NATURAL GAS MEN BEHOLD DANGER

In Convention They Discuss Conservation of Their Supplies—Liquid Gas a Success—Seeking the Firefly's Secret.

There is a benevolent society that just grew up. The initiation fee is one kind deed. The officers do not draw salaries. Unfortunates qualify as beneficiaries merely by being unfortunate. This society is a cheer up aggregation that has branches in all states and does good everywhere its name is known. It is called the Sunshine society. Mr. Haskin will tell a whole lot of things about this society, tomorrow.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

(Copyright 1909 by Frederic J. Haskin.)

Washington, May 20.—The Natural Gas Association of America is in session at Columbus, Ohio. It is considering some interesting matters in connection with the husbanding of the natural gas supply of the country. Like all other great national resources, the supply was once regarded as inexhaustible, but many miles of empty gas mains, and many exhausted gushers tell a mute story of the first national resource to approach exhaustion through the prodigality of the people rather than through its use. The day was in Indiana when it was cheaper to leave a gas jet burning than to strike a match the next time it was desired to light it. But in the very capital city of that state itself a great gas company went to pieces because it no longer had gas to flow through its hundreds of miles of mains and its thousands of house connections. As if to emphasize the irony of fate a new company has acquired the idle property and will attempt to give that city 60 cent artificial gas. The big gas manufacturers of the country claim that they cannot do it. The gas trade journals are in an "I told you so" mood of expectation over it. But the public will hope and pray that it can make good, as it is admitted that if it does, 60 cent gas is a possibility in every city of a 100,000 inhabitants.

More Natural Gas Used.

But with all the untold millions of feet of natural gas that have been used, and the other untold millions that have been wasted, there is still more than double as much natural gas used in the United States as there is artificial gas. The geological survey places the annual amount of the natural product used at over 400,000,000,000 feet. Add to this the 200,000,000,000 cubic feet of artificial gas used, and it would take a gigantic gas tank two miles in diameter and more than a mile high to hold it.

It is estimated that even today, after the note of alarm over the prospective depletion of the natural gas supply has been sounded, the annual waste of natural gas in the United States amounts to the enormous total of a billion cubic feet. One well in Kentucky is said to have wasted, at current prices $3,000,000 worth of natural gas a year for 20 consecutive years. Some wells have a flow of gas as high as 70,000,000 cubic feet a day. The heating capacity of that amount of gas is equivalent to that of 70,000 bushels of coal or 12,000 barrels of oil. With the production of natural gas amounting to over 1,000,000,000 feet per day, it will be seen that the daily output is equivalent to more than 1,000,000 bushels of coal.

The Perfect Fuel.

Natural gas is the most perfect fuel and lighting agent known to man, and yet even it cannot show the economical operation that is shown by a common insect. When Solomon bade the sluggard to go to the ant, consider her ways and be wise, he little thought that the scientists some 30 centuries later would be called upon to bid the lighting experts of the world to go to the firefly and consider its ways. But such is his to do. The firefly and the glow worm possess secrets of light making that make man's feeble effort at producing cheap light look like a tallow candle in the noonday sun. If man could produce light with as little expenditure of heat as the firefly does, the gas bill that is now $4 would be 1 cent.

Secret of the Firefly.

The first great thinker to investigate the firefly and the glow worm in an endeavor to learn their light producing secrets, was Professor Young. He came to the early conclusion that the firefly was in a class all by itself. His investigations attracted the attention of that great student of deep things, Professor Langley, for so long secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. He brought into play his bolometer—an instrument which will measure the heat from the farthest star with the accuracy that a registered thermometer will measure the heat of a room. It showed him that the firefly can produce a given amount of light four hundred times as economically as man can.

The firefly has the gift of luminescence, light without heat. Man can produce light only by incandescence—light with heat. It is said that a fortune awaits the man who will give the world a practicable luminescent lamp. It is true that such a lamp may be made by the use of radium, but that article is so rare that the interest on the money required to buy enough radium to make a light of one candle-power would convert it into a most costly lighting agent. It is said that 90 per cent of the energy men use in generating light is mere waste.

