

THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM  
AND SUN-TELEGRAM

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## The Liberty Light and Power Company

The contention of the Liberty Light and Power company that, as a consumer, it is in a class by itself and ought to be exempted from paying the new rate, was effectively answered by the city.

The company's officials said that it paid all transformation and transmission charges, which the consumers of Richmond do not do, as this loss is borne by the municipal plant.

Far outweighing this contention, however, is the fact that the taxpayers of Richmond have \$800,000 invested in the plant, that no taxes are collected on this investment, and that the worry of the management of the utility rests with the city.

The Liberty company does not have to concern itself about the deterioration of the plant's machinery, about the necessity of purchasing new equipment, about the retirement of bonds, and the hundreds of details that demand attention to keep the plant in an efficient state.

The company buys its current at the switchboard. So long as the city is able to supply the current when needed, the Liberty company's main concern is to see that the current reaches its patrons in the towns which it serves. It has no money tied up in the form of an investment to generate electricity; it need not take into account depreciation on generating machinery, nor wonder if it will have enough money to replace wornout machinery with new equipment.

In fact, the Liberty company is in a decidedly advantageous position financially as compared with a utility that both generates and distributes electricity, for its investment is confined solely to distribution, and the heavy in-

vestment in generating machinery is eliminated.

The fact remains indisputably true that the taxpayers of Richmond did not erect the utility to supply neighboring towns with electricity. The plant was constructed and is maintained to serve Richmond primarily. If there is surplus current and this can be disposed of to distributing companies, the policy should be one of protection for the city first.

## Crime Waves

The Dayton News, commenting upon the many unsolved murders committed in the last six months, scolds the idea that "crimes come in waves" and insists that authorities must make a more intensive study of crime than they ever have previously.

In Chicago, where heinous crimes seem to be the order of the day, the newspapers believe that an abuse of the pardoning and parole powers is partly responsible. They are urging judges and juries to deal harshly with criminals found guilty of attacks on the lives and property of citizens.

If the criminally inclined class are confident of dodging the just reward for their evil-doing and of escaping the full penalty of the law, they wax bold. Housebreakers, yeggmen and stick-up men impertinently go about their work, knowing that they will be able to beat the police in case of capture.

Rigid law enforcement is a mighty deterrent. No crook rejoices over the prospect of a long prison sentence. If he knows that judges are not moved by mawkish sentiment when lawbreakers come before them, the criminal will give the community in which that judge presides a wide berth. Efficient police protection must be backed up by effective action in the court room.

But the crime wave that has swept over the country has not passed by Richmond. Repeated housebreaking jobs and many misdemeanors show that criminals are working in our city. If drastic action is really a curb for the evil-doer, speedy conviction and a heavy penalty imposed upon the first violators should teach others of the same class the folly of persisting in their ways.

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"A shriek, a leap from the bed and blood trickling from his foot told what had happened. He had mistaken his own toes for a tarantula family and had blown one of them to atoms.

"The worst part of it was, it did not happen to be the one with the corn on it."

YOU NEVER KNOW.  
The big happenings of the world, as a rule, are not planned affairs. Many of the details are—most of them, in fact. But the great event itself is a sort of happenstance—taking its cues and course from a combination of things.

As you grow, and learn, and work, it is your "bents" which tell you the way you ought to go. But you never know where they are going to lead you.

It's the mystery back of all possible.

What drives us on.

You never know what time is going to unwrap for you—in fame or fortune. But of this you may well assure yourself; if you keep doing definite things, and keep doing them efficiently and well, and never lose faith, or courage, or your sense of proportion—it won't matter what the big events spell out for you, it will be well worth working and waiting for.

And it never pays to give up—for you never know just WHEN some seemingly small event may be used as a pivot around which all the important subsequent affairs of your life will revolve.

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There are times in the life of every-  
body—whether great or small, poor or  
rich—when everything looks dark.

But you never know what is going

to loom up soon—maybe in great glory

—after the clouds have rolled away!

So "don't give up the ship!" Stand

by your guns. Be patient. Things

take their turn at strange times and

under surprising circumstances.

Your neighbor or best friend may

take little note of you as you go thru

this day. But on some tomorrow the

whole world may want to know all

about you. Because you may be just

the one most needed for some import-  
ant task.

You never know!

## Dinner Stories

The most vivid of the Mexican war correspondents cannot hold a candle to the man who tells this one in the Potter Room:

"Some one had told him about the tarantulas and centipedes, and ever after he was greatly worried. Awak-

enone one bright moonlight night and noticing what he supposed to be a bunch of terrible tarantulas perched on the footboard of his bed, he grabbed his gun, took deliberate aim and fired.

"A shriek, a leap from the bed and blood trickling from his foot told what had happened. He had mistaken his own toes for a tarantula family and had blown one of them to atoms.

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