SUPPLEMENT

The Evening Chronicle

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STEADY PROGRESS OF THE INDIANS

Much Has Been Accomplished by Commissioner Leupp —He Has Found Help in Congress and Has Secured Passage of Many Helpful Measures— The Red Man Has Been Taught to Work —A Bit of Roosevelt Policy Applied to Him—Some Leupp Reforms.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 20.—Francis E. Leupp, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, sent his resignation to President Taft and later withdrew it, by request of the President. This is not an unusual proceeding upon the incoming of a new President, but the circumstances in this case are such as to make it noteworthy. Commissioner Leupp has desired for some months to be relieved of the cares of office, because of ill health, and the request of the President merely postpones for a few months his eventual retirement; but the reason back of the request is that the President does not want to fill the position hastily or with any person not in sympathy with the general line of policies initiated and executed with such signal success by the outgoing commissioner.

The admiration of Commissioner Leupp is noteworthy in so many particulars that a newspaper letter forms a poor vehicle for discussion of all the questions which it might be profitable to review. Like all incumbents of this delicate office, Mr. Leupp has met with his share of popular criticism in the performance of his duties, and some of this has come from sources where less is known of the intricacies of the Indian question than in the office of the commissioner. It has been honest criticism, however, and as such is respected; although so far much of it has failed to impress President Roosevelt or his successor with its value.

The essence of the Leupp policy has been that the Indian is to be regarded very much like any other human being; demanding certain peculiarities of treatment, of course, but less than some persons have imagined. If the ultimate solution of the "Indian problem"—unlike that of the negro—is to be assimilation with the white race, it follows obviously enough that the natural and proper policy in dealing with him is to fit him for such association. The Indian absorbs rather than imitates—in fact, unlike the negro, he scorns imitation and is tenacious of his own ways. To teach through absorption, by example so unconsciously exercised that the Indian himself, while comprehending it, is given no occasion to resent it has been the governing thought in some of the most important phases of Indian work.

Shelton's Experiment.

An illustration of what is meant may be cited in the experience of one of the ablest—and most criticised—of the Indian agents in the Southwest, William P. Shelton, who was one of the speakers at the last Mohawk conference. One of the tasks of the agents at reservation centres is the construction of homes for the Indians. Instead of trying to supply them with the best that could be erected, Mr. Shelton has deliberately pursued the policy of building cottages of local materials, like adobe, which are only a shade better than those constructed by the Indians themselves. They contain one or two minor improvements, but otherwise are hardly distinguishable from the ancestral dwellings of their occupants. The result in practice has been that the Indians have not been shocked by innovations which they thought were being forced upon them by the white men, while the improvements suggested in the new houses have been within their comprehension. When they built for themselves, they almost invariably followed the new design. The next step, of course, will carry them further.

Another striking illustration of the value of teaching through knowledge of Indian nature is furnished by another agent, who wanted three men to come to the agency to live as assistant farmers. They demurred, saying that they did not want to live as white men.

"Then come and live as Indians," said the agent.

"But we do not want to leave our wives and children," argued the Indians.

"Bring them along with you," suggested the agent. But the Indians were still unwilling.

"We do not want to eat off tables and use cups and spoons," persisted the red men.

"Come along and eat in the Indian way," suggested the agent.

The Indians came and occupied three old shacks which the agent was about to tear down when the idea of returning the Indians came to him. Within a year, in their white environment, they were eating off tables, using cups and saucers and otherwise imitating the white life around them.

Leupp Thinks Well of Congress.

One of the most gratifying experiences of Commissioner Leupp has been that with the members of Congress. It annihilates at one swoop the old idea, still too prevalent, that "Congress is out to do the Indian." He has had from the first of his administration the heartiest co-operation of the Indian committees of both Senate and House, and has proved to his complete satisfaction that all Congress needs to legislate wisely for the Indian is the advice of men in whose judgment and experience the members have confidence. One of the first acts of his administration was to abolish a system of long standing which in itself constituted the most outrageous and unwarrantable reflection upon Congressmen. This was the practice whereby the Indians had been accustomed to hire private local attorneys, most of them shysters, to obtain for them patents in fee for their land when they desired to exchange their original limited patents. The inference of this system was that these lawyers, by the use of a little money and "influence" in Washington, were able to get from the Department documents and concessions which the Indians could not get otherwise. Mr. Leupp removed this continual source of suspicion toward members from the Indian States by substituting direct negotiation with the Department, which recognized the plain rights of the Indians, without the necessity of an intermediary.

