Rochester, The Best Governed City

This is what the New York Bureau of Municipal Research, after a six months examination, said about Rochester:

"Rochester's Government is better organized and better managed than any which has come to the Bureau's notice."

The New York Bureau of Municipal Research investigated 75 city governments. Among them are the following:

Atlanta, Ga.; Denver, Col.; Los Angeles, Cal.; Memphis, Tenn.; Bloomfield, N. J.; Charleston, S. C.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Merion, Pa.. Portland, Ore.; Newark, N. J.; Philadelphia, Pa.; St. Louis, Mo.; Reading, Pa., Springfield, Mass., Syracuse, N. Y., Buffalo, N. Y., Toronto, Can., Waterbury, Conn., Yonkers, N. Y., Jersey City, N. J., Pittsburgh, Pa., St. Paul, Minn., Bridgeport, Conn. Schenectady, N. Y., Montclair, N. J.

This Report Mr. Voter,

After Republican Administrations

WITH

HIRAM H. EDGERTON

As Mayor.

Eats Thanksgiving Dinner in His Shirtsleeves

By RUTH GRAHAM

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Gertrude Wentworth, a pretty New England girl, looked forward to Thanksgiving day with dispondency instead of anticipation of pleasure. Her mother was ill and kept to her room. She had no brothers or sisters, therefore she would be alone at the table for the Thanksgiving dinner. There seemed nothing further to do but to ignore the day entirely.

There was no reason why she should not permit the servants to enjoy themselves on Thanksgiving day, so she told them that they might go where they pleased after the morning work was finished; and they availed themselves of the permission.

The Wentworths usually remained very late in the autumn in their country cottage, at a seaside settlement, and this year were to remain till Christmas time. Their cottage was a country house as comfortable in winter as in summer. They called it "The Good Cheer," and it was cheerful even in winter. Gertrude bethought herself of inviting a friend, Miss Burns, to come out from the city and spend the day with her.

Thanksgiving morning came, and brought a letter from Miss Burns declining the invitation since she could not be spared at home. It also brought the first snow storm of the season and a howling wind.

But had Miss Burns accepted the invitation she would not have been able to make her way to "The Good Cheer," for the storm increased in violence and whirled the snow with impassable drifts. Poor Gertrude stood at the living-room window looking at the blizzard without. Within there was a cheerful blaze of logs in the fireplace, but no cheer, since Gertrude was alone.

The house stood back from the road about fifty yards, and presently Gertrude saw an auto car struggling past the house. It stalled and the driver looked about him for shelter. Noticing the name, "The Good Cheer," above the front door of the house, he naturally supposed it to be a hotel. Turning his car aside onto a space bare of snow he alighted and fought his way through drifts to the house. Gertrude was watching him and answered his summons at the door.

"Big blizzard," he said cheerily. "I think I'll stop with you till there's better going."

Gertrude saw by his words that he supposed the place to be a hotel, and bid him enter. Shaking the snow off him he did so and she pointed the way into the living room.

"What luck!" he exclaimed, throwing off his overcoat and hat and handing them to Gertrude, to put in the hall closet.

"Would you like dinner, sir?" she asked, respectfully, as a maid to a guest of the house.

"Dinner? I should smile. And I'll pay extra if you'll serve it right here in this room, before this splendid fire. What time do you dine?"

"Any time you like. This is Thanksgiving day, and all our guests are dining out. The servants have been given the day off. I can get you up a dinner, sir, and serve it right here in this room. But I need to have notice."

"Notice! Just you consider yourself notified to serve a dinner for one, the best you have in the house. Expense not to be considered, as soon as convenient for you."

Taking out a dollar bill he slipped it into Gertrude's hand, saying that there would be "another tip at the end of the banquet." Gertrude took the money, promising to do her best, and disappeared leaving the young man stretched out in an easy chair before the fire, puffing lustily at a long cigar.

About an hour afterward, this young gentleman, who was known at his club as Dick Summertime, from his cheery disposition, his real name being Richard Summerwall, having sank into a pleasant doze, was aroused by cries of, "Help! Come! Quick!"

