

FOUR
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ST. JOHN STAR.
ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 13, 1909.

THE EVILS OF SMOKE.

'Any man who becomes a faddist can find most plausible arguments to back up the opinions which he chooses to cultivate, but when a supposedly sane individual gets up and says that by suppressing the smoke nuisance in great cities seventy-five per cent. of those who now die from consumption could be saved, it is time to have his head examined. The International Association for the Prevention of Smoke, which is in reality composed to a large extent of manufacturers and smoke consumers, has recently concluded its session at St. Louis, Mo., and its chief engineer, Mr. H. M. Wilson, chief engineer in the United States Geological Survey read a paper on the loss occasioned by smoke; the actual damage to property in the destruction of merchandise, defacement of buildings, tarnishing of metals, injury to plant life and the increased labor and cost of housekeeping, he estimated at \$800,000,000 annually. The smoke evil he declared to be one of the greatest dangers of modern times, destroying health, lowering human vitality and increasing the death rate. In the larger cities more than 20,000,000 live, and these suffer all the losses which make the grand total. His estimate means a per capita loss of \$20.00 a year by every man, woman and child among the city dwellers. Mr. Wilson, in the preparation of his address on this subject, secured masses of information bearing on the question, but it is obvious that to a scientist of his standing should not be led into making so emphatically such definite statements, which, at the best, are really nothing more than guess work. There is no doubt that smoke means unhealthiness, it is equally true that the continual breathing of toxic smoke predisposes the lungs to tuberculosis, but certainly it should not be argued, as Mr. Wilson holds, that three-fourths of the deaths of consumption can be prevented if the smoke nuisance is eliminated. The fact that the death rate in the United States has increased almost in the same proportion as the consumption of coal should not be used as an argument in support of the contention that the smoke from this coal causes the larger number of deaths. The smokeless city is the ideal, and the day will come when this condition will be realized, but it will be not so much through the consumption of smoke as by the introduction of electricity to all those uses to which steam is now put.

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS.
(From Punch.)
(Being the reflections of a postmistor on the unanimity shown by our leading statesmen in speeches delivered on the subject of National Defence before the Imperial Press Conference.)
'Ah God, for a man with heart, head, hand, Like some of the simple great ones gone For ever and ever by,
One still strong man in a blatant land, Whatever they call him, what care I, Aristocrat, democrat, autocrat—one Who can rule . . . —Tennyson.
Yes, we "endorse" each other right enough.
'Hear, hear," we cry, "twas excellently said."
Our hearts, no doubt, are of the proper stuff,
And here and there a head—
But, when we look to feel the guiding hand
Lead to the promised task betimes and now,
Like patient oxen in the tilths we stand,
With none to steer the plough.
Oh, you have heard us, you from overseas,
Have heard our statements, every brand and hue,
Talk with a wondrous unanimity Of what we ought to do;
But think you we shall do it? Ah, good Sirs,
The thought is prompted by a guestly tact,
Or you are misinformed of what occurs in the domain of fact.
Not that we shrink the sacrifice to pay!
Nor that our ancient pride of race is lost;
But our chosen leaders make delay,
Stopping to count the cost.
A decade stooze, in that disastrous year
We put our finger on the cankered spot.
Saying, "We'll have the surgeon's lancet,
And left it—clean forgot.
That is our way, down which we ever drift;
Hopeful that with the Hour will come the Man,
We wait to call to action, stern and swift,
To clinch the pondered plan;
And still we need a ruler who can rule,
An arm to stem the iron white it flows,
And we are left to let our fervour cool,
And the good moment goes.
Honest we grant them; we're an honest breed;
But where's the courage bold to say, "You must!
There lies your duty; follow where I lead;
Else I resign my trust!"
O you who never in your younger lands
Have "let I dare not wait upon 'I would,"
But, when your heart's work lies before your hands,
Take it and make it good;
Go back and shame us into living deeds,
For here at home, in speeches deftly spun,
We talk and talk and talk of England's needs,
And nothing's ever done!
Poor "weary Titan" (that's the term they use)—
Weary I can't think why, unless for lack
Of exercise to keep her splendid thighs
From growing soft and slack—
'Tis to the sons our candour makes appeal
(Trusting the family to bear the truth)
That you should give her tonic stiff with steel,
And so renew her youth;
Yet 'not assume the cynic's captious mood,
For such irreverence would become you ill,
Since, at her worst and weariest,
And she's a Titan still. O. S.