Liquid Gas Discovery.

It is said that in the manufacture of artificial gas the public pays just about three times the cost of the raw material from which it is made. There has been much talk about the harmful effect of water gas, and the dangers attendant upon its use, but the geological survey figures show that nearly two thirds of the artificial gas used in the United States is water gas.

The latest idea in gas production is liquid gas. A process has been discovered whereby gas can be liquefied under pressure, and it will lend itself admirably to the needs of the isolated home or place of business. It can be sold more cheaply than oil, and is said to give all the advantages of gas, without the use of mains and pipes. It is hardly probable that the new gas will come into general use in this country or Canada, but it is meeting favor in Germany.

About the Slot Meter.

Opinion is sharply divided over the prepaid meter system of gas using. It has been found to result in a great number of installations, but when a man buys it a quarter at a time he becomes more careful about his gas bill, with the result that his new economy almost, or quite, counterbalances the added sales for new installations. Recently Atlanta was infested with gas meter robbers. In a single month more than 200 meters were robbed of the deposited coins. The loss fell on the users and not on the company which furnished the gas. Steps have been taken to prevent future robberies.

The public has always claimed that the meters run too fast. Some light was recently thrown on that subject by a test in New York. The meters that were complained of during a given period were taken out and tested by the public utilities commission. The result showed that 53 per cent were too fast, and that while the total amount of gas charged for was considerably in excess of that actually used, when those which ran too slow were taken into consideration it was found that the gas company was not much ahead after all.

New York's 80-Cent Gas.

New York makes and uses over one fourth of all the artificial gas used in the United States. Thirty-nine billion cubic feet a year, according to the public utilities commission, is the annual production. Stored in a gaspipe 16 feet square it would entirely circle the globe. Even the meters in use in that city would make a solid row from New York to Washington. The greatest amount of money ever refunded to consumers of any kind in a single week was the $530,000 refunded to the users of gas under the 80-cent gas decision of the supreme court. The Consolidated Gas company had been charging a dollar. The New York authorities fixed the rate at 80 cents. The gas company got out an injunction, and the difference between the rates was held in trust until the final adjudication of the matter. It was decided in favor of the consumer, who, as a result, got back over a half million dollars in six days.

Gas Fixtures.

The manufacture of gas fixtures of all kinds is an important industry in the United States, and often the manufacturer, has his ability taxed to turn out the special orders that are made on him. Recently the Illinois Steel company ordered four gas meters. These four meters were to be able to measure a greater flow of gas than required to supply the whole city of Philadelphia, and six times as much as is required to supply a city like Baltimore. But the manufacturer was equal to the occasion, and turned out the four biggest gas meters in the world. It is said that they are as accurate as they are large.

Gas and Electricity.

Artificial gas for illuminating purposes was first used about 1802, though it never reached a commercial scale until about 1810. It thereafter grew in favor, and even the electric light could not outshine it in the estimation of the average householder. While electricity has largely driven gas out of the office building and the large manufacturing establishment where light is needed, gas is still the favorite lighting agent in the urban home, and bids fair to remain so. Usually the large commercial buildings have big heating plants, and they can produce electricity as a by-product of the heating plant, thereby making it far cheaper than to buy gas. About 1000 gas companies are said to be doing business in the United States, as compared with 4000 electric central stations. There are 100,000 electricians in the United States, and not more than one fourth as many gas experts, most of whom are men who graduated from the school of experience.

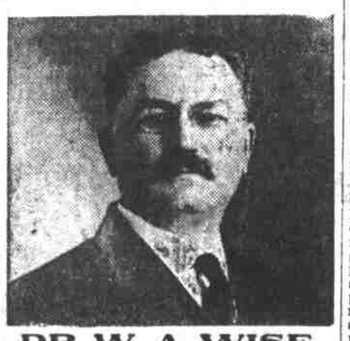
Price Voluntarily Reduced.

