

Among Men who Work with Hand or Brain

CHOPPERS WIN IN BIG GAME

No Places for Whittlers
By R. C. Brown

ONCE there was a man and he died his life away and he died. Now, they say, he is working overtime making pitchforks to make up for what he didn't do here.

Idler Busy Doing Nothing.

An idler is a man who counts the ink blots on his blotter in his spare time, and his spare time is all the time. You can tell one a mile away, if there is a telegraph pole in the vicinity, for he either will be leaning up against the pole or whittling at it with the duller blade of his knife.

Success Impossible for Whittler.

But Chicago's no place for you if you are an idler. We don't do it here, you know. When we catch a man lying on the sandy shores of Lake Michigan we either put him in the lake, put him to work, put him out of the city, or put him into the cooler. Of course it's impossible to use this same scheme with the men in the offices, but if we did, if we weeded out all of our office idlers, the jail would be full and the population of Chicago would be reduced perceptibly.

WIRE TAPPER ONLY A GHOST

Easy Fake to Catch "Rubes"
By Weber S. Loudock

EVERY little while lately somebody goes to the police in Chicago or in New York—the only two cities in the country where the industry flourishes with any success—and complains that he has lost money through having listened to the siren songs of wire tappers. Yet if a reward of \$10,000 were offered for the production of any one man in the United States who could accomplish one half the feats which these victims of "wire tappers" say they often claim to be able to perform no one would appear to claim the reward.

Just a Confidence Game.

It will help a great deal to the understanding of this question of "wire tapping," about which there is so much talk, but of which there is really so little understood, if it is known that there are no wires tapped at any time, and that the whole thing is a confidence game, and that no matter how gloriously the hook is baited, it can be nothing except a hook.

Opposition to Trousers.

The modern custom of wearing trousers was taken from the military dress introduced into the army by the Duke of Wellington during the Peninsular war.



WELL DIGGERS FACE PERILS

Dodge Death in Deep Pits
By Joseph Gokle

"HAVE" says the man in the well. And then the man at the top heaves. And he does this as often as there is material at the bottom to fill the bucket; which is no bucket at all, but only a box more or less strong. All the boxes I have ever seen were more or less constitutionally weak.

Flaw in Rigging Endangers Worker.

The ropes around the box formed handles, after the manner of the old-fashioned carpet bag, and were attached to the well rope with a double hitch. The well rope, in turn, attached to the windlass by some wire nails, driven one-half or three-quarter ways in, and then bent over and pounded down. The weight of rope and bucket never came on these nails directly. The man at the top, who elevated the filled bucket by winding its rope on a windlass, was always to remember to stop one turn at least from the nailed end. If the rope became too long, a new and longer rope was procured.

Man at Top's Work Not Difficult.

Then, if the man at the top is strong and glib in his strength, he gathers up the bucket in his arms, and so carries it to the dump. Otherwise the bucket is dragged, usually on a plank leading to the dump.

Careful Preparations for Blasting.

Perhaps he says other things, too, but he has to be careful. He has to be sure that the dynamite is safe, though when you see nitroglycerin oozing out from the stick and floating on top of the water like grease in good rich soup, you sometimes wonder if the sides of the old kettle will ever get hot enough to set it off, and you don't finish the reflection, "Bucket!" sings out the man in the well.

Saloon Business is Cash Bills are Too Hard to Collect

By George H. Manlove

SALOONS come nearest to doing a cash business of any institutions. Getting a drink "on tick" is repugnant to most men, and the "slate" nowadays practically is non-existent. It may be all right to "hang up" the butcher, the baker, and all the rest, but drinks usually are for cash over the bar.

Saloon Debts are Bad.

It is hard to collect a debt contracted for drinks. The courts feel that judgment given for liquor sold for drink, if there is a possibility of hurting the family of the debtor, is a bad judgment to give, and saloonkeepers find it is considerable work to collect such debts.

RUSH YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Big Men Had Small Starts
By John A. Morris

SPEAKING of being alive to opportunities," said "Philosopher Phil" to a crowd of loungers in Grant park, "reminds me of how a Chicago boy got a job in that city several years ago. He had applied at many places where he thought boys might be wanted, but 'No' always had been the answer. On his way home he stopped on a side street where a crowd was trying to look into the window of a gayly decorated store. Happening to gaze upward he saw a boy about his own age and size leaning far out of a fifth-story window curiously inspecting the crowd below and trying to see what was going on.