THE COUNTY ROADS.

The supporters of the Hagan government are pointing with pride to the new highway act as an argument why St. John County should return a government supporter at the coming by-election.
The fact that the revised act has been in force for a short time is given as an excuse for the fact, which is so painfully apparent, that the roads of the county are not in better condition.
Along the Staber house at Flatbush, there can be no excuse for the manner in which the highways approaching St. John have been allowed to fall into disrepair during the past year.
By even reasonable care it would have been possible to prevent the roads getting into such a disgraceful state and with the exercise of a little of the enterprise with which the government lays such vigorous claims, it would have been possible to have shown a marked improvement during the past season. No better example of the worst kind of roads with which the people have to be content could be found than the stretch leading to the back entrance of Fernhill Cemetery. A large amount of travel passes over this road as it forms the most convenient mode of access to the cemetery. If consideration for the living would not move the government's agents to look after this piece of road they might at least pay a little attention to its claims out of respect to the dead whose remains are bumped mercilessly over the rocks and ruts of this road on their last journey. It is true that the dead have no voice, but it would seem to be in rather bad taste to overlook a matter of this kind on that account. The government could do a whole lot to make itself popular with the people of both the city and county of St. John by having that highway act a chance to show what it can do on this particular stretch of highway.

When this strike is over the municipality of Glas Bay will find itself with several very perplexing problems on hand. Mayor Douglas claims the right to appoint as many special police as he feels are necessary and certainly his ideas of the seriousness of the situation are not wholly governed by economy. He has sworn to hundreds of men the majority of whom, it is claimed, are strikers, and whose appointments have been disallowed by the police committee. This committee

repudiates responsibility for the pay of these extra constables, while the Mayor contends that the municipality is liable for expense incurred by his authority. On the other hand Mayor Douglas, having entered his protest against the militia—who by the way are not strikers—has declared that Glas Bay will not foot the bills. The militia department, however, will collect the money from the municipality, as, under the law, the Mayor is not the only one by whom troops may be requisitioned, and the request from Judge Finlayson being in every way regular, renders the municipality liable.

Not the least interesting visitor to the city yesterday was that veteran of eighty-three, who marched in the parade of July 12th, 1848, and who has never since been in St. John. He has carried, through those sixty years, scars of the wounds received in the York Point riot.
'Twas a great day for Aleck.
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AGED COUPLE WERE BEATEN TO DEATH
And Not Suffocated When House Burned as Was First Supposed—Landlord Suspected
NEW YORK, July 12.—A coroner's autopsy today proved conclusively that Thomas Verity, 73 years old, and his wife, Cynthia, 61, whose bodies were found early yesterday in the ashes of the house at Patchogue, L. I., where they lodged, were not smothered by the smoke or burned to death. They had apparently been beaten to death in bed, while they lay asleep. The woman's scalp bore three gashes, one five inches long while the old man's head was badly cut.
A motive for the murder is not easily to be assigned, although Peter Fackelwitz, the landlord, is held as a suspect.

AQUEDUCT RUNS THROUGH VEINS OF GOLD
Laborers Fight for Chance to Work in Trench—Pocket of Gold Found in Excavations
RANDSBURG, Calif., July 12.—The water supply of Los Angeles from the filtered snows of the Owens Valley County will wind through strata of gold. Parts of the aqueduct are found to be heavy with veins, and in a number of cases pockets of gold have been taken away. Some places of the construction, laborers actually dig for, because of the chance of striking a pocket. From one stretch of excavation less than twelve feet long, samples of high grade ore were taken which in some instances show assays of \$200.

