

## Is Something Lacking

In the furnishing of your home? It may be a Table, a Rocker, a Sideboard, a Dresser, or other piece of useful character. Now is a good time to select the piece you want here—many special price attractions will enable you to make a considerable saving, while the diversity of style we show is unequalled.

When in Doubt, Buy of  
**HOUSE & HERRMANN,**  
Seventh and I (Eye) Sts. N. W.

## To the Members of The Washington Herald Optimist Club

Now that the New Year is upon us, and I suppose most of us have made our good resolutions, I have thought that perhaps it might be well if we all, for mutual help, indulge in a little examination to see the meaning of the faith that is in us. And so for the Optimists' page for Sunday, January 8, I have selected for our subject:

### THE MEANING OF OPTIMISM.

I think that most of us who have declared faith in optimism have, in our souls, a pretty fair idea of what we mean when we say that we desire to live hopelessly and helpfully, and are determined to do what lays in our power to make the world a happier place in which to live. But perhaps some of us do not quite realize the conclusions to which consistent optimism must lead—conclusions which will show inevitably that optimism is akin to Christianity, and that without the Christian virtues, practiced and believed, pessimism is inevitable. England has in "Books Triumphant" put this matter very clearly:

"A study of our limitations conduces to clearer knowledge of our own nature, and enables us the more practically to handle our resources. It leads also to a belief in the wisdom of existing things, to a helpful optimism, and from the pernicious influence of the pessimism which hangs like a baneful cloud over the minds of so many to-day. Optimism is a plain inference of the existence of God, and it is a hopeful tendency of the times that it is also gradually creeping into all creeds. It seems to be generally believed that churches are growing out of creeds; they no longer emphasize their importance, and the life of a Christian is lived far more on the lines laid down by Christ than ever before. Christ was the greatest optimist. The virtues which He most strenuously taught are the very ones the optimists most admire. Life was a simple thing to Him; it should be to all of us, and it has been, in that sense, to the greatest minds. Most men call Plato the high priest of optimism, and it was surely what we consider Christian virtues that made him so. The Christian religion is the most cheerful; in fact, the only cheerful religion, and it will always be a matter of profound wonder that it could have been distorted and perverted as it has been. Men have studied the Bible to extract therefrom creeds which would fit the unhealthy bias of their own minds, and they were, it must be confessed, very successful when we think of the horror of belief in the expiation of the iniquities of the gloom and despair of Calvin's doctrinal points."

Then, too, a study of our limitations will teach us that, as worry is a good thing to avoid, so there are many things we worry about that need not really concern us. Why should we speculate, to our own mind's discomfort, on the insupportable problems of existence? Surely there is no use in traveling down the dark and devious lanes of doubt and fear when before us shining lies the broad, sunny road of everyday life. Traveling that road, we must try to avoid the miry places, keeping our feet clean and untrammelled; so, too, we must keep our minds free and clear from needless doubt, and keep our intellects sweet and healthful and wholesome.

Contributions on this subject should be in hand not later than Wednesday, January 4. Two prizes for the two best essays will be awarded; \$5 each. Wishing every faithful member of the club a very happy New Year, I beg to remain yours, fraternally,  
THE OPTIMIST.

## OTRPEDO EXPLOSION INJURES

Struck by a car of the Ninth street line, a large railroad torpedo exploded last night in Ninth street, between E and F, throwing the crowded street into confusion and seriously injuring George Fels, twenty-six years old, of 1124 New York avenue northwest. The injured man was taken to Emergency Hospital in an ambulance, where a piece of the metal covering of the bomb about the size of a hickory nut was removed from the left foot.

Fels, who is an electrician by trade, was walking down Ninth street when the explosion occurred, and was but a few feet from the car. Fels was thrown to the ground when struck by the bursting fragment of the torpedo, but did not lose consciousness. Unable to walk, he was carried to a near-by drugstore, and the ambulance was sent for.

Placed upon the operating table at the hospital, the wound was not found to be serious, and the young man will be removed to his home this morning. It is thought that the torpedo was placed upon the street car track by some holiday merry-maker.

## LOAN-SHARK BILL MAY BE NEGLECTED

Citizens Will Urge Chairman Smith to Act.