The action of the Washington Gas company in reducing its rate for gas to 90 cents is an illustration of the new spirit which is coming over corporations everywhere. It saw that public sentiment was for cheaper gas, and that congress was in a mood to act in that direction. Rather than yield only when it had to, and rather than take the risk of even a lower rate by legislative action, the gas company elected to voluntarily reduce the price to 90 cents. There were indications that a good bit of the time of congress would be taken up in the consideration of this one local question. The whole country will probably rejoice that congress will not have to devote its energies to the Washington gas question next winter, but will have that time to devote to more pressing national matters.

This is the best time of the year to have your teeth extracted if such is the necessity and have

PLATE OR BRIDGE WORK

Done as there is less trouble from sore gums or other troubles.



DR. W. A. WISE
President and Manager.
22 Years Established in Portland

We will give you a good 22k gold or porcelain crown for	$ 3.50
Molar Crowns	5.00
22k bridge teeth	3.00
Gold or enamel fillings	1.00
Silver fillings	.50
Inlay fillings of all kinds	2.50
Good rubber plates	5.00
The best red rubber plates	7.50
Painless extractions	.50

Painless extractions free when plates or bridge work is ordered.

Work guaranteed for 15 years.

THE WISE DENTAL CO., Inc.
The Failing Bldg., 3d and Wash. Sts.
Office hours—8 A. M. to 8 P. M.
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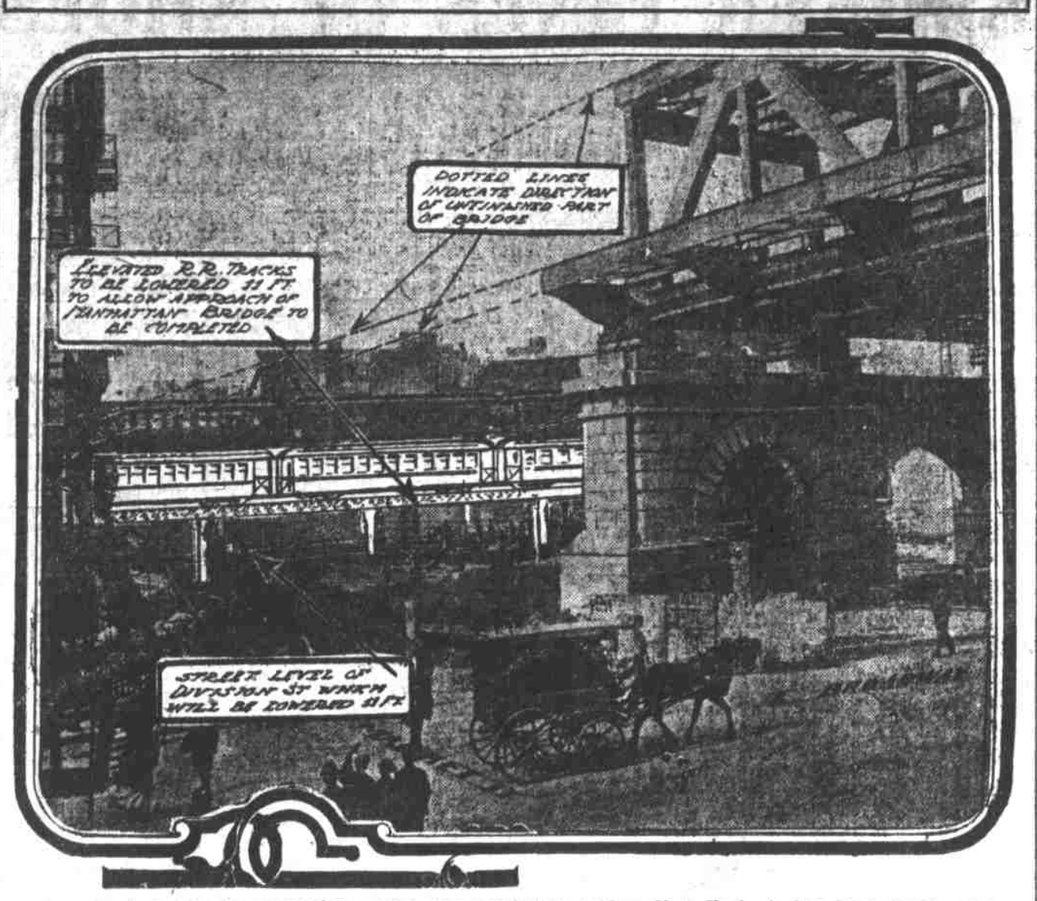
BUILDING APPROACHES TO GREAT BRIDGE



