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**TO THE POLE.**  
If the dispatches tell the truth, an American explorer, Frederick Cook, reached the North pole on the 21st of April, 1908. As new as can be made out from the reports, Cook did not make any elaborate preparations for a North pole expedition. He was on board the ship *Thetis* for a summer cruise in the Arctic, and when the conditions in Smith Sound were found favorable, as it happened, for an exploration further north, he decided to go on. And so, in company with a couple of Eskimos he finally reached the goal.

The journey was tedious and many hardships must have been encountered on the ever shifting ice and in a temperature of from 40 to 80 degrees below the freezing point. But the explorer succeeded where so many well equipped travelers have failed. Without having started from home with the determination to reach the Pole, he reached it. He succeeded where Peary, Nansen, and Amundsen, the Duke of Abruzzi, and many others failed.

It is strange that the reports do not state whether land was found at the Pole or whether there was but a vast ice field. Nansen was of the opinion that the Arctic ocean covers a depression in the earth's crust which is deepest at the Pole. This may be true and yet there may be mountains lifting their snow crowned heads above the water. The world will be curious to learn the particulars about the geography of those regions.

Will the discovery of the Pole end the Arctic expeditions? Not necessarily, until a Polar trip becomes as common as crossing the Atlantic. Many will be anxious to try, now that the possibility of it has been demonstrated. There will be many more failures before a highway to the Pole is actually constructed.

We are pleased that the honor of being first was won by an American. We are sorry that Peary's persistent efforts have not yet been crowned with success. He deserves success. But we are, nevertheless, glad that the distinction came to an American. We trust Mr. Cook carries with him indisputable evidence of his farthest north record, for many will doubt and ridicule the reports, until they are substantiated beyond question.

#### THE CITIZENS' MEETING.

Councilman Hall gave a very interesting and instructive address at the meeting of the Citizens in the Theater, on Wednesday evening. All the speeches were good. They were moderate and to the point. They gave expression to a very general sentiment in favor of good government as against government founded on the spoils principle, and furnished reasons why a change locally is now needed. But Mr. Hall, being thoroughly familiar with the affairs of the City, was in an exceptional position to give information and present unanswerable arguments in favor of a more business-like administration.

Mr. Hall showed that though thousands of dollars had been spent on bookkeepers, and "experts" had been imported from St. Louis, yet the books of the City are in such a shape that no one can find out just what the financial conditions are. He showed that favoritism prevails. Some department heads can obtain anything they want, from a carfare to an automobile, while others cannot. He showed that any amount of unnecessary work is done in the City offices in order to keep superfluous clerks employed. He laid particular stress upon the fact that positions are given to party workers, not because they are competent and efficient, but because they are partisan, and as long as this system prevails, he said, the City cannot be well served.

Most citizens will agree with the councilman from the Fourth that a man's views on religion or on the national questions have nothing to do with a city government. A man may believe in high tariff, or low tariff, in predestination or in a free agency, but his views on such questions do not have anything to do with his efficiency as a public servant. He is just as interested in good sidewalks, in street pavements, in the laying of sewers, and other municipal improvements as if he held the very opposite views.

If this is a fact, as it is, the only logical stand the voters in a municipal election can take is for a ticket that represents honesty and efficiency first, and not partisanship. All over the world the citizens of the larger cities are waking up to the necessity of business methods in municipal government. Salt Lake should not lag behind. It means so much to the taxpayers. A city government properly managed should not have any more indebtedness than business prudence approves of. Its revenues should not be squandered. It should practice as much economy as the railroads and every other well managed corporation. Such economy would mean that the taxpayers would not be called upon to deny themselves the necessities of life in order to save enough money for taxes, to enable them to live in their own homes. It would mean money in the treasury for all lawful purposes and plenty for improvements without bottomless indebtedness which is a curse to a com-

munity as to an individual. Let the citizens of this City wake up to their own interests and take the government in their own hands.

#### GRAFT-HIDDEN CITIES.

What the condition generally is in cities governed in the interest of grafters may be gathered from some recent statements by former Police Commissioner Bingham concerning the moral status of New York.