Dashing into the kitchen, whence the cries emanated, he found Gertrude vainly endeavoring to quench a pan of blazing fat. She was blowing it which only made it burn more furiously. Mr. Summerwall looked about him for something with which to quench the fire and seeing nothing serviceable took off his coat and smothered the flame.

"Heavens!" cried Gertrude, "you've spoiled a silk-lined coat."

Mr. Summerwall looked from Gertrude to the contents of the kitchen which were in frightful disorder, then back at Gertrude.

"You're no cook," he said.

Gertrude, who didn't even know how to fry bacon, was badly rattled, broke down and confessed that she was a lady, that they were in a private house, and the rest of the situation. Mr. Summerwall thereupon turned in his shirt sleeves and acted as chef, assisted by the young lady. The two managed to get up a pretty good dinner and ate it together before the fire in the living room, though Mr. Summerwall was obliged to eat without a coat.

And so it was that Gertrude Wentworth spent her happiest Thanksgiving in her life, meeting her fate; for Mr. Summerwall after leaving, showered attentions upon her and at last prevailed upon her to eat all future Thanksgiving dinners in his company, which in commemoration of meeting his wife, he invariably did in his shirtsleeves.

THINGS NEW UNDER THE SUN

The handle of a new soldering iron is hollow and can be filled with pellets of solder, one of which is released to roll down into the heated point as a releasing spring is pressed.

A Swiss inventor has brought out a device intended to keep the pressure on electric lines constant and prevent lights becoming dim when additional loads are switched into circuits.

A European violin instructor has invented a diagram printed on paper to be pasted on the neck of an instrument to show a pupil where to place his fingers to produce desired notes.

To enable a man to hear a telephone in a noisy room and at the same time have his hands free for use a sound amplifier terminating in a tube to be inserted in one ear has been invented.

Of French invention is a boat propeller with the blades extending far forward and back of the hub and so shaped that the water is not churned and no vacuum is caused around the hub.

Using the principle of re-enforced concrete construction in the making of statuary models, a New York sculptress builds them of wire netting and coats them with plaster with a brush.

The world's greatest wireless station has been built in Italy, powerful enough to communicate with North and South America when similar stations are erected on this side of the Atlantic.

To insure the owner of a private shaving cup kept in a barber shop that he is its only user there has been invented a paper cap to cover it, which cannot be removed without breaking a seal.

THE OBSERVANT CYNIC

The quickest hedge takes a long time to grow.

Only the man who has nothing to live for can afford to loaf.

Many a man's head has been turned by flattery and a woman's by peroxide.

A lady boned a rib in Adam's time, and they have been wearing ribs ever since.

Many a man who follows a band wouldn't have the nerve to face the music.

If doctors were consistent they would cut the appendix out of their books.

If you would outshine your neighbors acquire a good reputation and then keep it polished.

You may have noticed that the friends who are willing to lend you money are those who have no money to lend.

"If we take over men's jobs we demand men's pay," says one organization of women. Well, how are some of them going to live on it?

STRAY SHOTS

A castle in Spain can always be had for a song.

You can't hang much flesh on a family skeleton.

Isn't it odd that lots of people use slang but never think in it?

When a man says he will go to the end of the world for a woman he knows that the earth is round.

IN-SHOOTS

Most of us imagine that we could save money on the other fellow's job.

The interesting facts of a romance usually come out in a divorce court.

Of course, there is a difference between the widow's mite and the grass widow's might.

The landlord and tenant never agree as to the proper time to turn on the steam.

The gentleman who lives on tomorrow's achievements is the most cheerful of optimists.

Methuselah may have indulged in "red licker," but we'll wager that he never smoked cigarettes.

Smart children and intelligent dogs can seldom be induced to perform their tricks before strangers.

When we see a girl carrying a bag of golf sticks, we wonder how a carpet sweeper would look in her hands.—Chicago Examiner.

IN THE BIG CITIES

New York has a horseless market.

New York mobilized 2,000 city boys on farms.

Atlantic City is to have a produce exchange.