In order to build the approaches of the new Manhattan bridge, New York, it has been found necessary to lower the track of the Second avenue "L" structure in Division street. In some places the tracks will be lowered as much as 11 feet. Photo-diagram shows how the work will be done.

HUNDRED AMERICAN PILGRIMS FOR ROME

New York, May 20.—Pilgrims to Rome, 100 Catholics, clergy and laymen, sailed today on the steamer Carpathia for Naples. The pilgrims are going to Rome to take part in the celebration next month of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the American college in Rome. Three fourths of the tourists are alumni of the college.

Rev. Dr. Maher, of South Norwalk, Conn., is the spiritual director of the party. In Rome Monsignor Kennedy, rector of the American college, with the assistance of Cardinal Merry Del Val, has arranged that the Americans shall have a long audience with the pope, and may inspect the beautiful gardens of the Vatican. A purse of $5000 in gold will be presented to the pontiff in the name of the alumni association.

AGED WOMAN, INJURED, UNCONSCIOUS 4 DAYS

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Alameda, Cal., May 20.—With her body covered with lacerations and bruises and a great gash in her head, Mrs. Charles Westlinder, 70 years of age, lies in a stupor at the White Cross hospital. She is not expected to live. She was caretaker for a house belonging to N. Quist. Yesterday she was found by neighbors lying unconscious in a pool of blood at the foot of a staircase. It is thought she lay there four days. Twice within the past month supposed incendiary attempts were made to burn the house. Whether the aged woman was attacked by the firebugs or sustained her injuries from a fall down the stairs is the problem the police are trying to solve.

Most disfiguring skin eruptions, scrofula, pimples, rashes, etc., are due to impure blood. Burdock Blood Bitters is a cleansing blood tonic. Makes you clear-eyed, clear-brained, clear-skinned.

Itching piles provoke profanity, but profanity won't cure them. Doan's Ointment cures itching, bleeding or protruding piles after years of suffering. At any drug store.

If you haven't the time to exercise regularly, Doan's Regulets will prevent constipation. They induce a mild, easy, healthful action of the bowels without griping. Ask your druggist for them. 25c.

Stops earache in two minutes; toothache or pain of burn or scald in five minutes; hoarseness, one hour; muscleache, two hours; sore throat, twelve hours—Dr. Thomas Eclectric Oil, monarch over pain.

MONUMENT TO DR. WITHERSPOON

Famed as Princeton President and Signer of Declaration.

Washington, May 20.—The memory of Dr. John Witherspoon, the famous Scotch divine who became president of Princeton college and was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was honored this afternoon, when a bronze likeness of him by William Couper, the New York sculptor, was unveiled in the square formed by the junction of Connecticut avenue, Eighteenth and N streets.

The unveiling was accompanied with interesting cermonies. The principal speakers were James Bryce, British ambasssador, and Dr. Woodrow Wilson, president of Princeton unversity. Other participants included Rev. Jere Witherspoon, D. D., of Richmond, Va., Rev. William A. Wood of Gettysburg, and John Witherspoon Withers, son of Professor Withers of the Agricultural college of North Carolina, all of whom are direct descendants of Dr. Witherspoon.

Dr. John Witherspoon was born in Scotland in 1722. He became a minister and preached at Paisley until called to the presidency of Princeton, then known as the College of New Jersey, in 1768. When chosen as one of New Jersey's representatives to the Continental Congress, he accepted the position, and by his eloquence and patriotism did much to hold New Jersey true to the American cause. During his six years' service in the congress he continued his presidency of the university, resigning on account of ill health. He died near Princeton, September 15, 1794.