A Reversal of Policy.

He reversed also the former policy which kept white man out of the Indian reservations and confined the Indians to them. He encouraged reputable white farmers to take up lands among the Indians and the Indians to work outside, and thus learn the value of a dollar. The plan has worked well. It has given the Indian the education he could not otherwise obtain and instructed him in the ways of the white man without appearing to do so.

The law against the illicit traffic was a dead letter when Mr. Leupp took charge of the Indian Bureau four years ago. He at once placed its enforcement in the hands of William E. Johnson, a "character" upon whom he could depend, and soon the wires between the Indian region and Washington were hot with complaint. Johnson's reports to the department "would make your hair stand on end," as one Senator expressed it, and one of the reports finally got to President Roosevelt, along with a howling complaint.

"I don't know this man Johnson, or what he is doing," wrote Roosevelt to the commissioner. "You had better look into this and see what there is to it."

"I know him," wrote Leupp, in reply. "He is doing in the Indian country just what you are doing all over the country—making bad people obey the law."

"Tell him to keep at it," came back like a flash from the White House.

Congress now understands how valuable is this work among the Indians, and how well it is being done, and the appropriations to carry it on have increased steadily from $10,000 to $50,000 a year.

Indians Raising Egyptian Cotton.

One of the most important of the agricultural experiments made by the Indian commissioner came about in an odd way. Some people in the Southwest wanted to put through what Commissioner Leupp regarded as an impossible irrigation scheme, which would cost the government about $2,500,000. The water obtained from pumping would be useless for farming purposes, they said, as it was alkaline.

"We don't know about that," said Leupp. "Let us first find out whether that water is good for anything or not."

He then hitched up with the Department of Agriculture and found an enthusiastic sympathizer in Professor Swingle, of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Certain tracts on the reservation were laid out for experimental purposes, the exploration branch supplied the seeds, the department sent down a scientist and the Indian Commissioner furnished a local farmer and Indian laborer, besides installing a pumping plant. This was only about a year ago, and to-day, that land is producing the best Egyptian cotton used in the United States and the best Bermuda onions in the country, besides producing them in larger quantities than anywhere else. Commissioner Leupp believes that here is the making of one of the most important developments of the cotton industry since the invention of the cotton gin, and that before long the cotton manufacturers of New England will be investigating this new source of supply. The man who gets in first will make the most money, too. The new farming industries thus produced, with "impossible" water upon "impossible" soil, bid fair to give extensive and congenial employment to the Indians, and to enrich white men from the hoe to the dry goods counter.

The By-a-lil-le Case.

Starting with the idea that the Indian question is a human and not a race question, the Indian Commissioner has followed undeviatingly the policy he marked out for himself. Nor has he wavered under the bitter criticisms launched against some of the most worthy of his official acts. The so-called By-a-lil-le case, in which the critics rely upon a judicial decision of 1878, is not yet settled, but Mr. Leupp awaits the outcome with great equanimity. This was a case in which certain riotous Navahoes were arrested for depredations upon the persons and property of certain peaceful Indians. They were taken by United States cavalry, by order of the commissioner, and are now confined in Fort Huachuca. Their leader, By-a-lil-le, was a "medicine man," and accustomed to boast to his people that if the government sent troops after him he would make medicine and strike them blind and send poisoned darts into them. The Indians fired upon the troops, thus making them "hostile," and were to be sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. Commissioner Leupp insisted upon indeterminate sentences, however, on the theory that the purpose of the governemnt in causing the arrests was only to make the hostiles understand that they must behave themselves, and that as soon as they were convinced of this they might go free. With the legal and other questions involved readers are familiar through repeated discussions in the press; but the principle followed by Mr. Leupp in these prosecutions is the same that has underlain his whole policy—that the Indian should be treated like any other human being. The United States District Court of Arizona already has decided in favor of the commissioner's contention in the case. The question will now be decided by the full bench of the Territorial Court of Appeals. The question at issue, as Mr. Leupp understands it, is whether the same legal rule applies to Indians who lead peaceful lives as to Indians who are in a state of hostility. The Standing Bar decision recognized Indians as "persons" within the meaning of the law, with the right to go where they pleased; but the case was tried in another jurisdiction and under wholly different circumstances; for the Indians tried in the Standing Bear case were peaceably making their way back from the Southwest to the homes in South Dakota from which they had been cruelly but legally ejected.