That city, he says, is in many respects the most lawless city in the world. According to the authority quoted, while probably 85 per cent of the 10,000 police are honest at heart, the force is dominated by corrupt politicians. Tammany Hall depends upon the thousands of men engaged in the white-slave traffic to furnish a sixth of the \$10,000,000 illegal votes cast in civic elections.

The great majority of the city ordinances were not made to be obeyed, but were made to be broken "so that some one could make money from the intentional or unintentional violation of business law. The government of New York City costs \$200,000,000 a year, an amount equalling a third of that expended in conducting the National government, but in addition the city pays probably \$100,000,000 a year in graft, blackmail and "brokerage on crime."

Such are the conditions in New York, and, we fear, to some extent in every large city where the government is in the hands of an "inner circle" that exists for the sake of plunder. Is there any remedy but the election of officers who are under no ante-election obligations to anyone but the people?

#### CO-OPERATIVE HOMES.

According to an account in the New York Evening Post, co-operative apartment construction is becoming a feature of the building up of that great metropolis.

There are now about twenty co-operative duplex apartment-houses, representing an investment, it is estimated, of from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000. The apartments provided are of a kind that rent from \$2,000 to \$5,000 a year, and the investment to acquire one of them runs from \$15,000 to \$20,000. The owners, however, feel that they are making a profitable investment, because they get these apartments in neighborhoods in which it would cost them double as much or even more to secure individual homes with equivalent accommodations.

The apartment houses are owned by a corporation in which residents only can be shareholders. A sufficient number of apartments are reserved to rent out, and the rents cover the cost of operating the apartments. These apartment houses are, as will be noticed, for the accommodation of persons with means, but it should be possible to devise some co-operative plan whereby the poorer classes could be made home-owners. By paying rent, they, too, eventually pay for the houses in which they live without owning a brick in them. Why should it not be possible for them to combine their slender means and pay for a house of their own, just as well as for one belonging to a landlord? Co-operation, we believe, the ultimate solution of many of the social problems now confronting us. It should be tried under intelligent leadership.

#### MUNICIPAL PROBLEMS.

The following article on municipal problems, from the Boston Globe, presents some thoughts of interest at the present time, when citizens of this City are endeavoring to arouse the community to a realization of the necessity of placing the affairs of the City in the hands of honest, capable business men:

"The efforts being put forth by the public-spirited members of large commercial associations to improve municipal affairs in our large cities are commendable and should be fruitful of very valuable results. In all the leading municipalities there are now chambers of commerce, boards of trade and kindred organizations which are co-operating with each other to better the administration of civic affairs. The necessity for this patriotic class of work exists everywhere. Never before were municipalities, as a rule, more in need of watchful care by all citizens so that there shall be a reasonable curtailment of municipal loans and appropriations. There is scarcely a leading city which can be said to be living within its financial means. These commercial bodies, therefore, are finding plenty to do in the direction of sorely needed reforms.

"These organizations, to be of the greatest service to a municipality, must take a deep interest in the subjects which come before them. The members must be broad minded and never allow their judgment to be blinded by political prejudice. If the subject of politics is avoided, then citizens of all shades of political opinion will become more deeply interested in such recommendations of the organizations as are for the best welfare of the city.

"There is no doubt that these organizations can become very influential for good to the community. There are numerous topics which interest every citizen, whether he pays a property or a poll tax. Each citizen has a pride in his native or adopted city. He is anxious that his city shall prosper, that there shall be good business times, and that there shall be the fullest employment possible for all residents who require work. In order to have these things there must be more citizens than those elected to public office to watch and study municipal and general commercial conditions. The great questions of municipal loans, franchises, transportation, street widening, school facilities, public health, water front accommodations, and scores of others, affecting the entire population, must be studied and the fullest publicity given to the results of research work concerning them.

