision puts the roads on the defensive in other particulars, for just as notorious as the discrimination in coal rates has been the discrimination in other tariffs. It would appear that an effort has been made to bottle up Philadelphia and divert the trade that rightly belongs to it to other cities. There is no other plausible explanation of export traffic passing through Philadelphia and on to another port.

The situation is unfortunate for many reasons. The roads have been hounded by tricksters and demagogues for years, who have fastened on them all sorts of parasitic growths. They need money, revenue, and they need it sorely. It is a bad time to deprive them of intake. The country has been rejoicing that at last they were to have a fighting chance. But it is just as important that the roads play fair as it is that they be treated fairly. Their last state will be worse than their first if they do otherwise.

The answer is rate equalization in both freight and passenger business. When this Is accomplished a horizontal increase of 5 percent., or even more will be accepted by the country. So, too, public opinion will compel the Government to pay adequately for the transportation of the mails. Also, we surmise, it will second the motion of the railroads that the extra-crew law and other un-necessary statutes be repealed. But it is not going to stand for discrimination.

The entire situation is muddled and unsatinfactory. Perhaps a new commission will have to be formed to investigate the Interstate Commerce Commission, and all the other commissions, big and little, in an effort to bring order out of the increasing chaos. It is a case of the sort that requires a Philadelphia lawyer to do the untangling.

Law Greater Than Thaw

ARRY K. THAW has been one of the most pernicious parasites with which the country has been encumbered in decades. He has been able to back his wild imaginings with murder and money. He cheated the hangman, and then undertook to cheat the Insane asylum. He has played with courts and justice, and held up to mockery our tribunals and institutions. His career has been an excellent example of how the safeguards of freedom can be taken advantage of by a derelict able to pay his way.

The country has not been particularly interested in the quibbles centring about the rights of a State in the extradition of the ingane or in sombre arguments devised to prewent the enforcement of justice. It has been interested in seeing that Harry Thaw is put back in safekeeping, where he ought to be if the security of other citizens is to be assured. This is the view the Supreme Court has taken in a decision which is characterized by abundant common sense. It will be applauded by the country in general, although there will be, of course, a coterie of persons, neurefleally inclined, who will continue to look upon this paranolac as a victim and martyr.

Clear the Way for Brumbaugh's Policies WHEN the people of Pennsylvania elected Doctor Brumbaugh Governor they did it with the felt approval of his platform, and with the expectation that this platform would he enacted as legislation. In order to fulfil that mandate the Governor must have as Speaker of the House of Representatives a man who is in genuine sympathy with the pelleles indorsed by the voters. Standing in the very forefront of his piedges is local option. As a temperance measure it is fair, same and effective.

Representative Richard J. Baldwin, of Delaware, is a candidate for Speaker, and he is openly hostile to local option. Representative Charles A. Ambier, of Montgomery, is a candidate for Speaker, and he is frankly in favor of local option. If the next session of the Legislature is not to be controlled and dominated by the liquor interests Ambler should be selected. To have a man like Brumbaugh as Governor but to tie his hands and fast would be a diagrace that Pennsylvania qualit not to be called upon to bear. The Seeaker must be in harmony with the Govwork, and those who are trying to nullify Da for Brumbaugh's power should be re buked at the very beginning of the adminis-

Let the Commission Purge Itself

FILES Public Service Commission began becrings in this city on December 10 in proper to the protest of commuters against he proposed hold-up of them by the ratiroud

Con Decumber a the Pennsylvania Rathroad manny filed by Washington revised rates mid to sine particular only differed from the subsequently approved by the Public

similarity in the schedules is such that me to be prime facts evidence of an plut anjured lute between the Pennsylin topologies and the roads dark before manufacture of the Namedonia talks | as store in suggest in Namedo

it was secretly in conference with railroad officials and gave to them in advance its de-

In the circumstances a rehearing is imperative. There must be no delay about it. More than that, the inquiry must be exhaustive, with particular reference to comparative commutation rates, and the charge that Philadelphia is being called on to pay for magnificent facilities and service furnished elsewhere. Let it be a fight to the finish. This question of discrimination has been whispered on the streets too long. It must be answered now. The city wants to know definitely where it stands.

