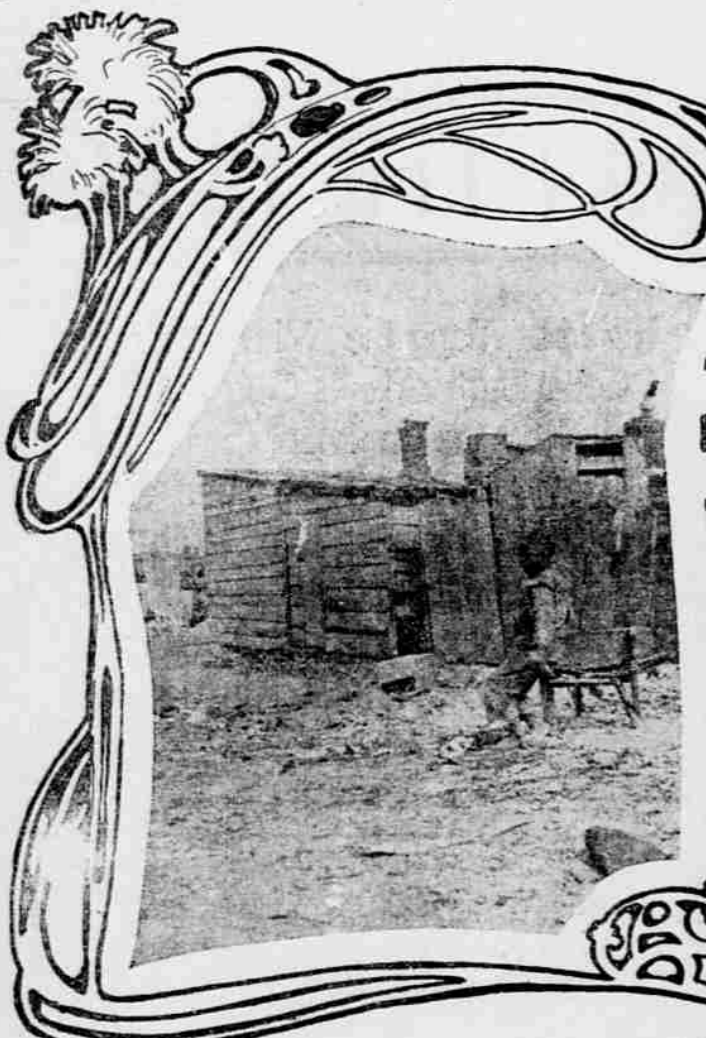
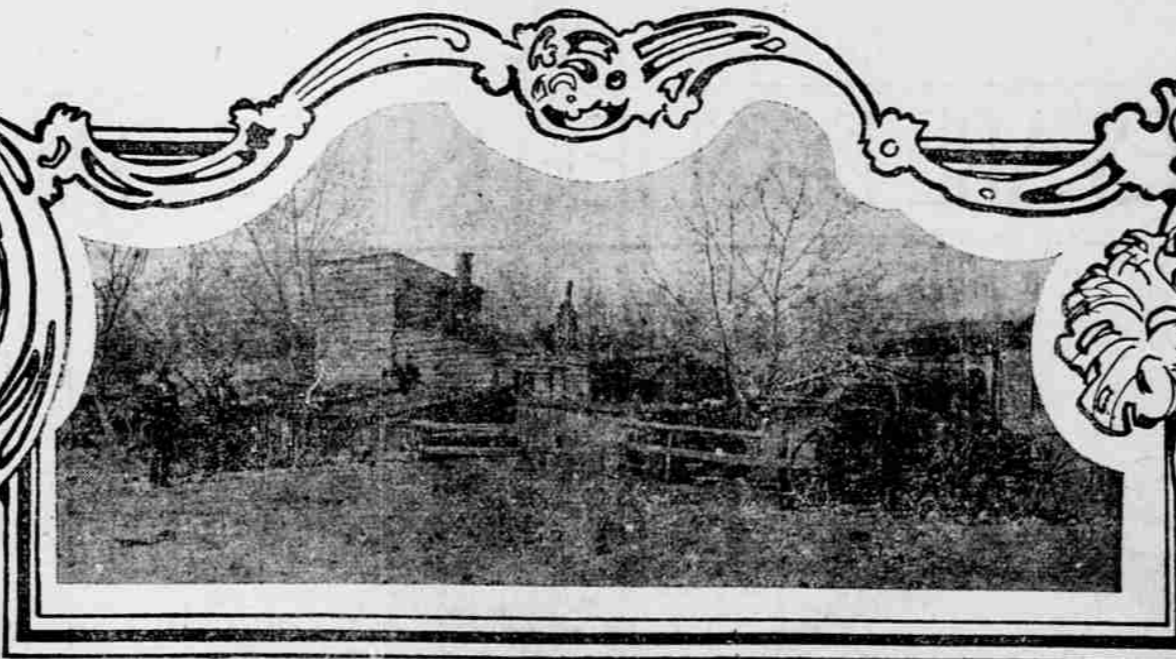