LOSES CONTRACT IN LAST MINUTE

A. G. Long May Have More Competition When Bidding on Fire Engines.

A. G. Long will not get a contract for two fire engines which he had all but sold to the city. The executive board recommended that the contract be let to Long but Mayor Lane yesterday refused to sign it. He gave his reasons for his refusal, at the meeting of the fire committee, of the executive board, in the afternoon.

The mayor says he has assured himself that the specifications for fire engines were so drawn that no other company but Long's could compete. Fire Chief Campbell drew the specifications. He had been warned by the mayor a year ago to make the specifications so broad that all companies could bid, but on examination Dr. Lane found that his instructions had not been followed.

Numerous complaints have been made to the mayor by agents of other companies, and last week Fred A. Wood charged in a letter that the fire department has openly discriminated in favor of the local representative of the American La France fire engines, A. G. Long.

An investigation of this charge will be instituted tomorrow afternoon by the fire committee, which will also conclude an inquiry begun last year into charges by eastern hydrant makers that Fire Chief Campbell and Acting Master Mechanic Walter J. Phillips had discriminated against them in favor of a local hydrant.

The position of master mechanic is being filled temporarily by Phillips, and his permanent appointment to the position has been withheld by the fire committee even though he has been highly recommended by the fire chief. Charges of graft made against Phillips are yet to be investigated. It was shown in a previous investigation that Phillips had signed a contract by which he was to receive 25 cents for every hydrant of a local pattern which should be accepted by the fire department.

There are five eligibles on the civil service lists for the position of master mechanic but the committee would not recommend any one of these yesterday. Mayor Lane says the tests required by the commission are not adequate.

NEWSPAPER MEN WILL BE GIVEN GOOD TIME

At a meeting of the newspaper men of Portland, held yesterday in the convention room of the Commercial club, it was decided to entertain the representatives of the Chicago press who are to visit Portland during the Rose Festival.

A committee composed of James S. Tyler of the Journal, Paul Kelty of the Oregonian, Monroe Goldstein of the Telegram, Fred Bell of the United Press, and S. B. Vincent of the Associated Press, was appointed to outline plans for the entertainment of the visitors.

Word has been sent that a delegation of Chicago newspaper men, headed by Richard Little, president of the Chicago Press club, will visit Portland during the Rose Festival.

WIFE NO. 4 STANDS BY ALLEGED BIGAMIST

New York, May 20.—Samuel Wellington, an elderly man, said to own considerable property in Los Angeles, is under $1000 bonds to answer to the grand jury on a charge of bigamy. He is said to have had four wives. Wife No. 4, Florence Cushman Wellington, who was a young manicurist at the Hoffman house, is standing loyally by her husband in his trouble.

A HAPPY FATHER

is soon turned to a sad one if he has to walk the floor every night with a crying baby. McGee's Baby Elixir will make the child well—soothe its nerves, induce healthy, normal slumber. Best for disordered bowels and sour stomach—all teething babies need it. Pleasant to take, sure, and safe, contains no harmful drugs. Price, 25c and 50c per bottle. Sold by Skidmore Drug Co.

A. B. Steinbach & Co.

No matter what your preference in headwear may be you will find it here

"BROOK HATS"

The Peer of All $3 Hats

One hundred different styles and colors to choose from; either contrasting or matched bands

BROOK
ESPECIALLY MADE FOR
A. B. STEINBACH & CO.

Sole Agent for Youmans Derby, Silk and Opera Hats

THE BEE HIVE
LABOWITCH BROS. 169-171-173 THIRD ST., Bet. Morrison and Yamhill

THE BEE HIVE'S 3-DAY BARGAIN CARNIVAL

This is an extraordinary announcement. Every one of the following items represents a big saving to you. Friday, Saturday and Monday will be three days of intense shopping activity. Bear in mind that this sale comprises only new, crisp merchandise, seasonable and perfect.