But before the present commission is competent to act it must prove beyond question its purity heretofore. Unless it does this, there can be no proper hearing of the lasue until a new and less gullible body has been appointed.

The Coming of "Billy" Sunday

BILLY" SUNDAY, known formally as the Rev. William A. Sunday, D. D., is coming to Philadelphia to deliver his message. He is not coming of his own accord, but in response to an invitation from several hundred clergymen, laymen and churches. His message will startle Philadelphia, for sometimes it is like the thunder and lightning of a mountain storm, although at others it is as sweet and refreshing as a gentle spring rain upon the lowland fields. But it is the message of a strong man, a fearless man, an utterly earnest man. However much people may differ from Sunday, they invariably come to respect him, because he is transparently sincere and elementally simple. He preaches the Gospel with all the vim and vigor with which he used to play baseball.

"Billy" Sunday must be judged by results. He is not a theologian, and does not profess to be a polished scholar. His words, and the manner in which he delivers them, rivet the attention and grip the conscience. If a court of law could be constituted and evidence submitted from the various cities in which he has conducted revivals, tens of thousands of witnesses would be willing to testify that under his preaching the whole course and character of their lives have been changed; the chains of evil habit were broken, the fires of passion quenched, the craving for liquor removed.

Employers of labor testify that the "Billy" Sunday movement is worth supporting for its economic influence alone. Workmen become sober, industrious and ambitious. They hit the trail, and then without shame live a religious life, as if it were the natural and only life to live. Men and women of every kind, from the wealthiest, most exclusive and highly educated down to the outcast and the neglected, participate in the movement and proclaim their gratitude for benefits received. None is compelled against his will to participate. As Philadelphia is a city of generous and broad-minded tradition, those who cannot share the enthusiasm of the meetings will ungrudgingly give the right of way to those who do.

One of the most noticeable results of the Sunday meetings elsewhere has been a stupendous interest in the study of the Bible. Within the churches and in outside and often unlikely places a large number of classes for biblical research are started, and in consequence tens of thousands of men and women become more intimately acquainted with the sacred Book. And multitudes vow their lives to fighting booze. If the results in Philadelphia are commensurate with those obtained in other places, this city will be stirred as it has not been since the days when George Whitefield preached in its streets. And all good men and women will give "Billy" Sunday a hearty welcome, whether they agree with all of his views and methods or not, and will wish that his work may bring a great moral stimulus to the city.

Sporadie Crime Wave

DEPREDATIONS by what would appear to be a well-organized band of safe-crackers, operating in the heart of the business section since the holiday season opened, need not of necessity be taken as an indication of laxity or unfaithfulness on the part of the police and detective departments. As compared to other large centres of population particularly New York, Philadelphia's record from a police point of view has been excellent the past two years. To judge correctly such criminal outbreaks time must be reckoned a factor and an average struck. That the busy shopping seasons afford best opportunity for such feats of nocturnal dexterity has been demonstrated, and that, too, despite the most vigilant exertions of the guardians of public safety.

Diverse Fate of Twin Demons

FTHE Czar suppresses vodka. The French Loutlaw absinthe. Kitchener warns the British soldier against drink. The Kuiser tells the German brewers that if the was lasts six months, they must cease using up the grain. Is it any wonder that ministers speak of the European war as the greatest enemy of the liquor traffic in the world's history?

But what about that twin-demon of Junday school excertation-the cigarette? The English army welcomes it as a comfort and a nerve guieter in the field. An American company presents the Red Cross Society with 19,999,996 cigarettes to send to the front. And the genial head of that relief organization blesses the gift by arranging for its delivery. What a blow!

It will not be a white Christmas for Mr.

Perhaps some of the Councilmen think that tenement dwellers should be satisfied with immunity baths.