### DISTRICT DAY ON JANUARY 9

Although No Opposition Exists in House, Committee Fears Measure Will Be Lost at This Session Unless Voted on Soon—Other Organizations Indorse Plan.

Unless the loan-shark bill passed last April by the Senate, and which is now on the House calendar, is brought up by Chairman Smith, of the House District Committee, to be voted upon next District day, the measure may be lost at this session of Congress.

It is to prevent this that the citizens' committee on the loan-shark question met yesterday afternoon in the office of Frederick L. Siddons in the Bond Building and unanimously decided to urge Chairman Smith to present the bill to the House on January 9.

Chairman Smith has repeatedly said that he intends to present only those bills now on the House calendar that have never been on the Senate. The committee maintains that this would not delay District legislation, but would be a death blow to the loan-shark bill at this session.

No House Opposition.

That there is practically no opposition to the bill in the House is held by Chairman Smith and other members of the District Committee, as the Senate passed it unanimously last spring.

To impress upon Chairman Smith the necessity of having the bill brought before the House for a vote, the committee will visit him in person and obtain the co-operation of other bodies in the city.

The committee maintains that there is such important legislation now before the House that unless the loan-shark bill is presented on the next District day, it will be neglected later, and the co-operation of other bodies in the city.

Indorsed by Others.

They will bring this to the attention of Chairman Smith and all the influence possible to bear upon it. At a recent meeting of the Central Labor Union a resolution favoring this same course was unanimously adopted. A meeting will be held this morning by women of the Washington section of the welfare department of the National Civic Federation, which includes some of the most prominent women in the city, to ask Chairman Smith to present the bill.

The members of the citizens' committee are William H. Baldwin, Gen. George H. Harries, William F. Gude, Mrs. Richard Wainwright, Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, Miss Helen Woodley, John B. Slemon, Emmett L. Adams, Evan H. Tucker, John Jay Edson, H. B. F. Macfarland, Henry L. West, John B. Colpoys, Frederick L. Siddons, Walter C. Ufford, Rev. John Van Schaick, Jr., Dr. George M. Koerber, and George S. Wilson.

## BILL PAPKE LOSES TITLE TO SMITH

Took Middle-weight Crown After Ketchell's Death.

New York, Dec. 27.—Some persons say that under the rules of the ring Bill Papke has lost the world's middle-weight championship title, which he assumed at the death of Stanley Ketchell. Papke proclaimed himself champion before he entered the ring with Dave Smith at Sydney on Monday and agreed to let the title go with the result, Smith won on a foul in the tenth round, and thereby captured the title. But it is an open question in this country whether Papke had a right to defend the world's middle-weight championship, and ring records are used as proof that he has been masquerading on the other side of the globe.

Papke, it is true, stopped Ketchell once, but he was also knocked out in eleven rounds and twice beaten on points, once in ten and again in twenty rounds. He was generally conceded by ring sharps that Langford, in a longer fight, would surely have won. In fact, Ketchell was broadly accused of sidestepping Langford after that, and because of such action Langford's prowess increased. Furthermore, Papke has absolutely refused to fight Langford at 158 pounds ringside, giving as an excuse that he had drawn the color line.

## HELD FOR FALSE PRETENSE

William Bruce Arrested for "Sale" of Motorcycle.

Alleged to Have Confiscated Proceeds and Indited Phony Notes in Payment.

Charged with having sold a motorcycle valued at \$100 to a mythical customer, confiscated the proceeds, and turned in forged notes in payment, William Bruce, of 1815 U street northwest, was placed under arrest last night by Detectives Baur and Cornwall, of the Central Bureau, and taken to the police station. Bruce, who is a clerk in the employ of the Southern Express Company, is alleged to have gone to John S. Berryman, of the firm of Berryman & Throp, motorcycle dealers at 512 Ninth street, and asked to be appointed an agent. Shortly afterward, it is said, he returned, saying that he had found a customer for a machine. The prospective buyer's name was given as Harry K. Smith.

Berryman readily trusted the machine to Bruce for delivery, the police say, and accepted the conditions of sale, that a part of the purchase price should be in cash and the remainder in notes. Bruce turned in \$25 and three notes of \$25 each in payment for the machine.

