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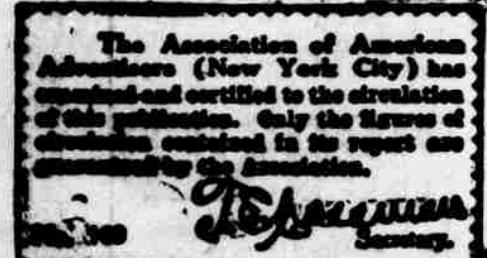
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THE PRESS HUMORIST.

President Taft took occasion the other day to send greetings to the press humorists in convention assembled, assuring them that they were doing the world an important service in making the world laugh. It is what we should expect of a jovial president who smiled his way into office.

Even Maeterlinck, the mysterious—he of sunken gardens and hidden caverns wherein the phantoms move back and forth, seems almost ready to grant that there is a lot in the matter of joy and happiness, though he does take a rather gloomy view of it.

"If all who count themselves happy were to tell, very simply, what it was that brought happiness to them, the others would see that between sorrow and joy the difference is but as between a gladsome enlightened acceptance of life and a hostile, gloomy submission; between a large and harmonious conception of life, and one that is stubborn and narrow."

But unwittingly he has quite stated the whole press humorist creed and fact. The only way that many of these slaves of the shears and the typewriter may lift themselves out of the sordid lives which often form their background is by the philosophy which is quite the oldest in the world—the clown's.

Those in this town who know and love Strick Gillian know also the narrow razor edge by which he has separated joy and sorrow. How on Joy Square he bounded out his lyrics and made his pun after the day's work was over and all others were in bed, and how that house rent in Joy Square was paid for by the throbbies of an aching heart and the gay good humor in the council meetings.

Behind the nonchalance which is so carefully cultivated by these mimers there is somewhere the gnawing sadness without which no man can really enjoy a laugh.

But were the press humorist to stop the serious work of callousing his fingers in pounding out the quips for the use of after dinner speakers—it would be a sadder and more foolish world.

COOK AND PEARY AGREE.

Cook and Peary agree on many points. They both were quite alone with only Eskimos when they found the Pole—or say they did—they both were going at a merry clip over the ice near the end of their journey and they are both trying to prove things by Eskimo testimony. They may also both eventually agree that neither one found the Pole.

It is evident that now while there are two claimants to the honor that the bulldog in the manger attitude will keep on until there is no pole for anyone and some other expedition will have to go up and really discover it.

We are sorry for this. Most of us hoped that now that the pole had been discovered twice there was no use for anyone to go back there.

Perhaps Peary and Cook will agree to that at any rate.

Items Gathered in From Far and Near

The Polar Row.

From the New York World.—Native credibility will generally be called high by arctic explorers. The Smith Sound Esquimos have for many years been familiar with arctic explorers and arctic ambitions. They know the conditions of the problem and its difficulties. They can appreciate its tremendous importance to men who have put into the quest the best years of their lives. In the later stages of the controversy native testimony will not weigh heavily against such scientific

ANOTHER SIDE.

There is another side to this water meter agitation. If we have not misunderstood Mr. R. K. Shiveley, who is one of the legal department of the water works company, there are decisions of the best character both in England and in the United States which sustain the contention of the Water Works Company as to why that company is entitled to charge for meter service.

The cases hinge on the question: Is the meter a part of the equipment of the company, or is it to be regarded as the equipment of the consumer? In other words, is the meter to be regarded as a necessary part of the company's apparatus or a part of the consumer's apparatus, (such as a water faucet) which is an integral part of the house. In all these cases—or in the ones he cites—the meter is a part of the consumer's system for taking care of the water after it reaches his property line. Laying aside all other phases of this question—it illustrates nicely our contention that the company is not entitled to profit on meters.

If the meter is simply to be regarded as a mere pipe which is an advantage to the consumer and necessary to the handling of water after it is delivered at the curb, it certainly should not be a source of profit to the company. Simply because the company holds the whip hand in requiring that it has, of necessity, the right to superintend the workings of the meter, it does not give it the right to profit by that necessity.

If water faucets were so let to the flat rate consumer on the ground that leakage made supervision necessary, and therefore rental of the faucet imperative on the company—we do not think the company would be entitled to take advantage of the consumer by making it a perpetual source of revenue out of a thing which is admittedly the quoted decisions, not a part of its equipment.

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Even viewed from the other side, that the meter system is a part of the company's equipment, the percent of profit should not be allowed to be an extortionate one. Allowing for depreciation, upkeep and interest—the interest should not be extortionate. Two hundred per cent. annually seems (from our best information on the subject) to be what the company is making.