The Italians are the host strategists-they are holding their lines intact without firing a

A good rule for a Public Bervice Commisalon to follow is not to let the railroads know what If is going to do.

Pinance Committee of Councils has not killed the new bousing law yet. The courts will have something to say about that in the mandames proceedings.

The greatest difficulty about the Mastean altention is the fact that the westing well process in an alone in companious with the

THE SCHOOL VIRTUES AND VOCATIONAL LIFE

Education for Earning a Livelihood. Patriotism Versus Taxes-Extension of Vocational Training a Question for the Next Legislature.

By NATHAN C. SCHAEFFER

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

FTHERE are certain rudiments of an Eng-I lish education which the pupils must acquire in order to become adjusted to our American civilization These must be mastered. It matters not what vocation the Individual may enter in order to earn a livelihood. In every occupation the individual should know how to read print and script, how to write a correct letter, how to reckon in matters which come up in his line of work or business, how to consult a map and grasp a route of travel, and how to interpret the drawings which He at the foundation of our industrial life.

Moreover, every good school inculcates certain habits, without which the individual cannot hold a job or fill a position in any industrial establishment. Habits of punctuality and regularity, of accuracy, veracity and obedience, of politeness, self-control and self-restraint are acquired from the very activities and atmosphere of a good school. When the will enters into these and makes them the law of life they become the school virtues, which lie at the foundation of all success in vocational life. It is well known that employers prefer boys who have been faithful at school to those who have played truant and given all sorts of trouble to the teacher and the attendance officer.

In the effort to teach the rudiments and to provide sanitary school buildings many boards of school directors have gone to the limit of their power to tax. And as soon as a school board goes into specialized forms of vocational education the cost of running the schools is greatly increased. That the schools will need more money to establish departments of agriculture, domestic science, the household arts and manual training is well known to every student of education.

Whence the Money?

Many rural districts find it difficult to keep their schools in operation seven months, even when nothing is attempted beyond the common branches. Municipalities like Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia have difficulty in raising enough money to pay present salaries and to give pupils an all-day session in the high schools and in the rapidly growing sections of the city. How to get more money for an extension of the facilities for vocational training will be one of the perplexing questions during the coming session of the Legslature.

The war tax which we are to collect in time of peace will take \$13,000,000 out of Pennsylvania and lessen to that extent the sources of revenue which can be tapped for educational purposes. The corporations are at present paying \$12,000,000 State tax, or almost one-third of the amount which now goes into the State Treasury. With the rallroads struggling to cover their running expenses and with a marked depression in most lines of corporate activity, it is a difficult task to see how more money can be made available from our present sources of revenue.

In a few places private benefactors have come to the rescue and given of their wealth to aid in working out new phases of education. C. M. Schwab gave to Homestead a fine building with a splendid equipment for manual training. M. S. Hershey donated a building for a consolidated school in Derry township, in Dauphin County. It is supplied with filtered air and the latest improvements, and is easily the finest rural chool building in Pennsylvania. Charles Lytle Lamberton, Esq., a native of Carlisle, but a resident of New York at the time of his death, bequeathed over \$200,000 to establish and maintain a school in his native town for the teaching of industrial, mechanical, technical and scientific arts. William Harris Boyer, of New York, has done great things for the borough of Halifax, where a new school building, erected at his expense. was recently dedicated. Let it be hoped that the day is not far distant when a rich man cannot die in peace unless he has done the handsome thing for the schools of the community in which he spent his boyhood.

A Sign of Patriotism

But the major portion of the revenue for chool purposes is derived from local taxation. People are enthusiastic over vocational education so long as they can make the other fellow pay the taxes. It is an unmistakable sign of pairjotism if the citizen cherishes a willingness to pay a just share of tax for the support of the government and the education of the people. An effort will, without doubt, be made to make certain forms of vocational education obligatory, but it is a question how far such legislation can be carried into effect unless new sources of revenue for school purposes can be pro-

Moreover, it should not be forgotten that a pupil at the age of 12, 13 or 14 has neither the time nor the strength for many of the forms of work in the smithy, the foundry and the various other forms of work in iron and steel. The same is true of many forms of work on the farm. The most discouraging feature is that the average advocate of vo cational education considers a trade school a good school for his neighbor's son, but for his own son he desires a different type of education.