When the first of the notes fell due and was returned from the bank, proved to be a counterfeit, Berryman began an investigation, and Central Office detectives found that "Smith" did not exist. Bruce was arrested and confessed that he had sold the machine for \$250, but that he had spent the money. He is charged with false pretense.

In New York all places in which dancing is taught must be licensed as public dance halls.

## PLACES OF INTEREST.

Library of Congress—Open 9 a. m. to 12 p. m. on secular days; from 2 p. m. to 10 p. m. on Sundays and on certain holidays. During July, August, and September, closes 1 p. m. Saturdays.

Public Library—Open 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.; holidays, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.; Sundays, 2 to 9 p. m.

United States Capitol—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. on secular days; from 2 p. m. to 9 p. m. on Sundays. Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, 9:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. 12:30 to 1:30 p. m. Other days, 25c admission.

State, War, and Navy Departments—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. (The original Department of Independence is in the library of the State Department.)

United States Patent Office—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

United States Post Office—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Washington City Post Office—Open all hours. (The Dead Letter Office is in the city post office.)

National Botanic Garden—Open 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. (Fls. Commission—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.)

Army Medical Museum—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

National Museum—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. (including holidays).

Agricultural Department—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing—Open 9 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.

Washington Monument (665 feet in height)—Open 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. (Elevator runs from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.)

Smithsonian Institution—Open 9 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. (including holidays).

Government Printing Office—Open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Navy Yard—Open 9 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.

Northwest Cottage, 30th and Prospect ave.

Key Mansion—Home of Francis Smith Key, author of "The Star Spangled Banner," 3319 M street northwest. Open daily, except Sunday, 9 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. Admission free.

## SIMS SENDS HIS REPLY

Explanation of Speech in the Hands of President Taft.

### OFFICIAL REPRIMAND LIKELY

Alleged Indiscreet Remarks of Commander at Guildhall Banquet in London May Bring Disciplinary Action, Although Officials Do Not Anticipate a Court-Martial.

President Taft has under consideration the reply of Commander William S. Sims, U. S. N., commanding officer of the battle ship Minnesota, of the Atlantic fleet, who was recently asked by Secretary of the Navy Meyer to explain an alleged indiscreet public statement.

On December 3 last, at a banquet at the Guildhall, in London, given by the lord mayor of the city to the officers and men of the Atlantic fleet, Commander Sims is quoted as saying that in the event of a war between Great Britain and a European enemy, the British government would, in his personal opinion, probably receive assistance from the United States.

When the substance of the speech was regarded it as indiscreet, and sent a cablegram asking Commander Sims for a report on his alleged remarks. Ordinarily such a statement would not have attracted much attention, but German newspapers used Commander Sims' speech as the basis for unfriendly criticism of the United States.

Caused German Stir.

The German newspapers had already criticized the Navy Department for its failure to send any of the battle ships on a visit to German ports. The press of Germany construed the failure of the fleet to visit Germany as an outcome of the diplomatic dispute over the potash situation. When Commander Sims' Guildhall speech was telegraphed to Germany, there was a fresh outburst against the United States.

While Secretary Meyer declines to discuss Commander Sims' reply, it is understood that he has practically admitted the accuracy of the statement attributed to him. If any disciplinary action is decided upon by President Taft and Secretary Meyer, it will probably be in the nature of an official reprimand. The officers of the Navy Department do not regard the incident as of sufficient importance to warrant a court-martial.

Commander Sims was naval aid to former President Roosevelt, and was also an official reprimand. The officers of the Navy Department do not regard the incident as of sufficient importance to warrant a court-martial.

### TO TALK ON BOY SCOUTS.

Ernest Thompson-Seton Speaks at Y. M. C. A. To-day.

The boys' department of the Young Men's Christian Association will be addressed by Ernest Thompson-Seton this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock on the boy scout movement in America.

The address, while primarily for the boys, will be open to all who wish to attend. Mr. Seton and his associates have organized bands of boy scouts in many parts of the country, and Mr. Seton was one of the first boy promoters of the Boy Scouts of America.