FRESH AIR, GREEN GRASS AND COOL SHADE FOR THE POOR



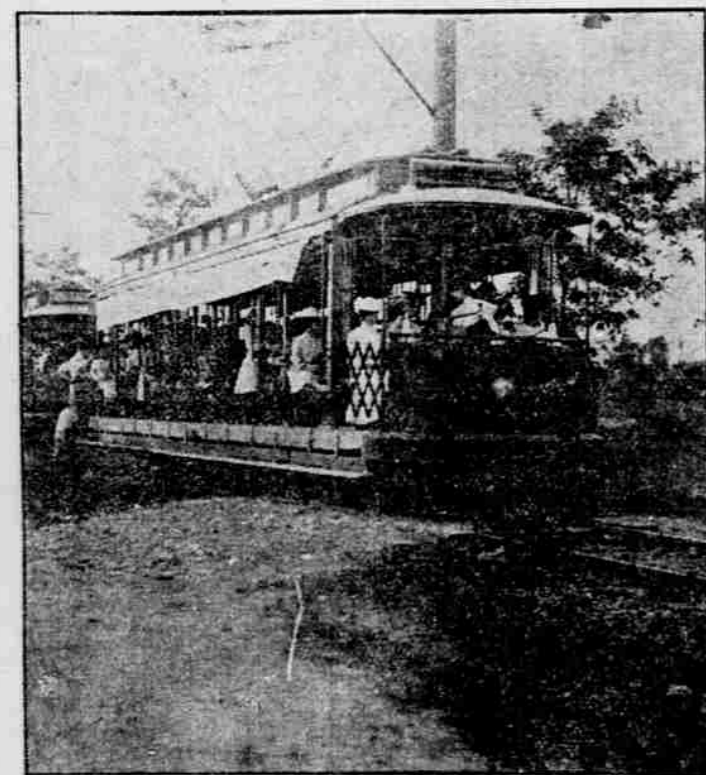
"I'd Like a Car Ride."



Their Usual "Summer Resort."



A Rear Tenement.



Off For the Green Fields.



Tenement House Baby.



Happy Fresh Air Company in a Suburb.



Street Car Party in a Ball Game.

Many Hundreds of Men, Women and Children, Who Would Otherwise Never Have Been Given a Glimpse of the Country in Summer, Have as a Result of the Free Street Car Ride Fund Enjoyed the Health-Giving Breezes of Washington's Suburbs

Men, women, and children are enjoying this summer a pleasure and a privilege that has been denied them in the summer past. They have had street car rides to the cool and shady suburbs, where they could loll about on the grass and breathe the cool, fresh air of the country. To those who spend summer after summer in the mountains of the North, at the lakes or on the sea shore, a mere street car ride to the suburbs may seem a trifle not to be considered, but to those to whom the cost of a street car ride for the whole family is simply prohibitive and to the children who have been forced to breathe the hot and fetid air of the streets by night as well as by day, the ride to the suburbs, the romp over the green, and the sweet, cool breeze is as much an outing as a trip to the White Mountains is to the pampered child of wealth. Nearly 2,000 families have been given this great boon, this summer, and at little expense to anybody, at least to no expense that was felt—merely a quarter here and there—and it was done. No undertaking of this character has been marked by such signal success and has given such gratifying results to those at the head of the charity work in the National Capital. The vast possibilities of this enterprise have just become manifest. The great good that fresh air outings contain for women and children in poverty-stricken circumstances is almost immeasurable. The fresh air of the country and the life and spirit of the suburban resorts seem to put new blood into the veins and to give them a renewed grasp upon existence. The free car ride fund is an innovation in this city; certainly it has never been taken in hand in a systematic fashion and carried to such a high plane of success as it has this summer. A few weeks ago the present movement found its origin with a few sturdy supporters, who, when they take hold of a matter