That is the point.

HEARSAY EVIDENCE.

Before the Council the other evening an attorney representing the Richmond City Water Works was moved to remark that he viewed the attitude of the Palladium as extremely unfortunate in acting on 'hearsay evidence' and 'supposition.' He went on to remark that the question would not be settled and should not be settled on any such basis. All of this is obvious. Nobody, the Palladium least of all, has any such idea.

One by one these apparently alarming things may be explained. Most of the information in this world is of just this 'hearsay' character. Leaving the present question there are not many things which are to be found in any journal even of the most cautious and guarded editing which are not 'hearsay.' In the present instance it may be remarked that most of the 'hearsay' evidence came from rather reliable sources and that most of the supposition was founded directly on what the company, through its representatives stated to the Palladium.

It is interesting to note that the effect of the publication of a 'supposition' statement of the net earnings of the company and the explanation of the processes by which these figures were obtained had the apparent effect of inviting public consideration to such an extent that accountants on behalf of the city are already at work on the books of the company. We cannot but feel that if we have had any influence in actually bringing matters to a focus and thus eventually giving the citizens the real situation, that we have helped to clear the matter away from 'hearsay evidence' and 'supposition' which previously prevailed.

There is no one in Richmond who has any greater desire that the actual truth about the conditions surrounding the Richmond City Water Works come to open inspection of the public than the Palladium. And it is somewhat foolish to think that this information would come out without some agitation. When a prominent man in the company was asked if the Richmond City Water Works would be willing to publish its financial condition—throw open its books to the public—he at that time said that the board of directors thought it would not be wise to have the affairs of the company made public. We called his attention to the fact that the state law gives the council power to investigate the books of the contracting companies. We also published a few days later the view of the Wall Street Journal on the justice to the public of the publishing of the financial condition of public service corporations and urged that the books be opened for public inspection. This has come to pass.

If what we have had to say about the Water Works Company has been of a 'hearsay' character—it at least has been the best information obtainable in the face of the then refusal of the company to make public its condition. And if this has led to the present hope for some other basis for judgment than the statements of the attorneys and chief agents of the company we feel that we have accomplished quite enough.

Proofs as a man who has been to the pole with instruments of precision should be able to cite. The whole world will await with impatience the emblem of the achievement of our distinguished fellow-townsman?

A Hard Winter?

From the Baltimore Sun.—Next

thing we'll be consulting the goose again.

TWINKLES

(By Philander Johnson)

A Close Distinction.

"I suppose you expect those stocks

you have taken to increase in value

very soon," said the close friend.

"I don't care much about the value,"

answered Mr. Dustin Stax. "All I want

is for them to increase in price."

A Terrible Picture.

"Why," said the social agitator, "do we see so many neglected children

and so many women in tears?"

"I don't know," answered Mr. Stax.

"unless it's because so many

ladies get completely wrapped

up in matinees."

Persistent.

The grafter's a persistent elf;

Whenever you block his little game

He straightway finds new roads to

self.

And keeps on grafting just the same.

Gaining Experience.

"You say you know nothing at all

about our railway?" said the official.

"Nothing whatever," answered the

applicant for employment.

"Well, you come highly recommended."

I suppose we'll have to put you in the bureau of information and let the traveling public educate you."

"Sometimes a man dat is easy an' good natured," said Uncle Eben.

"spoils de dispositions of several other people dat has to fight his battles fur him."

The Deserted Summer Resort.

A sadness lingers everywhere.

No more doth laughter echo light,

Where he came tripping debonair.

Some bithe conundrum to recite.

The sky looks down in bleak dismay—
The cottage cut-up's gone away.

No more the comic song sounds out
In well meant though familiar glee;
No more the old guitar so stout
Twangs lustily, but off the key.
Oh, shed a few considerate tears!
The cottage cut-up disappears.

Gone is the quip, likewise the quirk;
Gone is the frail, yet time-tried joke.
The butterfly has gone to work,
The same as ordinary folk;
In office, counting room or store
The cottage cut-up is no more!

MANY CHANGES IN
THE FALL FASHIONS

Puffed Sleeves and Cuffs, In-
cluded in New Models,
Making Fancy Effect.

LIKE THOSE SIX YEARS AGO

SEVERAL DIFFERENT STYLES OF
CAPS ON SLEEVES WHICH MAY
BE USED, THUS SHOWING OFF
EFFECT BETTER.

Many women must have noticed that sleeves as well as skirts are undergoing a change at the present time. Like skirts, they are fuller, and the newest models closely resemble those worn five or six years ago.