### MACVEAGH IN QUANDARY.

Puzzled as to How to Provide for Clerks Disabled by Duties.

Because of the absence of government regulation covering remuneration for departmental employees injured in the performance of duty, Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh is confronted with a solution of how to provide for the present and yet keep a woman clerk under medical attendance so that she may return to work.

The case arose when the woman was sent to New York City to count tobacco revenue stamps in the factory where they are manufactured. While there the woman's hands became poisoned from the tinfoil, resulting in the disease spreading to other parts of her body and threatening the loss of her eyesight.

It is understood that the next report of Mr. MacVeagh will contain recommendations for new legislation to cover such disability. An investigation has also been put underway to find a non-poisonous substance for the manufacture of the revenue stamps.

### FOUR DIE IN B. & O. WRECK.

Two Others Hurt in Smash-up of Freight in West Virginia.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Dec. 27.—Four trainmen were killed and two others injured, one of them probably fatally, in a collision of two freight trains on the Ohio River division of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Mercers Bottom, W. Va., early to-day. The dead are William Stoffer, Parkersburg, engineer; C. J. Bradham, Parkersburg, fireman; and R. H. Kantz, Mason City, fireman.

It is said that the crew of one of the trains made a mistake in reading its orders and that this was the cause of the accident.

## ITALIAN'S JEALOUSY CAUSE OF MURDER

Continued from Page One.

she awaited the return of her husband and of the birth of a baby, but pleaded for news of him. She declared that she had heard nothing from him for months, and expressed fear for his life.

Appitto did not show the letter to Ambrosia, but sought out one of his friends to give the information that the man who was so ardently paying court had a wife and child in Italy. Whether at this time Appitto expressed any desire to take the life of his former friend is not known. If he did, Detective Oriani has not been able to learn it.

Ambrosia, who was captured yesterday at the Virginia brick plant by Lieut. Flather and a detail of policemen from the Fourth precinct, made a full confession yesterday to Detective Oriani. By his statement, he was in the upstairs room at the Italian rooming-house at 471 C street, southwest, playing cards with several friends, when Appitto entered the room.

According to the mass of evidence obtained by the police, Appitto accused Ambrosia of attempting to ruin the life of the young Italian girl. It is said that Ambrosia did not attempt to defend himself, but instead, tried to induce Appitto to go into another room while he explained. The encounter started, and Ambrosia, according to his testimony, merely used the gun in self-defense after being cut in several places with a knife in Appitto's hand.

### Nabbed at Brick Yard.

Ambrosia appeared at the engine room of the brick plant about 5 o'clock, and asked the engineer to let him warm himself by the boiler. In a few moments, the Italian, worn out by the excitement of the affray and his long walk, fell asleep. Lieut. Hartley was notified by phone, and within an hour the police of the Fourth precinct had Ambrosia under arrest.

When brought to Washington and confronted by Detective Oriani, Ambrosia broke down and told the whole story, asserting through it all, however, that he was innocent of any intention of murder and had acted only in self-defense. He will be allowed to testify at the inquest, which probably will be held at the morgue this morning.

The police have not been able to locate the girl in the case. That her identity is absolute is asserted by practically all of the Italian colony who were conversant with the acquaintanceship of the trio and the fact of Appitto's having received the letter from Italy. Detective Oriani would make no statement on the case last night.

## ADVERTISING TALKS.

WRITTEN BY WILLIAM C. FREEMAN

I called on a business man the other day and he handed me a card that he and other members of his family had received in the mail that morning. It read as follows:

"We invite for inspection of a display of presents of a varied and unusual character, suitable for holiday and wedding gifts."

Then followed the signature of the firm and its address.

The card was nicely engraved and was inclosed in an envelope bearing a two-cent stamp. THERE WAS NOTHING TO INDICATE THE CHARACTER OF THE BUSINESS in which the firm was engaged.

The man who handed me the card said he didn't know whether the firm sold horses or wagons or automobiles or jewelry or what not. He remarked upon it as an example of wasted advertising.

WAS IT NOT WASTED?

