

Official Insolence.

By Frank M. Bicknell.

THE Scot who boarded a British warship and sent word to his captain that "one of the owners" wished to see him asserted a fact which few of us have the backbone to stand up to; that the humble masses own the earth by right of having paid for it with their more or less hard-earned money. It would seem as if we, the proprietors of the ever-glorious Republic, are especially meek in regarding our "hired men," from the President down, as our masters rather than our paid servants. We allow ourselves to be browbeaten by public and quasi-public officials to an extent that amazes the foreigner. A titled Englishman recently wasted much temper in learning that an American railway conductor is allowed to be almost as autocratic as the captain of an ocean liner. Among the few "strangers in our midst" who have really succeeded in silencing a top-lofty parlor-car conductor is Max O'Reil; and he did it by bursting out with a threat to pitch him through the window, about the opening of which they disagreed.

It is not the highly placed officials, however, but the petty jacks-in-office who are the most pompous; their belief in their own importance appears to be in direct proportion to their specific levity. A smart young clerk in a certain suburban city hall once tried to snub and make needless trouble for a quiet, shabby, elderly man who had requested an item of information at his counter. To the young fellow's discomfiture, the old gentleman revolted so far as to free his mind somewhat as follows:

"My friend, let me ask if I am in your service, or you in mine. I'd always supposed my tax-money helped pay you and these other chaps here, to work for the city to the best of your ability. And as I'm a citizen of the city I'm one of your bosses, and I object to being treated as if I was no better than dirt; besides which, on your own account, you want to be a little mite civil, or some day you'll be hunting another job. It never struck you in just that light before, maybe, but it's so all the same."

A little plain talk of this sort, conveying a wholesome lesson, is needed much oftener than it is given. Most of us submit to domineering rather than make a fuss, being surprised, indeed, if we don't get it. If the policeman on the corner, when we ask him a direction, responds with anything better than patronizing condescension, we are absurdly grateful. We approach the box-office of a theatre, or even the desk of a hotel, as supplicants, ready to flinch at the expected rudeness or rebuff. In the trolley-cars, of the large cities at least, we avoid personal intercourse with the men in charge, and look for only the curtest replies if need forces us to interrogate them.

However, there is something to be said on the other side, and if we do feel moved on occasion to put one of these high-and-haughty officials in his proper place, let us do it good-temperedly, not forgetting the hint given by a certain street-car company in its printed notice to the effect that while courtesy is to be desired from the conductor, its practice is not unbecoming in the passenger.

Hypnotizing the Mail.

By Professor Munsterberg.

OF course, there is no reason to deny that a person may fall into the hypnotic state while the hypnotizer is in another place. The only condition is that he must have been hypnotized by him before and that his own imagination must have been captured by the thought of the absent hypnotizer. I myself have repeatedly hypnotized by telephone, or even by mail. For instance, I treated a morphinist who at first came daily to my laboratory to be hypnotized; later it was sufficient to tell him over the telephone: "Take out your watch; in two minutes you will fall asleep"; or to write to him: "As soon as you have read this note you will be in the hypnotic state." I thus had the 'malicious' influence, even at a distance, but it was not by will power; it was by the power of his own imagination; at the time when he read my note in his suburb, and fell asleep, I was not thinking of him at all. As a matter of course, such influence by correspondence would have been impossible had not repeated hypnotization in personal contact preceded.

Even that may not be necessary if, not complete hypnotization, but only suggestive influence, is in question. A few days ago I received a letter from a Southern lady whom I do not know, whose son, a morphinist, I have never seen. She writes: "My son has been impressed with the belief that your treatment is all he needs to be cured. In a dream, he said, you stood before him, with the finger-tips of your hands trembling, and said, 'I have the power to influence your will.' He woke, repeating, 'You have the power to control my will.' That morning he seemed to forget to take the morphine at the regular time, and soon went down to the beach without his morphine outfit in his pocket—an unusual thing; and so forth. He himself was convinced that my will power was working on him, while I did not even know him."

Politeness.

By Thomas L. Masson.

POLITENESS consists in concealing from other people the fact they annoy you.

If a man springs up from his seat in a crowded car to give it to a woman, that is politeness. If he permits his wife to drag a chair from one room into the other, while he is smoking and reading the evening paper, that is innocent absorption. It pays to be polite—when it doesn't cost anything.

Politeness originated in the garden of Eden, when Adam fell merely to oblige Eve. (And yet they say that man is selfish!)

We should always be polite to our inferiors—in the presence of our superiors. Nothing is more effective.

The man who is truly polite never forgets himself. Such a man, if he is obliged to kick another man down-stairs, will always see that his hat is sent out to him.

Children are naturally impolite, until they are taught that they cannot hope to make much money without.

Always be polite when you are borrowing money from a friend. Remember that it doesn't cost anything to give him the impression that you are going to pay him back.