With the small appropriation made by the last Legislature agricultural departments have been established in high schools of 11 counties. Evening schools for miners have been established and conducted in a number of places. Cooking and sewing have been taught with most beneficent results in sections where the foreign population is in the ascendant. And a most encouraging interest has been shown in the evening clauses for farmers which have been organized in con-

nection with the agricultural high schools. The least expensive and most effective form of vocational training is found in the communities where boys spend part of the time in the shop and part of the time at school As varancies occur in the shops the trained boy fills the place; and the taxpayor is not obliged to foot the bill for tools, machines and raw material. The plan of continuing the instruction in a continuation school has been tried in thiropean schools with marked success. Many advocate the adoption of the plan by our American schools; but few would be willing to legislate that the boy must spend a part of his Sunday in such instruction, as in the custom and in some curses the law to countries on the other side of the Atlantic.

In all school lagislation it should be beene in third, we the one band that the law can, to a cartain ratery, by thate a schoolmanter for the people, and on the other that the

schools cannot be kept far in advance of

the demands of public opinion. Public senti-

ment must be created to back up the school

legislation which is put upon our statute

books; otherwise the wisest laws will be

and continue to be a dead letter in the

AS THE SOLDIERS SEE IT

Christmas at the Front-Friendly Interchanges Among "Enemies."

m the Kansas City Star. THE soldier moles of the two armies in the trenches become more friendly with each other as Christmas comes nearer. Dispatches from the war front in the last few days have told how, in the intervals between killing times, the men in the trenches, only 30 yards apart, swap tobacco, shoot at marks, sing for each other, exchange newspapers, and in other ways let the humanity in them leak out.

One story told how the British soldiers shouted across to the Germans:

"Give us a song," and the Germans sang; "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," and, after finishing it, called on the British for a song and they, not to be outdone in courtesy, sang: "Die Wacht am Rhein."

Another story was of a well between the trenches, the only water within reach of both armies, and by mutual agreement, the British first went and filled their canteens; then the Germans filled theirs, and when all were supplied they remembered their business and resumed their shooting match.

Does any one suppose that those men, killing each other all day, would not stop it quickly and go back to their families, or their sweethearts, and their work if they had their way about it?

Imagine blue-eyed, blond Hans and a Canadian Tommy meeting each other between the trenches. After shaking hands a conversation something like this takes place: "Can you lend me a pipe of tobacco?" asks

"Sure." Hans fumbles in his blouse, gets it, hands it over and while Tommy fills his pipe Hans asks:

"Where are you from?"

"Western Canada."

"Oh! Where they grow so much wheat. I've read of the big farms out there, ten times as big as my father's farm, and we think in our country that his is a large farm."

Where are you from?"

"From near Danzlg." 'That's over near where the Russians are

fighting you folks." "Yes. Say, why do you come away over

here, across the ocean to fight us?" "Well, we are a part of the British Empire, you know, and you Germans are trying to wipe us out of existence. Now why do you

want to do that?" "We don't want to do that."

"Then why are you fighting us?" "Because your British Empire is trying to

push Germany off the earth." "Oh shucks! Say, Hans, to be honest with you, I don't know why we're fighting."

"Neither do L" "I do know, though, that I'd like to be back in Calgary for the Christmas holidays." He fumbles in the inside of his khaki blouse,

brings forth the picture of a pretty, rosy

checked Canadian girl, hands it to Hans and HRAB! "That's her." Hans looks at it in admiration and brings out from within his blouse a photograph of a

charming German girl, hands it to Tommy with the remark: "There's mine." We were to have been married this Christ-

mas," says Tommy. "We are to be married next May," says Hans. "Providing you don't leave your bones in one of these tranches. Maybe a bullet from

my own gun will kill you." "Gretchen would never forgive you if she 'I wouldn't want her to know it. I wouldn't

want my own girl away off in Western Canada to know it. "Well, there's the bugin call. Ho long,

Tommy. Remember me to that girl in Canada when you write next." "Good-by, Hans; thanks for the tobacco, and give my regards to Gretchen in your

The Christmas Spirit

From the New York Mail.