Several Leupp Reforms.

The Leupp policy in dealing with the Indian has been the broad one of letting him alone as to his habits as an individual, except protecting him by simple rules intended to keep him out of trouble with the white race. These rules relate chiefly to the decencies of attire, food and drink and to sanitation. He has tried to influence him by reason, yet avoiding suggestions which would be beyond comprehension. "The Indian absorbs," says Commissioner Leupp, "but he cannot be driven."

The establishment of an Indian labor bureau, on the theory to which reference has been made, was one of the first acts of the Leupp administration. In the suppression of the liquor traffic the commissioner has had to contend with a decision of the United States Supreme Court that liquor could be sold or given to an Indian without incurring the penalties of the law, but Congress has approved the campaign of Mr. Leupp by voting him increased appropriations for this purpose. Trade with the Indians has been opened up, the commissioner believing that progress lay in accustoming the Indians to take care of themselves in bargaining, combined with rigorous investigation of suspicious white tradesmen. Indian art and industry has been encouraged by inducing some traders to pay better prices for well made than for careless and inartistic Indian products, like blankets, mats, baskets and wood carvings. Important changes in the financial relations between the Indians and the government have been made, each tending to advance the status of the red man as an individual.

The attitude of the bureau toward its field officers has undergone a complete change, and a spirit of co-operation and trust is substituted for one of systematic suspicion. Office clerks have been encouraged to ask for transfer to the field service, and vice versa, with gratifying results in the direction of harmony.

George W. Aldridge, the well known politician, who has been appointed surveyor of the Port of New York in place of James T. Clarkson.

PARADISE OF THE COUNTERFEITER

Bad Coin is as Good as the Government's Money in Spain.

New York Press.

The counterfeiter is the hermit among criminals. He never works in the light of day, and when occasionally he is run down by Uncle Sam's detectives he invariably is found hiding in a dark hole, like a bat. Spain is the counterfeiter's paradise. There he hardly takes the trouble to work under cover, and Alfonso's is the only government which gives official recognition to him. A big percentage of the 600,000,000 five-peseta pieces held in reserve in the vaults of the Bank of Spain is made up of counterfeit coin. The Dons do not track the counterfeiters because the counterfeit coin is equal to the government article in point of fineness and weight. The counterfeiters use dies that turn out coins exactly like those made in the government mints and depend for profit upon the difference between the face value of the peseta and the cost of the bullion in it.

Coin collectors are never happier than when fingering a rare counterfeit. Only the other day a spurious Spanish doubloon brought $60 under the auctioneer's hammer in this city. That was one of the rare instances in which the value topped that of the genuine piece. But this coin has been held by men wise in the lore of the numismatist as a work of art. It is taken as one of the finest specimens of the platinum "fakes," once fairly common, but now so rare as to rank as curiosities. The doubloon, made from platinum dipped in gold, circulated freely two generations ago, but there is good reason for the counterfeiter in these days keeping his fingers off platinum. It is worth more than gold. The intrinsic value of the doubloon in gold is $15. The platinum counterfeit at the prevailing market rate has an intrinsic value of $17.50. So there you are.

Before platinum became an aristocrat among precious metals it went into many imitations of United States eagles and British sovereigns. If the counterfeiters could have read the future they could have made money for their heirs by buying platinum and waiting for the rise in the market. But there's nothing more uncertain than the law of supply and demand, and other counterfeiters have been fooled. A bright Yankee a few years ago scraped enough together to buy a silver mine and struck off a heap of counterfeit Mexican dollars. The fraud was discovered in the Philadelphia mint, and the story that was told was enough to make the smart Yankee whistle out of the other side of his mouth. His coins assayed at an instrinsic value of $1.50, because there happened to be a streak of gold in that silver mine, and every dollar had its share of yellow metal. This is the most peculiar instance on record of the counterfeiter being beaten.