of this sort, do not let go until a definite and most effective outcome has been the result. The care of the poor of Washington is always complex, and requires the most versatile and indefatigable work on the part of those who have it in charge. In many respects the ministrations to the indigent of the National Capital differ from the methods employed in other large cities. The population here is different, and in lots of instances persons are reduced to charity by reasons or circumstances which seldom prevail elsewhere, and when a person prevails of the poor of Washington, he seldom realizes what this means. One generally understands the term to apply to creatures dressed in rags, and living in cramped, squalid rooms in dirty streets, and narrow alleys. There is, of course, much poverty of this class here, but this is only one of the many classes of the poor of this city that must be ministered to through the agencies of the Associated Charities or otherwise. Probably the most pathetic class of people who are the objects of the public charity are the proud, high-minded widows with large numbers of small

children who struggle day in and day out to keep up appearances and keep their offspring from "going to the dogs," as they term it, and from associating with evil companions. These people live in a genteel manner, on comparatively nice streets, and never lose sight of their refinement. They suffer probably more than any others, for their pride will keep them for a long time from asking for help. The heated season presents its problems to those who look after the poor and they are in some respects more vexatious than those met with in cold weather. Summer is the season of sickness. In the heated months great care must be exercised to prevent poor children especially from falling ill. Epidemics prevail among them and special nourishment and medicines must be provided. But sickness does not confine itself to children alone in the hot season. It visits hundreds and even thousands of adults, as well, and all these conditions must be taken into consideration by the charity workers.

Four things are very necessary for the execution of the plans of the Associated Charities in Washington. They are food, ice, air, and medical attention. The innovation providing means by which the indigent of the National Capital may get fresh air is just now occupying the attention of the charity workers to a large extent. This is so for the reason that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It is realized that by giving the poor women and children of the city car rides into the country and all-day outings at the pleasure resorts much sickness and disease otherwise inevitable is prevented. The sewerage of the city in certain sections is not regarded as of the best and children suffer more or less in the summer months, especially where they are so situated as not to be able to get

fresh air. This is wherein the street-car fund is proving of much benefit. The Associated Charities has three schemes for giving poor women and children the benefit of the fresh air outing fund. Parties are gotten up and in charge of a lady or gentleman are taken to some nearby pleasure resort or cool, shady place in the country, there to spend the day, and enjoy luncheon under the trees, returning home after sundown. In other instances car tickets are supplied to families and they go for their outings as they choose. Special provision is made for getting the sick out for these car rides. In most cases someone from the Associated Charities takes charge of the invalids, but it is not infrequent that an adult of the poverty-stricken class who is himself an invalid but able to get about is given the care of two or three frail or sickly children for one of these fresh-air jaunts. One of the beneficiaries of the outing fund recently was a woman past middle age, the mother of eight small children, who had never before been upon a street car. The sensation was something absolutely marvelous to her and to her little ones. The children at first acted like frightened birds, but as the car sped along on its way to a suburban resort they became accustomed to its motion and returned home later in the evening a most happy lot of youngsters. One little incident touched the hearts of many who knew of it. As a car bound for the country and filled with beneficiaries of the free-ride fund sped along past one of the street corners there came, just too late to catch the car, a woman and six little children. The disappointed expression on the mother's face attracted the attention of one of the charity agents, and when she had gone about two blocks she got off the car and went back, finding the woman with her six little ones huddled around her, standing in the same spot where she had first seen her. The charity agent took the woman and children on the next car, and if ever a family enjoyed a day's outing this one did. It would be interesting to note that this woman had not been two blocks from her home in eighteen years.

Close and Ill-Smelling Alleys, the Hot Pavements and the Broiling Sun All Day Have Been the Conditions of Mid-Summer Life For Many of the Young and Helpless Until This Inexpensive But Beneficent Charity Was Put Under Way

SUPERSTITIONS THAT HEDGE ABOUT THE KING OF ENGLAND

KING EDWARD'S sudden illness on the eve of his coronation day gave currency to numerous predictions which had been made by fortune tellers and palmists concerning the English sovereign. It was said that in the fatigue and worry incidental to the preparation for the crowning festivities the King had been haunted by these predictions. There was the story of the Epsom gypsy whom Albert Edward visited as Prince of Wales, but without revealing his identity to the fortune teller. She looked him over and remarked: "You will come very near to gaining the throne, but you will never be crowned."