The world mends rather more of the old-fashioned Carlelmas spirit than it has in many a
year-needs the cheer and peace that are the
very assence of the feast that has blessed hu-

CHRISTMAS STORIES FOR YOUNG AND OLD

An Excursion in the Literature of Yuletide-Tales, Some of Them Famous and Some Little Known, Which Breathe the Spirit of the Season.

By FREDERIC A. CHILD

President of the Philadelphia Story Tellers' League.

time of all the year when every one, young and old, welcomes stories breathing the Christmas spirit. And to meet this demand what a host of stories have been written! It would, indeed, be almost hopeless to attempt to make a list of all the Christmas tales ever written. Since our own Washington Irving told of "Old Christmas" in England in his 'Sketch Book" or Charles Dickens produced his "Christmas Stories," their number has been legion. Yet, lest we be confused by this great mass of Christmas stories, it may be worth while to attempt to cull out some of the most successful.

"SAFETY FIRST!"

Recently several well-known story-tellers were asked what they considered to be the best Christmas story for children. Surprising as it may seem, the answer was the same in each case. But when the story they recommended is compared with other Christmas stories, much of the surprise disappears. Saidone: "The most popular Christmas story for many years in this country has been 'Why the Chimes Rang,' by Raymond MacDonald Alden. This story is told everywhere-in schools and churches, Sunday schools and other groups, told to young and old, rich and poor. In fact, it has become a Christmas classic." And when the same question was put to those in charge of the Children's Department of the Philadelphia Library, which is doing such a splendid educational work for the children of Philadelphia, the answer was the same.

Mystery and Miracles

This story by Alden is printed in several editions of Christmas stories. It tells of a little boy who through a great sacrifice was unable to attend the Christmas service in the brilliantly lighted church, but how his gift to the Christ Child was more acceptable than the gifts of kings and nobles, and how consequently the chimes in the tall tower were heard to ring in testimony of the gift's acceptability. This brief story employs the supernatural in the mysterious ringing of the bells. It emphasizes most vividly the importance of cheerful sacrifice and charity in the Christian life as contrasted with the glitter and show of the false conception of the Christian spirit so common among man-

Following closely "Why the Chimes Rang" in popularity are van Dyke's "The First Christmas Tree," to be found in that author's 'The Blue Flower's Ruth Sawyer Durand's "The Voyage of the Wee Red Cap," to be found in a volume entitled "Children's Book of Christmas Stories," edited by Dickinson and Skinner, in which will also be found "The Fir Tree," by Hans Christian Andersen; "The Golden Cobwebs," by R. H. Schauffler, and "Toinette and the Elves," by Susan Coolidge. All of these are appropriate for young children, for in all, except van Dyke's. the supernatural plays an important part. either through the medium of elves and fairies or through some other manifestation of the miraculous.

For children to whom fairles and goblins are no longer acceptable, stories dealing with the origin of the Christmas tree, with the origin of Santa Claus and with stories of the Christ Child will be appropriate.

Stories concerning the first Christmas tree, or centring about the tree, are numerous. Besides van Dyke's "The First Christmas Tree." there are "The First Christman Tree." by Lucy Wheelock, to be found in "Children's Book of Christmas Stories," and "The Halsam by Mary E. Wilkins Preeman in her

Historical Background of Santa

Many articles have been written on the historical background of Santa Claus, showing how he avolved from the good Saint Nicholas, and how the celebration of his birthday, on December 6, got mixed with the relebration of the Nativity. One of the latent of these was a well written article in the Outlook of December 29, 1913. It would seem the act of wisdom to explain to those children who have become skeptical concerning fixute. the true significance of the celebration of Coristmes and the giving of gifte.