How many people engaged in business fool away their money in this useless kind of alleged advertising? The engraved cards in question must have cost at least three cents each.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)



## The Bell Directory

is the recognized business and social register. Your name should appear in the issue which

Goes to Press  
January 1st

Changes of listing and applications for telephone service and advertising must be made before that date.

Call Main 9000 Today

The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company

## PROMPT DELIVERIES J. Maury Dove Company, Inc.

Wholesale **COAL** Retail

ALL COAL AUTOMATICALLY SCREENED

### J. C. KEIPER GRAND MASTER

Elected at St. John's Communication of F. A. A. M.

Officers Installed by Past Grand Master G. C. Ober Who is Presented with Jewel.

The St. John's communication of the Grand Lodge, F. A. A. M., was held last night in the New Masonic Temple. At the communication the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

J. Claude Keiper, grand master; Ben W. Murch, deputy grand master; Charles E. Baldwin, senior grand warden; T. John Newton, junior grand warden; Arvine W. Johnston, grand secretary (eleventh term); James A. Sample, grand treasurer (tenth term); Thomas H. Young, grand lecturer (thirteenth term); Rev. J. Russell Vermycke, grand chaplain; Rev. J. Henning Neime, assistant grand chaplain; Alexander Grant, grand marshal; J. W. Jernane, grand senior deacon; James W. Witten, junior grand deacon; Lem Towers, Jr., grand sword bearer; Joseph H. Milans, grand pursuivant; J. Harry Cunningham, senior grand steward; Charles J. O'Neill, junior grand steward; Warren C. Bickford, grand war (sixth term); A. F. Fox, trustee for three years; Past Grand Master F. J. Woodman, corporate Masonic Hall Association; Past Grand Master L. Cabell Williamson, Past Grand Master Lorton R. Ginn, and Charles L. James, representatives on the board of directors Masonic and Eastern Star Home.

The newly selected officers were installed by Past Grand Master George C. Ober. Past Grand Master James Westmore presented retiring Grand Master George C. Ober with a past grand master's jewel.

### Child Files in Aero.

Lyons, Dec. 27.—The little daughter of Rev. James McD. Parr, of New York, made a lengthy aeroplane flight here to-day.

### ATLANTIC CITY HOTELS.

#### HOTEL WESTMONT

Ocean and Rhode Island avenues. Splendid table and service. Special rate for the winter, \$12.50, \$15 per week without bath; \$15 to \$25 per week with bath. Sea water and other baths. Booklet, W. H. MOORE, Manager.

#### HOTELS.

#### St. James, European

WASHINGTON, D. C. 147\*

#### EXCURSIONS.

#### SPECIAL HOLIDAY RATE

Old Point Comfort—Norfolk.

Round \$4.00 Trip

On sale December 22, 23, and 24. Limited to Jan. 1.

Also Special Tickets, including accommodations at Chamberlin Hotel.

City Ticket Office, Bond Building, N. Y. ave. & 10th St.

THE NORFOLK & WASH. STEAMBOAT CO.

#### KENSINGTON.

Cars from 15th and N. Y. ave. every quarter hour. Connect at Cherry Chase Lake with Kensington Line.

#### Compliments of the Season.

Wishing You a Happy, Prosperous New Year. D. R. STANSBURY.

#### DOES YOUR

#### Roof Leak?

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

Ask Us or Phone M. 128.

1304-6 New York ave. n.w.

#### Christmas Gifts

Cost money, and money costs money.

But the lowest money cost in Washington for a money loan is that quoted by our company. Get rates from the others and prove it for yourself. \$50.00, for example, for one month costs but \$1.25. 18 years in the public eye. "The Mercantile," 1296 G st. n.w.

#### The Famous

#### SHOOMAKER PENN. RYE

Ten years old. \$1.25. Order by phone.

Also TENNESSEE, \$1.00 Bottle.

The Shoemaker Co.

1331 E Street N. W.

Established 1853. Phone Main 1128.

#### IF YOU HAVE

no appetite, indigestion, flatulence, Sick Headache, "all run down" or losing flesh, you will find

#### Tut's Pills

Just what you need. They tone up the weak stomach and build up the flagging energies.

British provident societies number 35-34, with a membership of 19,39,647, and funds amounting to \$54,123,107.