AN UNUSUAL FIGHT IN A BIRD CAGE

A Remarkable Duel to the Death Between a Mouse and a Canary Bird.

New York Press.

A newspaper man, who calls a Washington square boarding house his home, in a moment of weakness consented to act as guardian of a canary bird owned by another boarder, one of the fair sex, who had to go out of town for a week. The bird's name is Valentine. In his brass sage Valentine was suspended by a spring hanger in the window of the newspaper man's room, the top of the cage being just on a level with the top of the first sash, but about three inches away from it. On either side of the cage a lace curtain draped to the floor.

The first day of guardianship, in the afternoon just before leaving for his office, the newspaper man filled Valentine's water bowl and seed cup and departed, secure in the belief that all would be well. Returning about 3 o'clock the following morning he found Valentine wide awake and nervously hopping from perch to perch, honing his bill and opening and shutting his wings. On the floor seed and sand were scattered thickly around for a radius of a couple of feet.

"A dirty feeder," was the man's comment, as he swept up seed and sand with a whisk broom. The following morning conditions were similar—an excited bird and much seed and sand on the carpet. The third day was the newspaper man's "day off," when he did not got to the office. That evening he was in his room by midnight, settled down to the enjoyment of book and pipe. Back of him as he sat in his chair was the window, with Valentine's hanging cage. In front and a little to the left of him was his bed.

After reading for an hour or so the man happened to glance from his book in the direction of the bed. Creeping across the floor toward him was a mouse not much larger than a chocolate drop. A movement of the chair and the mouse vanished under the bed, to reappear when absolute stillness coaxed it out. Slowly at first, and then quicker and quicker, the tiny animal traveled, passing the watching man and reaching the bottom of the lace curtain. Up this it went with apparent ease, pausing now and then in its climb as the curtain swayed slightly under its weight and exertion. Finally it was as high as the top of the lower window, where a cord-and-tassel loop caused part of the curtain to rest on the sash. To gain the narrow ledge formed by the top of the sash was an easy matter for the mouse. The watching man turned noiselessly to face the window.

Along the ledge went the mouse until it was opposite the bird cage in which Valentine, head under wing, slept. From the ledge to the top of the cage sprang the mouse, landing on the brass wires and shaking the cage violently. Out from under his wing popped the head of Valentine, his bead-like eyes glaring and his mouth open to emit a screech. Paying no attention to the bird, or to the man, who had risen and approached to observe the affair, the mouse dropped through the wires to the bottom of the cage and scurried to the seed cup, into which it crawled as far as it could. Only its hindquarters were visible.

Valentine by this time appeared to be quite mad with excitement. He hopped about, whetting his bill on his perch and his cuttlefish bone, and scheeching in a thin voice with a rage that was entirely too big for his body. All at once he stopped, poised himself for a second with outstretched wings, and then swooped down on the marauding mouse. The hindquarters projected from the seed cup received a dig from the bird's bill that brought the gorging thief away from the stolen meal in a hurry, and a ball of animated fur rolled out at Valentine's feet.

The battle was on. Valentine, with rapidly moving wings, beat the mouse unmercifully, landing a jab from his bill now and then that tore the enemy's hide open. The mouse, rushing in under the bird, sought to seize its opponent's legs. Screeshes, squeals, sand and seed filled the air, and as the sand and seed fell to the floor the onlooker acquitted the bird of the charge of dirty feeding. By the stress of the conflict the cage was banged against the window, and vibrated on its spring hanger until the man expected it to fall.

Several times the mouse pulled the bird down, and the fighters rolled over and over like wrestlers, but gradually Valentine drove the mouse to the side wires, from where hard, pushing digs of the bill forced it out to the platform formed by the extension of the cage's bottom.

To the edge of this platform crept the mouse, beyond the bird's reach. The man thought the battle was over, but it was not. After resting for less than half a minute the mouse essayed to re-enter the cage. Around and around the platform it went seeking ingress, only to be met by lightning-like jabs of the bird. At last it slipped in and the contest was renewed. The second round was short. Jabs from bill and blows from wings again sent the mouse to the wires, against which it backed up as if at bay. Ceaselessly the bird punished the animal until, in a furious mix-up, the shining bill landed a blow that knocked the mouse out through the wires, clear over the platform and to the floor.