OHIO FUNERAL BLOW ABOUT BY TORNADO
HAMILTON, Ohio, July 12.—More than a score of persons were injured in a tornado that swept over the northeastern part of Butler County late today. At least nine fatalities were reported. Mrs. Sarah Lloyd was caught in the wind. Five carriages, containing ninety persons, were blown across a road and hurled against a fence, injuring all of the occupants. Several persons were thrown overboard. The occupants were held prisoners while the vehicles were rolled over several times.

WELLAND CANAL TIED UP BY WASHOUT
ST. CATERINES, July 13.—A washout occurred yesterday morning at Lock 15 on the Welland Canal. The canal is tied up for now long no can say. Several vessels are waiting to get through.

BRIEF DESPATCHES
SACRAMENTO, Cal., July 12.—With 90 million before him, Edward Payson Weston tonight proceeded on his way to San Francisco, where he will end his walk from New York.
STRENSVILL, Ohio, July 12.—Mary Miller, of New Brighton, Pa., was killed and several others injured in an electrical storm which swept the camp meeting grounds of the Free Methodists here tonight. A testimony meeting was being held. Miss Miller had been the last to give testimony.
GLOUCESTER, Mass., July 12.—Howard A. Parsons, aged 90 years, was suffocated in a fire which destroyed his home at 12 Russell avenue, here late tonight. His body was found in his kitchen by the firemen after the fire had gained considerable headway. The dead man leaves a wife and children.
CHICAGO, Ill., July 12.—A storm of wind and rain that was particularly severe in the Missouri Valley tonight swept around until it had encircled Chicago, according to reports received by telegraph companies whose wires are in bad shape. Wires are down in every direction from Chicago. The storm extends from Louisville to Minneapolis and from Kansas City and Dubuque to Cleveland. It is reported to be working eastward.
AMESBURY, Mass., July 12.—Mystery surrounds the drowning this afternoon of Patrick Campbell, 55 years old, of this city, whose body was picked up off Hampton Beach, Campbell, who is an employe of the Atlantic Boat Company, started this afternoon in one of the company's boats for Bath, Maine. Nothing was seen of him until his body was floating later off Hampton Beach. There was no sign of his boat. He leaves four children.
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 12.—At a conference at the White House today it was definitely decided that the rate to be levied under the new corporation tax shall be reduced from two per cent. to one per cent., and that on re-drafting the measure, now in conference, along with the tariff bill to meet various objections that have been raised, due consideration shall be given to the demands of the Mutual Life Insurance companies, whose incomes would be seriously affected by the tax in its original form.

MISS PANKHURST AGAIN SENTENCED
Released Pending Appeal to Higher Court.
Miss Pankhurst Contended That Suffragettes Should be Treated as Political Prisoners.
LONDON, July 12.—Sir Albert De Rutzen, chief magistrate of the Metropolitan Police Court, today decided against the Suffragettes on the point raised by Miss Pankhurst, regarding the right to present a petition to Parliament, and sentenced her to a fine of \$25 or to prison for one month on the charge of resuming the poll.
The constitutional question raised by Miss Pankhurst was argued at great length, and resulted in a judgment, announcing the judgment, said that he anticipated that an appeal would be made to a higher court. Miss Pankhurst, who defended herself, declared that her assault on Police Inspector Savory on the night of June 29, when 116 Suffragettes were arrested for trying to force their way into the House of Commons, was the result of a battle to the Government and defiance for its unconstitutional ways.
'I was awaiting myself for 24 hours, Miss Pankhurst, when I started that depiction of eight helpless women, about whom men argued with opera glasses had congregated to watch as though it was a good show. It was bound to result in humiliation; but until women have the power to elect representatives to Parliament it is their duty to maintain the right of a subject to petition the King through Parliament. If the magistrate repeats his former sentence we will go to prison, but we will not conform any longer with the prison regulations. As political offenders we will insist on being treated as such and not as ordinary prisoners, and in the House of Commons we will act as did Miss Dunlop.'