Runs for Dying Man's Job.

"Without waiting to view the mangled remains, this Chicago 'kid' marked the place with his eye, took the elevator and was soon on the fifth floor. "Arriving at the proper place he inquired for the manager. Being told the manager was busy the boy said he'd wait awhile.

Greek Savants Rose From Labor.

"Heaven helps those who help themselves," is a saying old and true," ventured another man. "For instance, there was Plautus, the Greek poet, who at one time being reduced from competency to the bitter and most degraded poverty at last hired himself out to a baker as a common laborer and while grinding corn exercised his mind in study. The same may be said of Menelaus, the sculptor, two Greek philosophers, who were both so poor that at one time they hired themselves out as bricklayers' laborers and were employed carrying mortar to the tops of buildings.

Cleanthes Began With 62 Cents.

"Cleanthes, a native of Lydia, went to Athens as a wrestler about 390 B. C. and acquiring a taste for philosophy he put himself under the tuition of Zeno, although he had only 62 cents. Unable to attend the schools of philosophy in the daytime, he drew water at night as a patent medicine decoy.

Sends Makings of Quake Into Earth.

And then the man at the top puts everything for the blast into the bucket and forgets nothing—not even the "dumplings" that were warming in the "soup." As he facetiously refers to the powder. But though he forgets nothing, the man below makes believe he does, and yells ever so distinctly: "And—don't—forget—the—P-O-W-D-E-R!"

Some Hints From the "Barkeep."

Saloons have signs displayed often to discourage the asking of credit.

Too Many Quail in Colorado.

These are a few of the gentle ways adopted to ward off asking for credit, and now and then some wags saloon-keeper evolves some new and striking formula with the end in view of discouraging the touch.

Commercial End of the Business.

I looked at Kendale Kemical Company and launched my story. I told him about my experience with the theoretical end of the business.

Ben Johnson, who worked at the building of Lincoln's Inn with a trowel in his hand and a book in his pocket. Hugh Miller, the geologist; Allan Cunningham, the sculptor and writer, and Edwards and Telford, the engineers, were all originally masons, and a list of names of some distinguished practitioners might be mentioned: Inigo Jones, the architect; Harrison, the chronometer-maker; John Bull, the physiologist; Professor Lee, the orientalist; John Gibson, the sculptor; and Romney and Opie, the painters.

America Offers Examples.

"Abraham Lincoln, as you probably know, was a rail-splitter and General U. S. Grant was a tanner. Andrew Johnson, one of the presidents of the United States, was a tailor, and so ignorant was he that he did not know how to read or write until after he reached manhood, when he was taught by the woman who afterward became his wife. One of the prominent members of the English parliament at one time was a bootblack in London.

Small Wages Laid to Fortunes.

"Collis P. Huntington first started out in life as a peddler of butter and eggs, selling them for whatever he could get. John Wanamaker's first salary was \$1.25 a week as an errand boy in a store, while George W. Childs, the well-known proprietor of the Public Ledger of Philadelphia, before he died, started in life as an errand boy for a Philadelphia bookseller at \$4 a month. Andrew Carnegie did his first work in a Pittsburgh telegraph office at \$3 a week. A. T. Stewart made his first start in life as a school teacher. "Lucky Baldwin's father was an Indiana farmer, and here was where the boy first learned the value of work. "Whitney Rogers was a correspondent on a Cincinnati newspaper at \$5 a week. Richard Harding Davis, the story writer, started as a reporter on the Philadelphia Press at \$7 a week, and John D. Rockefeller, the richest man in the world today, was a farmer's son in Tioga county, New York.

EASIEST JOB IN THE WORLD

Being a Drug Faker's Decoy
By Dow G. Congdon

H ERE'S the easiest job on earth. Be a patent medicine decoy. It's a job as old as the hills. I once had an aspiration to become a chemist—chemist, not a pill roller, mind you. This aspiration may have been born from a desire to go to college and do nothing else. Any one can get into a college to study pharmacy—it is not necessary to be a high school graduate. I had spent parts of five years—all but the springtime—in a high school, but didn't have a sheepskin.

Just Be Sick Some More.

"But I don't know Dr. F. well enough to ask him for his favorite prescription for kidney trouble," I interposed. "Fish, fish, you weary me. You told me you had been sick."

Best Oil for Roads.

A recent test of oils for road making in Kansas showed that the residuum from the refinery was superior to any of the crude oils, one gallon of the residuum being equal to two to four of crude oil.

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