"The government of cities, which pays the largest share of the expenses of a commonwealth, has become a subject of extreme importance. It deserves and is receiving the most serious consideration by the public. It is one of the greatest problems that has arisen in this country in recent years. The citizens, without regard to political considerations, must take a personal interest in this subject or else there will be disastrous results. The fact that commercial organizations are co-operating to improve the management of municipal business is therefore very encouraging."

#### THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER.

By George F. Butler, A.M., M.D.  
As you grow old you need to know that you will remain young if you keep the heart young, and this you can do by mingling with the young. People of advancing years who try to isolate young in the social world retain their youth by so doing. Let grandmothers wear bright ribbons and gaudy gowns, if the colors become her, and grandmothers as dainty as he pleases, with fresh neckties and cheerful garb, both will be younger for it, and besides, it is in harmony with nature. The trees take on their brightest colors as the winter of their

This is for the benefit of the ultimate consumer.

Another statement from the Thaw family is due.

Iron mongers do not necessarily have iron wills.

People addicted to "cold feet" should wear woolen socks.

Gasoline engines get out of order but never out of odor.

Presidents Taft and Dix will play international bridge.

Rear Admiral Melville says that it's a fake. Hour grasps.

Ignorance of the new tariff law excuses no would-be smuggler.

Most people vote as they shoot—very wild and wide of the mark.

A woman who dyes her hair red should have blue eyes and a very white skin.

The treasury deficit for August was less than for July, still it is more than enough.

The peace sentiment of the nations is finding expression in the building of bigger battleships.

"A gentle knight was pricking over the plain." Probably he was pricking his feet with prickly pears.

King Alfonso has shaved off his beard. Now the Catalonians can no longer beard him in his den.

The city building ordinance is defective. It is to be hoped that the effects have not got into the buildings.

The city treasurer has made his monthly report and shows a balance (?) on hand. Snyder, don't you want to buy a dog?

In the aerial warfare of the future will the biplane be known as a double-decker and the balloon as a seventy-four?

The first announcement of Dr. Cook's discovery of the North Pole came in a message from the Shetland Islands. It was short and might be called a "pony" report.

Eggs of the tsetse fly were found clinging to some skins sent over by the Roosevelt expedition. If they hatch it is to be hoped that the scientists of the Smithsonian Institution will not imitate Uncle Toby, open the window and let them out.

Admiral Welville says that some of the best equipped polar expeditions have cost two hundred thousand dollars, and that he knows Dr. Cook had no such outfit. And Joseph Priestly had no elaborately equipped laboratory such as modern chemists have.

Secretary of War Dickinson intimates that he will reopen the case of J. H. Booker, Jr., the cadet who was dismissed from the West Point military academy, August 19, for having. Why have any discipline at the academy? Why go through the farce of dismissal if it is to be followed by reinstatement? At one end or the other of the business there is big blundering.

#### IDLENESS PROMOTES INSANITY.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A special news dispatch from Pittsburgh to the Washington Post tells of a menacing situation in the Western penitentiary due to increasing insanity among the convicts. If accurate, the story offers convincing proof of the deleterious effects of idleness among prisoners. "Convicts are going insane by the wholesale," says the correspondent. So serious has the matter become that the warden has determined to ask that each county which has prisoners in his care shall name an insanity commission to pass upon the mental soundness of its particular convicts to the end that the warden may be rid of those who belong in an asylum rather than a penal institution. It is strange that such an appeal should be necessary. However, such is the story. The statement is made that of the 1,200 prisoners only 30 per cent are provided with work. To make the available employment go as far as possible the men are given turn, each convict working for a week and then remaining idle some forty days. This is, of course, the all-sufficient explanation of the insanity figures. Idleness promotes viciousness and viciousness of mind. It is a prime article in the penal reformer's code that convicts shall not be permitted to—or forced to—remain idle.

#### THE SHAME OF HAVING FLIES.

Chicago Record-Herald.