There are two kinds of politeness, politeness to yourself and politeness to others.

When you come home late at night, for example, even if you are very tired, always remove your hat and coat before getting into bed. It is little attentions like this that constitute you a gentleman. At the same time, do not disturb your wife if you can possibly avoid it. It is the height of rudeness to awaken a sleeping lady.

The polite man is always welcome everywhere. That is, almost everywhere—except at a bargain-counter, a fire, or a financial panic. Then he is de trop.

The Startling Growth of State Power

By Dr. Hannis Taylor.

WHEN we look at the facts in the face, when we measure by standards that do not deceive the startling growth of State power, local and national, that has taken place in the last fifty years, and then couple with it the manifest tendency to carry it further still, we cannot deceive ourselves as to the actual conditions that confront the nation as a whole. We have returned to a time when the "prying eye of the Government follows the butcher to the shambles and the baker to the oven"—a time of collectivism in which the dependent individual looks to the State for protection through the methods of orderly co-operation which modern legislation is seeking to enforce. During the period that divides Jefferson from Lincoln a transformation has taken place in our internal economic conditions, whose results have reversed the fundamental proposition upon which Jefferson's political theories were founded. Just as he and his followers demanded that government power should be limited to the greatest possible extent, and that the circle of individual rights surrounding the citizen should be widened to the greatest possible extent, a majority of the American people, including those who still profess to follow Jefferson, are now demanding that governmental power, State and Federal, shall be so widened, even at the sacrifice of individual rights, as to protect them against the incorporated battalions the new collectivism is hurling against them. Will proof of that assertion be demanded by any one familiar with the recent records of Congress, of the State Legislatures and of the courts wherein the people are striving, through the exercise of extraordinary state power to right the equilibrium of American society?

In Regard to Feet.
Anthropologists assert that the Frenchman's foot is long, narrow and well proportioned. The Scot's foot, according to these authorities, is high and thick, strong, muscular and capable of hard work. The Russian's foot possesses one peculiarity, the toes being generally webbed to the first joint. The Tartar's foot is short and heavy, the foot of a certain type of savage, and the toes are the same length. The Spaniard's foot is generally small, but finely curved. The Englishman's foot is in most cases short and rather fleshy, and not as a rule as strong, proportionately, as it should be.

Smart Frills of Fashion

New York City.—The blouse which shows no visible closing is always a pretty and attractive one, and this model includes the new deep, narrow chemisette that is so attractive and



becoming. It is made with the new sleeves, too, that are cut off to show pretty close fitting under ones of thin material and it is equally well adapted to entire gowns and to the separate

Bands For Trimming.

Following several months of flat trimming, there is a new arrangement that consists of bands of material gathered at each edge to form a puff and used at the extreme edge of the long-waisted dress.

Exercise Suit.

The exercise suit makes an important feature of the modern wardrobe, for women long ago learned that a few moments given over to systematic exercise is one of the greatest of all aids to perfect health and symmetry. This suit is simple and practical, yet smart withal and can be utilized either for the gymnasium or in the home. In the illustration it is made of light weight serge, but all the materials that are used for suits of the sort are appropriate. The knickerbockers or bloomers are comfortably full, yet simple, and the blouse portion is made in conformity with the latest style. The three-quarter sleeves are those in most general use, but long ones can be substituted, if preferred.

The suit consists of blouse and knickerbockers. The blouse is made with fronts and back and is finished with a belt at the waist line. The knickerbockers are laid in pleats at their upper edges and are joined to waistbands, and these waistbands are buttoned onto the band of the blouse, so that there is no possible danger of parting, no matter how active an hour may be enjoyed.



blouse. In the illustration it is made of silk cashmere with trimming of banding, chemisette and under sleeves of tucked chiffon. Almost all the incoming materials are soft enough to be tucked, however, and for the chemisette and under sleeves lace, net and muslin, and, indeed, all pretty materials of the sort are appropriate.

The waist is made over a fitted lining and consists of fronts and back with the chemisette. The lining is closed at the centre front, the waist invisibly at the left of the front. The sleeves are tucked to give a novel and becoming effect and arranged over the linings, which are faced to form the under sleeves.

The quantity of material required for the medium size, is three and seven-eighth yards twenty-one, twenty-four or twenty-seven, or two yards forty-four inches wide, with three-fourth yard eighteen inches wide for the chemisette and under sleeves and two and one-fourth yards of banding.

New Gored Skirt.

One of the new skirts is known as the gored corselet skirt. The gores are quite narrow at the top and form a low corselet with one point at the front, usually made with the front panel, and two at the back.

Hair Dressing.

All coiffures are low, very much built-out at the back, and rolled softly at the sides. Tiaras, wreaths and barrettes are the usual hair ornaments, also metal gauze wreaths in the form of laurel leaves.

Rose Behind the Ear.