Shape of an Army

The old saw about an army marching on its belly is all wrong. An army—horse, foot and gun—moves on its feet and marching and walking—as the average civilian, not a policeman or postman, understands walking upon his daily vocation—are two very different things. An infantryman on his feet carries about sixty pounds of dead weight, forty-five pounds or so of gear, eight pounds or so of rifle and the rest in ammunition or separate equipment. He cannot choose his own gait, and he has to negotiate all kinds of ground—winter roads corrugated with frozen ruts, slippery trails of mud and water, rocks, hot sand. And more than half the time a change of shoes is for him a luxury. He is very apt to keep the same pair on night and day, wet or dry. If his shoes are not right or if his feet are not sound he cannot last a week with a moving command, and it is entirely possible that he will even have trouble in a trench.—Working Work.

Wooden Pipes For Water.

In these days of iron and cement it makes one sit up to read the report from the New England waterworks on wood pipe for water supply. They claim it is preserved and not rusted or corroded by water; it is not corroded by any substance or destroyed by acids or salts; its carrying capacity is 20 per cent greater than cast iron pipe and remains constant, while that of metal pipe decreases with age; it does not taint or affect fluids going through it; it does not burst if frozen, the strength of the wood preventing it; it requires less labor and experience to lay in place than metal pipe; it may be used in shallower trenches than metal pipe, for it is not easily affected by frost; while more of the joints show some leakage when the pipe is first laid they soon swell up and give little trouble in the end; and then cost less.—Los Angeles Times.

What a Melon Did.

The notoriously corrupt Russian minister of justice, Tschaglovitoff, is a great and well known practical joker. A story was told of this recently how he was once traveling through Russia on a tour of inspection and on reaching a remote outpost was met at the station by the usual high local officials.

His visit to the place had been unadvertised, so that one little man, a very obscure person even in the official world of the district, had had time to grow an immense melon. When the minister of justice had concluded the reception at the railway station the small man came forward and deferentially presented Tschaglovitoff with the melon, upon which he had for months lavished the utmost care.

The minister was so delighted that he thereupon made the man a judge.

Gold Leaf.

There appears to be some mystery about the origin of gold leaf. It is found, for example, in connection with the most ancient known mummies, having been used for covering teeth, tongue, skin, etc. Sometimes it is also found on the coffins. Gold leaf was also used on the tombs and monuments of ancient Egypt. The process of making gold leaf has thus been known since the eighth century B. C. In the eleventh century it seems to have attained as high a degree of perfection as today. The gold leaf on some ancient Grecian pottery, indeed, is as thin as that now used.

The Usual Motion.

To a judge at St. Joseph, Mo., an old negro once applied for a marriage license. It was not the province of the judge to issue such a paper; but knowing the applicant's history, he asked:

"Ephraim, were you ever married before?"

"Jes' once, judge," was the reply.

"Wasn't that enough?"

"Mebbe, judge, but I want a new trial."—St. Louis Republic.

Plenty of Rest Is Necessary.

The best work, however hard, is always methodical enough to permit of timely rest and regular nutrition, and the full recognition of this fact is a mere question of public utility which we hope to see more and more rightly admitted into practice.—London Lancet.

An Original Introduction.

An introduction is a conventional thing, but it is still possible to impart a little originality into the form. "This is grandpa," said the little girl proudly as he introduced his friend. "I pray for him every day," he added impressively.—Washington Herald.

Just the Thing.

"What is this?"

"Sympathetic ink."

"I think I'll take some. I have a friend who is ill, and I must write a letter of condolence."—Pittsburgh Post.

A Culinary Puzzle.

Waiter (seeing dissatisfaction on guest's face)—Wasn't the dinner cooked to suit you, sir? Guest—Yes, I'll bet the bill. Just take that back and tell them to boil it down a little!

Different Answer.

"Am I the first girl you have ever loved?"

"No, you are the sixteenth, and my table has been improving right along."—Kansas City Journal.

We learned this today we received so much that was good from the world and gave so little back.—Harriet Martineau.