The man picked up the mouse. One eye was gone and the body was limp. There was a twitch or two and a spirit great enough for a robber baron of old was free from its humble little casing of flesh. Opening the window the man tossed the corpse to the roof of an adjoining church.

The bird? Valentine closely watched the disposal of the plunderer's remains, and when the mangled mouse went into the darkness he hopped stiffly to a perch and burst into a song that told in every note of the victor's glory in triumph. When the man took him out of the cage to dress his wounds with chloroform liniment he resisted fiercely. Half a dozen feathers had been pulled out, and one leg had been skinned from the thigh to the foot. One toe was bitten off, the top of his bill was dulled and cracked, and he still was a disfigured Valentine when his mistress returned. Now he is as well as ever, and his seed and sand never are found on the carpet.

Anthony Comstock's 65th birthday was the occasion for union services by the Methodist and Baptist churches of Summit, N. J.

Beckah Winthrop, Assistant Secretary of the Navy and the man who is said to have the longest pedigree of any man in public life in Washington.

MONKEYS THAT ARE NEAR HUMAN

A Soldier's Experience With Three Simians in the Philippines.

Kansas City Journal.

Do you know that there is an understanding between a man and a monkey that's almost human—on the part of the monkey, of course?," asked a man recently who had served as a soldier in the Philippine campaign

"Over in the islands," he went on, between puffs at a pipe, "there was hardly a company that did not have from one to a half dozen monkeys, and sometimes more. Of course, they were great pets for the boys, and they all tried to teach them tricks. Many of the boys slept with their simian playmates when they were not on a hike, and when leaving for a tramp I have seen them bid the monkeys farewell as if they were brothers. On return I have seen the monkey bound on them, bite their necks soft and caressingly and make a noise like a crying baby.

"There were three such monkeys in the town of Balanga, Province of Bataan, Island of Luzon. Tom, Jerry and Jimmy Hicks were their names, and they would answer to them with the regularity of a soldier at roll call. When you called Tom there was a peculiar screech, and Jerry and Jimmy Hicks kept silent. If either of them was called the others paid no attention. They were well trained, and were the life of Captain Granville Sevier's Company E, Thirty-second United States volunteers.

"These three shining lights were the sole property of two soldiers whom I can now recall only as 'Big Dan' and 'Dutch Emil.' They had worked hard with them, trained them, eaten with them, slept with them and always took them along when the company moved in quarters.

"One day two of the boys turned up with the smallpox. They were isolated in a little tent away from camp and the rest of the boys were vaccinated, as was the custom. One man, an immune, was assigned to care for them, and aside from that they were all alone.

"Tom, Jerry and Jimmy Hicks were always out scouting, but they knew where home was and were regular as a soldier at mess. It so happened one day in their meanderings that they were playing not far from the tent where the two boys with the smallpox lay Homesick, lonesome and knowing that they were soon to die—as none of our men ever get well of the smallpox over there—the poor fellows caught sight of the monkeys, and, not realizing the danger to their comrades, called to them.

"The little simians ran to the tent and clambered onto the cots of the dying men. They seemed to know them, their guard reported later. He realized the danger, however, and at once secured the monkeys near the tent and reported the matter to the major surgeon.

"The verdict was that the pets must die, as they were easy agents for the transmission of the disease.

"'Vaccinate 'em,' said Big Dan. 'I'll stay with 'em 'till they're well.'

"'Me, too,' came from Dutch Emil. 'Dan an' me will stand th' vatch togedder day und night.'

"It was no use, the death sentence had been pronounced, and death it had to be. The safety of the camp depended upon it. Not a man in that company, nor a soldier in the camp could be found to carry out the sentence. Two natives took them out and killed them, and, after they were buried, appropriate slabs were erected to their memory by Big Dan, Dutch Emil and the rest of the company. The camp went into voluntary mourning and Dutch Emil and Big Dan were strong for placing the flag at half mast."

Rough Handling For Dog Thief.

Le Figaro.