Many atories have been founded upon the unexpected appearance to modern times of he Christ Child among men. Two in the Children's Book of Christmas Stories" are worthy of note, namely, Francois Coppes's Little Wolff's Wooden Shoes," god a Gernaw legend, "A Story of the Child Child. This latter has been encountally persented to elimines by mount of tableaux acromymoles.

WHAT would the Christmas-tide be with-out Christmas stories! Surely it is the ume entitled "Christmas Stories From the ume entitled "Christmas Stories From the French and Spanish," edited by A. Ogden.

BILLY SUNDAY'S

CAMPAIGN PLANS

ACTUAL TO STILL BY -- GROW

Another class of children's stories worthy of note is the purely historical, telling how Christmas was celebrated in the past. Anne Hollingsworth Wharton's "Christmas in 1776," to be found in "The Last Century Mald and Other Stories for Children," and "The First New England Christmas," in Stone and Fickett's "Every Day Life in the Colonies," are good examples of such stories.

Dickens-and After

Without a doubt the most popular Christmas story among grown-ups is Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," Dickens himself tells us that "he wept and laughed and wept again" over it, "and excited himself in a most extraordinary manner in the composition." A close second to the carol in popularity is "The Chimes," concerning which Dickens said "he had written a tremendous work and knocked the Carol out of the field." The reading public, however, has not rendered its verdict accordingly. Both of these stories breathe a spirit of kindliness and good-will and a consideration for the less fortunate. Who can read of Scrooge's different visitations and not feel convinced at his sudden conversion, and who, reading this story, is not affected much in the same manner as the author, and is not inclined to weep and laugh and weep again? Mrs. Fezziwig and Tiny Tim are household words, and will remain such as long as the

The fashion set by Dickens has been followed by many writers, some of whom have been able to produce little more than a weak imitation of the machinery of "The Christmas Carol." The Christmas story takes its inspiration from the spirit of the time, a spirit glowing with an interest in Life, Love and Reconciliation. The celebration of the birthday of the patron saint of children, St. Nicholas, long associated with the celebration of the birth of Christ, affords inspiration found at no other season of the year.

language is read.

Entertaining, But Unfair

It would, however, be too much to expect that the wonderful happenings and sudden conversions and reconciliations of the usual Christmas story should not meet with a certain amount of ridicule and satire. One of the most successful of these, carried out with a close adherence to the dream machinery of "The Christman Carol," is Frank Stockton's "Stephen Skarridge's Christmas," found in his "Story Teller's Pack." Stephen Skarridge is a second Scrooge whose cynicism takes the form of collecting his tenants' rent en Christmas Eve. Where money is not forthcoming he confiscates personal property. A dream is closely followed by his conversion in the form of most generous bounty. The story ends with the question, "Have you ever read a story like this before?" And, of course, the answer is, "Yes." Another such story is George Ade's "Mr. Payson's Satirical Christmas," to be found in his "In Babel."

Entertaining as these are, perhaps they are unfair, for the Christmas story is essentially a story of miraculous happenings for children and grown-ups; for children in their more mature, grown-up moods and for their elders in their moods of childishness.

WHERE?

Where's the Christmas Spirit all the other times of year?

Wonder where it goes?

Haems to sleep or doze.

Wonder where it hides its little sparkly smile.

of cheer,
When it spreads its little wings and files away
from here?
Wonder where it hibernates, and what its causa
for fear?
Where's the Christmas Spirit all the other times
of year?

Pisagent little spirit-but it never seems to

to go.
Leaving you to common things, like tears and pain and wea."
Figurant little spirit—but it naver seems to

Where's the Christmas Spirit all the other times of year?
Could we make it stay
Letrosi to make it stay?
Letrosi to make it happy learned to hold it war dust?
Would It grow domestic? Would it always lingue hear? Seems to and to have il-and then let it dis-

Where's the Christman Spirit all the other times Mirani Patricky by the New York Clare.