The pretty fashion of wearing a single rose behind the ear has been revived, and when beneath the flower a couple of curls fall upon the shoulder, a very strong reminiscence of the fashions of the 50's of last century is aroused.

Military Effects.

The Russian Cossack and the military effects bid fair to have a strong vogue in millinery.



New Reticules.

The newest bag to be carried with the white gown, in which the handkerchief and other small and necessary articles are kept, is of Irish crochet. These reticules may be made of two round medallions carefully crocheted together, except at the top, where an opening is left. Knotted cords are run through the top, by which the bags are carried. They may also be made of hand-darned flax net and Italian flax doilies.

NEW YORK AS A MISSION FIELD.

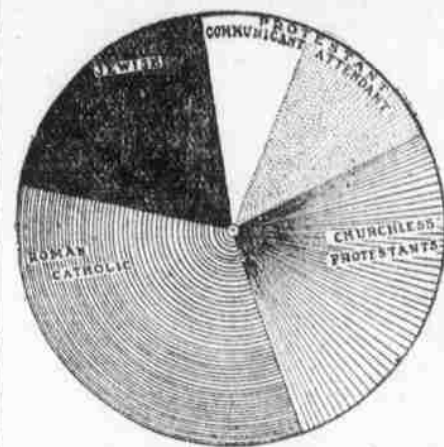


Diagram showing the proportion of Roman Catholics, Jews and Protestants in New York City.

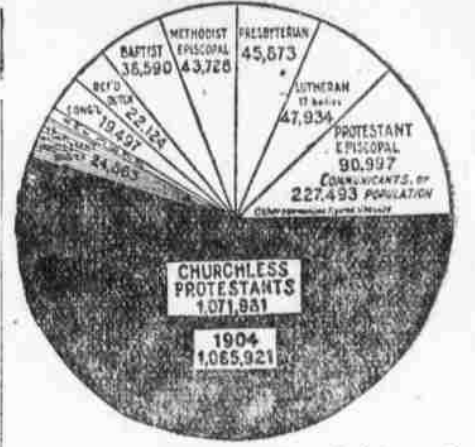


Diagram showing the division of the Protestant population of New York City in the year 1905.

—From the Home Herald.

THE KAISER AS A PLAIN CITIZEN



The Kaiser, Germany's war lord, without his war clothes. This unusual photograph of the German Emperor caught him scowling in a manner more familiar to his ministers than to the admiring general public. —From the Sphere.

Enough Said.

Mother—"You were a long time in the conservatory with Mr. Willing last night, my child. What was going on?"

Daughter—"Did you ever sit in the conservatory with papa before you married him?"

Mother—"I suppose I did."

Daughter—"Well, mamma, it's the same old world."—Boston Transcript.

A Minifying Estimate.

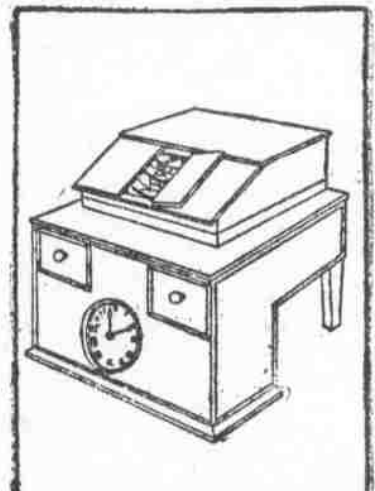
"Does your son know the value of a dollar?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox, "he has some idea of it. He knows better than to invite the scorn of the waiter at whose table he dines by offering him one as a tip."—Richmond Evening Star.

Japan in 1908 made 260,000,000 pounds of paper and imported 48,000,000 pounds, a consumption of 308,000,000 pounds, or 6.3 pounds per capita of the population.

Novel Medicine Chest.

One of the most ingenious of inventions is the medicine chest designed by an Arkansas man. With this chest there is no excuse for a person not taking his medicine on time or for getting the medicines mixed. The cabinet consists of a stand with two little drawers at the upper corners and a desk portion on top. In front of the desk portion is a little door, just about wide enough to admit a bottle, and inside is a series of revolving trays. One of these trays is provided with numbers indicating minutes, another with numbers indicating the hours of the day, and a third with ordinals indicating the hours of the day and night. Each tray is divided into little compartments at each hour, so that at a certain hour a bottle in that compartment will be waiting at the door.



This is brought about by a clock mechanism which operates the trays, all of which are connected to a shaft and moved by the clock, the face of which is visible in the front of the stand. It now remains for the inventor to add an alarm attachment and it will be practically impossible to miss medicine time. — Washington Star.

For the Congo a smelting plant to treat 1000 tons of copper ore daily has been ordered from the United States.

THE GUARD.



"How long has your wife taken to going in the kitchen?" "Since she has become jealous of the cook."—From Fliegende Blätter