Much has been said this summer of the danger of having flies around and of the best ways of poisoning them or otherwise disposing of them. A writer in the September McClure's column refers to the discussion by some very pertinent remarks on the shame of having flies. What he says applies both to the country as a whole and to individual households. England, he tells us, now almost without flies, and that because of the cleaning up work of the last fifty years. "If we had no decaying organic matter we should have no flies," he says, and as England has systematically undertaken to remove and destroy such matter the fly problem for her is solved. As for the households, it is almost an identical proposition to say that a house has many flies or that it has many smells. The fly has one supreme motive in life, and that is to move toward the strongest smell. He enters the house because there are more smells inside than out, and, once in, he frequents the kitchen because there are more smells there than in the parlor. A number of devices for getting rid of flies, based either on their attraction toward smells or their attraction toward light of certain intensities, are described in the article, and prospective home builders would do well to consider them and have provision made for some of them in their kitchens or other rooms.

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life draws near. The older one becomes the more one should avoid dark and somber hues, and this includes the heads of both sexes. Gray hair is honorable, but which has been dyed is an abomination before the Lord. Cultivate thankfulness and cheerfulness. An ounce of good cheer is worth a ton of melancholy. Cultivate to the last ability to love, realize to the full that the greatest thing in the world is love. Without love there is no joy in life. As you grow older you will feel the need not only of work, a proper physical and mental occupation, but of play, recreation and study. Let the work be as far as may be in the direction of helping others to help themselves. Nothing keeps one young like thinking of and having a sympathy for others.

#### JUST FOR FUN.

On the Amateur Stage.

The Shakespeare Club of New Orleans used to give amateur theatrical performances that were distinguished for the local prominence of the actors. Once a social celebrity, with a gorgeous costume, as one of the lords in waiting, had only four words to say: "The Queen has swooned." As he stepped forward his friends applauded vociferously. Bowing his thanks, he faced the King and said, in a high-pitched voice: "The swoon has quenched."

There was a roar of laughter, but he waited patiently and made another attempt: "The swoon has quenched." Again the walls trembled and the stage manager said, in a voice which could be heard all over the house: "Lend us, you dogged fool!"

But the ambitious amateur refused to surrender, and in a rasping falsetto, as he was assisted off the stage, he repeated: "The swoon has quenched." Success.

The Difference.

The office boy of a certain Philadelphia lawyer recently approached his employer with a request for an increase of wages.

"How old are you?" demanded the lawyer.

"Fourteen, sir."

"And you're drawing \$4 a week?"

"Yes, sir."

"Do you know young man?" said the lawyer, with forbidding sternness, that when I was your age I was receiving only \$2 per week."

"No, sir, I don't know it," said the boy. Then, after a moment's reflection, he added, quite respectfully, "but, then, sir, perhaps you weren't worth any more."—Harper's Weekly.

Suspicious of His Mother.

"Ma!"

"Yes, precious."

"I'm a good boy these days, ain't I?"

"Yes, pet—you've been a very good boy since mother talked to you so seriously."

"And you trust me now, don't you, ma?"

"Yes, darling—implicitly."

"Then what do you keep the jam cupboard locked for nowadays?"—Cleveland Leader.

Psychology.

"So you believe in telepathy?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Meekton. "Though Henrietta is miles away I can tell exactly what she is thinking about this minute."

"And does she know your answer?"

"She does. She is wishing I would hurry along that hundred she wrote for and she knows I'm worrying about where the cash is coming from."—Exchange.

Good Management.

"That widow is a good manager, isn't she?"

"Manager? I should say so. She got that house of hers practically fixed up like new for nothing."

"How did she manage it?"

"She was engaged to the carpenter till all the woodwork was finished, and then she broke it off and married the plumber."

Advice.

Father (angrily)—If my son marries that actress I shall cut him off absolutely, and you can tell him so.

Legal Adviser—I know a better plan than that—tell the girl—Boston Transcript.

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<b>Kid Glove Specials</b> One and two clasp Pique Kid Gloves, all colors and sizes. Good weight and quality. A most serviceable glove for School wear. Special until 8:30 p. m. Saturday	<b>Dress Goods 35c yd.</b> A line of Wool Dress Goods in stripes, checks and chevrons, full line of colors. Sells regularly 65c a yard, Special until 8:30 p. m. Sat.
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