A young girl of 15, Mlle. Yvonne Meyer, living in the Rue Petrelle, was taking for a walk her dog, which she held by a leather strap, the other day, when a man who had been following her suddenly cut the strap with a knife and picking up the animal dashed off.

Eye witnesses of the scene pursued the thief, whom they had almost overtaken when he threw the dog under the wheels of a passing autobus in the Rue Rochechouart. The animal was instantly killed, and while Mlle. Meyer, who had fainted from emotion at seeing her pet's fate, was treated at a local pharmacy the thief was captured and roughly handled by the crowd. He was handed over to the police, but refused to reveal his identity.

TO ERECT MATERIAL TESTING MACHINES

United States Government, Spending Millions in Construction Work Annually, Feels Necessity of Accurate Knowledge of Strength of Building Material—Machine Will Weigh 200 Tons.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 20.—The largest machine in the world for testing the strength of structural materials used in great buildings and engineering works is about to be erected by the United States government at the Geological Survey Testing Station, Pittsburg, Pa. It will weigh more than 200 tons and will tower in the air to an extreme height of about eighty feet above the foundations. It will exert a maximum pressure of ten million pounds, which is equivalent to placing a load of five thousand tons upon the beam or column to be tested.

This great machine will be housed in a structure one hundred feet in height and of unusual strength to wi hch the testing apparatus will be secured by great rods, in order to brace it against any sudden pressure while the columns are undergoing the strain upon them. Elevators will run to the top of the machine so that the experts may examine the columns being tested from any point of view to detect the first signs of weakening.

When the Quebec bridge collapsed with great loss of life, general comment was made by engineers, and others of the lack of knowledge concerning the strength of great columns used in such a structure and a plea was made that a testing machine of sufficient strength be erected so that the engineerings may have accurate data as to the amount of load such a bridge should carry. With the construction of this machine it will be possible to test steel columns one-half the size of the largest chords now used in any bridge. This will be a decided gain to the engineering world which has been anxiously awaiting the construction of such a machine.

However, this is not the primary purpose of this powerful testing apparatus. Mr. Joseph A. Holmes, expert in charge of the technologic branch, United States Geological Survey, under whose general direction the investigations are to be conducted, said to-day: "This machine was acquired for the purpose of testing the strength of large blocks of stone, columns of concrete and brick used in the building and construction work of the government. The Federal government is the largest builder in the world, and it is essential, if the money is to be expended wisely, that there be a complete knowledge of the strength of the materials used. The building and engineering construction work will require during the present and the next few years more than $70,000,000 per annum. It embraces the most important and far-reaching engineering work undertaken by any government at any time and a programme of public buildings costing from $12,000,000 to $15,000,000 per annum.

"The testing of this machine of the stone, concrete and brick columns will determine the relative safety, adaptability and durability of these materials, and how the quantity of each material used may be safely diminished, thus reducing the cost of the construction work.

"In the past it has been necessary to determine the strength of large columns on the assumption of the values obtained from testing smaller columns. In the case of stone, the small pieces tested were without the usual quarried effects and seams which are to be found in large pieces of stone, and such tests as have been made show that the strength of the stone decreases as the size of the stone increases. In the erection of large buildings the strength of these columns becomes a very important matter and it is absolutely necessary that there be accurate data as to the strength which may be expected from these materials when sed in larger masses.

"In the rapid development of this country the enormous locomotives of constantly increasing size and the heavier tonnage have demanded a constant increase in the size of bridges, with built-up structural members of such hize that we have been unable to keep pace with experimental data to serve as a guide for such structures. As a result, to-day we have practically no knowledge of the strength of these structures from actual tests and must mase our information on the tests of very much smaller members. Bridges such as that which collapsed at Quebec, composed of a number of members held together by riveted connections, depend largely upon the design and workmanship, and this failure has demonstrated it is absolutely necessary that tests of large sized members be made in order that the engineer may know to what extent the built-up structure is affected by the workmanship, so that he may have knowledge as to what strength to allow for these riveted connections. There is no machine in the world that could test a chord of the size of that which failed in the Quebec bridge at the present time, or of the size of the recently completed Blackwell Island bridge. A machine of the capacity which we are building in Pittsburg would test pieces of one-half the full size of these large cords to within the elastic limit of the material, and would give the necessary information which is s odesired by the engineer."