BURGLAR REGRETS WOMAN'S DEATH
Lays Blame on Her Husband and Son for Trying to Stop Him.
NEW YORK, July 12.—Frank Schmitt, alias John Smith, alias Francis Schlemmer, the wounded burglar, with a prison record behind him, who admitted that he had shot his wife, Mrs. Staber, who was killed, and his son, who was injured, in a burglary at Flatbush, N. Y., gave the district attorney his version of the moral to be drawn from the murder.
Mr. Staber and his son are the ones to be blamed for the killing, he said. "They were fools to try and stop me," he said. "When all we wanted was to get away. If we had been left alone there wouldn't have been no shooting."
'If Mr. Staber will take a gun I will gladly stand up in front of him and let him shoot till I drop dead. That's how much I regret this affair.'
'Schmitt, who was very weak from loss of blood when captured, was operated on last night and is now in danger. His pal, Carlo Giro, alias Metzler, who was arrested at first, made a full confession, in which he tried to lay all the blame on his mate. Schmitt escaped from Sing Sing, where he was serving three years for counterfeiting in 1906, while repairing the prison wall, and has been at large until this tragedy.

COULDN'T FOOL HIM
Doctor Was Firm and Was Right
Many doctors forbid their patients to drink coffee but the patients still drink it on the sly and thus spoil all the doctor's efforts, and keep themselves sick.
Sometimes the doctor makes sure that the patient is not drinking coffee and there was a case of that kind in St. Paul, where a business man said: "After a very severe illness last winter which almost caused my death, the doctor said Postum was the only thing that I could drink and he just made me quit coffee and drink Postum. My illness was caused by indigestion from the use of tea and coffee."
'The state of my stomach was so bad that it became terribly inflamed and finally resulted in a rupture. I had not drunk Postum very long before my lost blood was restored and my stomach was well and strong and I have now been using Postum for almost a year. When I got up from bed after my illness I weighed 98 pounds and now my weight is 120.
'There is no doubt that Postum was the cause of this wonderful improvement. I shall never go back to tea or coffee but shall always stick to the food drink that brought me back to health and strength.'
Look for the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."
Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

Our Syrup of Hypophosphites
You will find it an ideal tonic to build up a weak system. It makes the blood tingle with new life.
Get a Bottle 75 cents
FRANK E. PORTER, PRESBYTERIAN DRUGGIST, Cor. Union and St. Patrick Sts.

HOOPES NAMES MAN HE SHOT
Cricketer Newhall Accused
WIFE UNFAITHFUL
Some of the Many Charges Preferred Against Woman
PHILADELPHIA, July 12.—Dawson Hoopes filed a suit in common pleas court No. 4 today for divorce from Kate Eleanor Hoopes. He names as respondent Charles A. Newhall, a cricketer of international reputation, whom he shot with a double barreled gun at Ambler under circumstances as serious as the charges he now makes. He alleges unfaithfulness, desertion and cruel treatment.
In addition to his application for divorce Hoopes filed a suit in equity for the recovery of an estate which he says is worth \$50,000 and which he declares he signed away while feeble in mind and body owing to inducements offered by his wife and her brothers, Clement R. Hoopes and Barton Hoopes, Jr.
Mrs. Hoopes' side of the story has not been made public. Several years ago she began proceedings to have her husband adjudged a habitual drunkard. In his petition for the recovery of his property Hoopes declares that she is a drug or foreign substance in milk before him. He further asserts that she told him repeatedly that she was nothing to be proud of and that she wanted his money, that she wished he were dead, and that at least one occasion she let a loaded revolver in a postbox by which he might accidentally be killed by a discharge of the weapon while he was undressing in the dark.
He also charges his wife with using profanity, throwing kisses from the window of her home to Newhall, with giving the latter authority to control the house and the servants of the Hoopes household.
He further alleges that Mrs. Hoopes permitted Newhall to furnish her with breakfast and declares that she came home in the early morning in a taxi cab with Newhall and that she was intoxicated.
He alleges that Newhall and his wife played a fondness for walks in woods and unfrequented places in and about Chestnut Hill. In this connection he declares that Newhall and his wife were seen in the presence of a respondent and the said Charles A. Newhall would have numerous walks together in lonely woods and in the presence of a respondent. They have remained for hours at a time in the unoccupied house of the respondent's sister, Mrs. Chancery C. English, in Chestnut Hill and in numerous other places.
'Upon numerous occasions,' declares the petition, "the respondent made her abductions in the presence of respondent Newhall in Tynnyford and appeared before said Newhall clothed in nothing more than a loose kimono."
Tynnyford was the name of the Hoopes country house at Chestnut Hill.
Declaring that the boathouse of the Wissahickon Canoe Club was a meeting place for the pair, Hoopes said: "The respondent and Newhall upon numerous occasions stopped at the boathouse and remained there for hours at a time. The respondent had a key to the boathouse and she emerged with her hair disheveled."
'She signalled from the window of her home," he complains, "in such a manner as to provoke gossip in the neighborhood, appeared at the windows in an informal attire and threw kisses from the window to Newhall."