There have been very few Kings of England—very few royalties of any country, in fact—about whom there has not chattered a mass of superstition. Even as far back as the coronation of William the Conqueror it was regarded as very ill-omened that Archbishop Siger and refused to attend the coronation ceremonies. The refusal was based upon the opinion that William "was covered with the blood of man." Astrologers busied themselves no little with predictions concerning the reign of King John. It was predicted that he would close his reign on Ascension Day. The fact of this prophecy having been made was revived after the King had been really crowned on Ascension Day, and dire forebodings were felt in the superstitious minds of the time. Concerning Charles I there were numerous predictions made from his youth. But the greatest importance was attached to the fact that when he was crowned he was robed in a garment of white instead of the royal purple Kings had been accustomed to wear on such occasions. It was afterward ascertained that the King had ordered a purple robe, but it did not arrive in time. Soothsayers "after the fact" interpreted this wearing of white as the King's part to a Providential arrangement that "the King's" innocency should be thus made plain on his coronation day, that those who

should afterward condemn him might themselves feel the full measure of their guilt." The coronation of James II, recked with ill omens. The most significant of them, as the people of the time considered, was that the King's champion fell full length at his feet when he went to kiss his hand. It is the duty of the champion to challenge anyone contesting the right of the King to the throne. There were many sneers upon the weakness of this official on this occasion. At this coronation also the King's crown tottered on his head when it was first placed there, and many prophecies were based upon the fact. When George III, was walking down the aisle of Westminster Abbey after he had been crowned, a "fair, large diamond," as the chroniclers of the time described it, fell from his crown. The noblemen and ladies who witnessed it are said to have been greatly awestruck, and afterward, when the American colonists, it was recalled that on the occasion of the coronation prophecies of calamity were generally indulged in. Probably no sovereign of history was more superstitious himself than was Louis XI of France, whose superstition received a powerful intensity from the chastening of his conscience. He had numerous astrologers and demonologists about him. On one occasion it was predicted by one of the court fortune tellers

that upon a certain day would occur the death of one of the favorite women of the court. The woman did die, and the King in his anger summoned the astrologer before him, commanding the subject to foretell the day of his own death. Instantly the reader of the stars replied: "Sire, I foresee that I shall die just three days before your majesty." This was too much for the aged King and the fellow was dismissed in great anger. The King always took great pains afterward to see to it that this man's health was well cared for. From the time of his birth in Corsica Napoleon was the subject of prophecy. When he was crowned he took the crown from the hands of the Pope and placed it on his own head. It was a signal to his people that he reigned by his own right and that he owed allegiance to no man, temporal or spiritual. There are numerous superstitions connected with the paraphernalia and regalia used at the coronation in England. For instance, it is said that the coronation chair in Westminster gives out a sound when a legitimate heir to the throne sits in it, but in the case of a pretender the chair is dumb. The sound comes, it is alleged, not from the wooden framework of the chair, but from the "Stone of Destiny" beneath the seat. There is another tradition that wher-ever this stone shall be a Prince of the

Seythian race shall rule. This was, in fact, fulfilled when James VI of Scotland became James I of England. With the exception of Queen Mary, all the British sovereigns have been crowned in this chair. It was the subject of a special treaty at Northampton, when it was stipulated that it should be returned to Scotland. That promise, however, was not kept. This stone is said to be the same one as was used by Jacob for a pillow on the night when he dreamed of heaven. The Turks, however, claim to have Jacob's stone in Jerusalem, safely stored in the Mosque of Omar. The Koh-i-nor diamond, which it has been reported King Edward would allow Queen Alexandra to wear, is said to endow its possessor with the sovereignty of India. It is the property of the King of England, it having been presented to the late Queen by the East India Company, although claimed now by the Maharajah of Dhulap Singh. A French traveler mentions having seen it in 1665 when it was in the possession of Aurangzeb, Emperor of the Moguls. Among the striking prophecies in regard to sovereigns was the one made at Martinique by a negress when the Empress Josephine, as Mlle. Tascher de la Pagerie, was a young and practically unknown girl there. She was told that she would "be the Queen of the greatest empire that ever existed." This was subsequently realized.