PROPOSED POSTAL SAVINGS BANK

Funny Experiences of the British Government With It.

Tid Bits.

When we consider that one person out of every six in the United Kingdom is a depositor in the Post-office Savings Bank, it is not difficult to realize that there are great possibilities of humor, which is often the more amusing as it is unconscious. In fact, a most entertaining volume could be composed merely of the humorous answers to official questions put to depositors.

To the question, for example, whether the would-be depositor's address is permanent, such answers as these have been received—"Here is no continuing city," "Heaven is our home," "Yes, D. V." and "This is not our rest."

One such question, asking for particulars of an acount, evoked the follown igmansuion 9moa,cbluasotg lowing amusing, if irrevelent, reply, "He is a tall man, deeply marked with smallpox, has one eye, wears a billycock hat and keeps a booth at Lincoln Fair."

Equally entertaining are some of the entries on the withdrawal forms. Thus one depositor, scorning figures, but evidently wishing to draw his last penny, wrote: "Sir, I want to close the bank"—and ambition which, happily, was not realized. Another, equally ambiguous, wishes "to make a clearance," while a third, who is not a born financier, writes on his form, "The book fairly puzzles me." For downright magnanimity, however, it would be difficult to beat the schoolboy who, when withdrawing his shillings, wrote, "Never mind the interest; ti can go towards paying off the national debt."

That the postal authorities may lose no time in sanctioning the required withdrawal, some very urgent reasons are given, as "Don't delay, my boy must have a new suit for next Sunday," "Hurry up, please, the bailiffs are in the house," "I want it quick, to buy a birthday present for my young man" and "If you aren't quick it'll have to go towards my funeral."

One depositor, after apologizing for closing her acount, proceeded to ask the postoffice to procure work for herself and her husband, who had been out of work for several months. "If we could get some car'taker's place," she concludes, "we wood thank you, as we are nearly starvin'. I can do anything myself—needle, niting or cooking. I have a cosen in your postoffice."

There is a charming frankness in the entries sometimes made under the head of "occupation." Thus, one man describes himself as "married—worse luck!" Another as "still reveling in single blessedness;" while a third sums herself up as "waiting for woman's suffrage." "A widow—have buried a three of them," confesses a lady who learly enjoys her emancipation; while another widow euphemistically puts herself down as "living privately."

When a mother, who recently claimed the money deposited by her dead son, was asked if the boy's father was still alive, she responded briefly, but to the point, "Father living, insignificant." Another lady, in a similar position, when told that the money could only be paid to the depositor's father, who was missing, relieved her mind, thus: "I am sorry for giving you so much vain trouble regarding this. Your decision is law, I presume, and I can only say in the words of Bumble, 'If that's wot the Law says, the Law's a hass an' a hidiot!'"

The claims made by the creditors of deceased depositors are often very ingeniously framed. Thus, "Loss of time and money in consulting a solicitor, 1 pound 10 shillings," appeared as one of the items of a recent claim, which was actually allowed by the solicitor to the postoffice. More original still was a claim made by the son of a dead depositor, who, as investigation proved, came into the world before his father's marriage. When he was informed of this awkward fact he responded with a demand for 2 pounds 5 shillings, for shock to system on 'earing of my illegitimacy." This was "moral and intellectual damage" with a vengeance.

FIRST OF THE SWIFTS.

The Refrigerator Car the Invention of a Cape Cod Yankee.

Cosmopolitan.

Gustavus Franklin Swift, the first of this commercial dynasty, was a Cape Cod Yankee who bought a steer now and then and peddled the meat from the back of a certain go-cart which has since become famous.

He moved to Albany and went deeper into meats, discarding one after another partners who had not the foresight and daring which he possessed. He located in Chicago at the beginning of those days of great possibilities in bringing into touch the new West and the older East.

It was he who invented the first refrigerator cars. This was the one revolutionary act which put his sons and a few other sons in very fair control of half of the meat of America.

He saw the market for dressed beef extended only after the hardest of fights. All great revolutions are fought against. All the East, all England, all Europe, fought the idea of dressed beef and then accepted it. I doubt if