The fullness is chiefly at the elbow, there is the style with the droopy puff at the top and another at the elbow, like those worn years ago.

Caps on sleeves will be revived. Not those with the loose, capelike design of the jumper waist, but the variety that fits the arm closely. Some sleeves will show the cap as a distinct portion, others will be plaited half way to the elbow to simulate the cap, while occasionally there will be seen rows of shirring in tiny puffs instead of tucks.

Of course, the style of sleeve depends largely upon the kind of material that is developed. Even a novice would not shirr heavy fabrics or tuck materials that was exceedingly sheer. Old Fashioned Sleeves.

The only sleeve model one misses in the new style is the large puff that reaches from the armhole to wrist, ending in a deep, close fitting cuff at the band. The rest of the old fashioned sleeves will be worn and, of course, the staple bishop and the coat sleeve, which will never go out of fashion.

In one of the newest models puffs are formed at the tops and elbows by running for a few inches on the inner seams a group of small tucks. Another style displays the puffiness at elbow only.

A third sleeve, closely capped at the top over a full bishop sleeve, taken in to a deep cuff, the fullness falling below the elbow, is attractive.

Or the caps may be simulated by shirring or plaiting a band of trimming sewed to the sleeve where the stitching stops. Sometimes a band of trimming only is used to define the cap, the sleeve being shirred to fit the arm and covered with the band.

Puffiness of Droopy Nature.

There is no fullness standing out from the shoulders. Any puffiness at the armhole is of a droopy nature.

The new sleeves are trimmed; that is, bands of lace or tucking are arranged between the puffs, or if there is only one at the elbow, then the sleeve is trimmed above and below this point.

Another sleeve model that will be a favorite is the "over sleeve." It is made with a close fitting lining faced with material from elbows to wrists and over these falls a second sleeve, which, nearly as I can describe it, is a bishop sleeve cut off at any point below elbow and wrist. This other sleeve is usually slashed on the outer seam from the lower edge and is decorated to harmonize with the rest of the gown. As a rule these over sleeves are of contrasting fabrics, such as tuck net, lingerie or lace undersleeves, those falling over being of the waist material.

They are not particularly pretty, but are new, and can be easily copied by the amateur.

Cuffs Also Change.

Cuffs, like sleeves, of course, have undergone a change, and there is the pointed cuff of contrasting material set in such a way that the deepest point comes on the inner seam.

Another finish for sleeves made from heavy fabrics is the deep cuff buttoned to the arm on the outer edge. The sleeve cut into a point and trimmed with a frill is by no means out of date and the cuff flaring slightly over the hand is among the group that is bidding for favor.

The bishop sleeve is always finished with the straight band cuff.

A pretty cuff effect that is new is deep and slashed in points which button at the arm.

The sleeve above is full and held down by caps which are also slashed, the points meeting under the buttons. A narrow braid trimming decorates all edges of the points.

The strictly tailored shirt waist will, of course, be fitted with the one seam bishop sleeve.

Fancy sleeves should be made for afternoon dresses, and there are many varieties to choose from. The choice, too, will depend upon the material to be developed. Cloth sleeves for reception gowns should be made with separate plain caps, while such goods as panamas, henrietta, cashmere or any of the silk and wool mixtures may be tucked.

Thin silk and the sheer fabrics, such as mulle, chiffon cloth and crepe, will look pretty if shirred.

Crepe de chine and all materials that fall softly, lend themselves to the style of sleeve tucked for several inches on the inner seam.

Fall An-noun-cement
Of Extra-ordinary Interest to Mothers

This is the last week to prepare the boys for school, and you should not buy Clothing, Shoes or Caps until you have inspected our stock. We are showing an entire new line of Boys' Suits that are made to wear, and we give you quality that counts, at prices that means the strictest Clothing ECONOMY.

Boys' Suits With Knickerbocker Pants
\$2.00 and up

Railroad Store
Richmond, - - - IndianaMan Who Reduced Taff's Weight
By 35 Pounds to Take Platform

Beverly, Mass., Sept. 11.—Dr. Cook and Commander Peary have nothing on C. A. Barker of Madison, Wis. In fact, the doctor has beat them to the lecture platform. Dr. Barker did not discover the north pole, he hasn't even claimed to have found it. He has not sent any wireless, epigrammatic, laconic messages, but he has taken thirty-five pounds off of the person of the president of the United States, reducing his weight to—but that is a secret for the present.

Mr. Barker has not signed a contract to write a book, but he will lecture in the Baptist church on "Health and How to Retain It," and all Beverly will be there. Beverly is so healthy that only the cemetery indicates that it is mortal, and it is not going to