20c-25c Ladies' Summer Vests at 12½c

25 dozen Swiss rib'd Vests, of fine white cotton; low neck, sleeveless; neatly finished with lace yoke, all sizes; values to 25c, sale price

12½c

Long Silk Gloves, Lowest Prices Ever Quoted

Values to $1.75, now 79¢. The $1.75 Kaysers, best Milanese silk, double finger tips, 16 button length gloves, all colors and all sizes, are offered only at this store at the unheard price of pair.

79c

$1 WOMEN'S MUSLIN DRAWERS NOW 50¢
300 pair of fine Muslin Drawers, elaborately trimmed with 7-inch Hamburg embroidered ruffle and 5 neat tucks; always sold at $1, now at, pair..... 50c

$2.00 WHITE PETTICOATS NOW 98¢
10 dozen White Muslin Petticoats, elaborately trimmed with laces and embroidery, made of good quality muslin, neatly finished, all sizes—they are values up to $2. Sale price only, each 98c

$2.00 MUSLIN GOWNS NOW 98¢
Beautiful Gowns, elaborately trimmed with embroidery and laces, all the latest models and all sizes; they are values up to $2, and are offered during this sale only at 98c

"AUFELTUF" Boys' and Girls' Stockings

Reg. 25c values now 15¢ pair—Stop your darning — Aufeltuf Stockings for boys and girls, are made with triple knees, double heels and toes and are fast black; will wear better than any 25c stocking, all sizes, and usually sold for 25c, but are offered during this sale only at

15c Pair

Girls' Lace Lisle Stockings

Genuine 25c kinds now 3 pair 50¢—Here's where you get three pair of fine stockings at the price of two. These are fast black lace lisle hose in pretty openwork patterns, all sizes, genuine 25c kinds, now 3 pair for

3 Pairs 50c

New American Lady Corsets

$2 and $2.50 values now $1.25—Special Corset bargain this week of the popular American Lady Corsets, in all styles and lengths to suit the various figures; they are made of best Diamond cloths, Batistes and Coutils with hose supporters attached; they are neatly trimmed with fine laces and boned with rust proof stays, all sizes; regular values $2 and $2.25, and offered this week only at

$1.25 Pair

Auto Scarfs at 79c

They are values to $2—Two hundred fine Silk and Chiffon Cloth Auto Scarfs, made 52 inches long with hemstitched ends; they may be had in black, white, pink, blue and fancy floral effects; this lot is offered while they last; $2 Auto Scarfs..... 79c

1000 Lingerie & Lawn Waists Greatly Underpriced

Values to $2.50 now 98¢—Here's the best waist bargain ever offered for 98c—1000 regular $2 and $2.50 waists, made of fine batistes, lawns and lingerie cloths, richly trimmed with laces and solid embroidery fronts in numerous different ways; many sample waists of which there are only two or three of a kind. Hundreds of waists that are exact duplicates of other stores' $2 and $2.50 kinds. These waists are both button back and front styles with newest long and medium sleeves. Your choice of these grand waists for this week only

98c

Women's Fancy Hosiery

85c values now 12½¢ pair—Sixty dozen Women's Fancy Stockings, in plain and lace effects, some in tan, black and fancy patterns, others in plain black, tan and Maco feet, all perfect goods and an excellent assortment to choose from. Your choice while they last

12½c Pr.

$2.50 Hydegrade Heathbloom Petticoats, $1.44

Genuine Hydegrade Petticoats, label on every one; they are elaborately trimmed with two fancy embroidered ruffles and dust ruffles, looks like silk but wears longer in full flare style; regular $2.50 kinds. This week's sale only

$1.44

Skirt Values That Are Unusual

$5 Skirts, $2.98

We've planned a sale in our Skirt Dpartment that is unusual. Pretty skirts that are made of fine quality luster Mohair, Panamas, etc., in all the leading shades and black. The colors, styles and finish are unmatchable. Take advantage of this bargain and get a $5 skirt for

$2.98

All Tailored Hats at Cost