CHANGE OF TUNE
A furniture van stood in front of a house. A little boy stood by the horse and gave it some bread to eat. The driver looked on with a broad grin.
'That's right," said he to the young benefactor, "always be kind to dumb animals. Look how the old horse enjoys it. But does your mother always give you big chunks like that?"
'No," replied the youngster; "I didn't get that from my mother."
'Where did you get it, then?"
'It was lying in the van."
Here the driver flew into a temper and scolded out:
'Why, that was my breakfast, your miserable rascal, you!"
The poor lad, doomed thus early in life to a practical experience of the sudden vicissitudes of popular favor flew from the scene.—London Tit-Bits.

CONSIDER BILL IS EXCESSIVE
School Board Balks at Recorder's Bill
REGULAR MEETING
Mr. McLean's Resignation is Received—Other Matters Dealt With
The regular monthly meeting of the School Board was held last evening in their rooms, Union street. H. Colby Smith, a new member, who was appointed to replace W. C. R. Allen, was extended a welcome and introductions followed.
After reading and accepting the minutes of the last meeting, graduates holding teachers' licenses were read and referred to the teachers' committee.
The applications for increases from Miss Robinson and Mr. McKinnon, and four months leave of absence from Miss Warring were also referred to the teachers' committee, with power to act.
Chairman R. B. Emerson then read a letter from W. A. McLean, tendering his resignation as principal of Albert school, to take up his duties as inspector.
After accepting the resignation it was moved that a testimonial be sent to Mr. McLean for the faithful performance of his duties during the past thirty years.
Pauline W. Livingston sent a letter of thanks for letters received during her illness.
A letter of resignation was accepted from Clara W. Fritz.
The Board of Education, through W. S. Carter, sent a communication declining to make any arrangement for more holidays for the city schools. This letter caused considerable discussion and upon motion of Mr. Colwell the following committee were appointed to wait upon the government: The chairman, Mayor Bullock and M. Coll. A further effort will be made to secure the desired additional holidays.
An application received for the position of janitor of Winter street annex, was referred to the following committee: M. Coll, J. V. Russell and Mayor Bullock, with power to act.
Dr. Bridges considered three convictions had had the desired effect and former truants had attended more regularly since. Wm. Tutts, Roland Lemon and Harry Noakes had been dealt with.
Applications from Ira H. Humphrey and H. P. McPate for positions on the teaching staff were referred to the teachers' committee. A communication from Miss Curry re the Manual Training staff, was also referred to the committee.
It is expected that the new school building on Winter street will be in readiness for the fall, as only the upper floor remains unfinished.
Mr. Geo. E. Day reported that the lot recently acquired by the board on Newman street ready to be fenced in. The ground in the ground will be neatly appreciated by the children of that school.
Trust Officer McManis reports twelve irregular and four total truants for the month of June.
The board then adjourned.

BALLOONIST'S NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH
NASHUA, N. H., July 12.—Alfred Patenaud, a balloonist, of Haverhill, Mass., had a narrow escape from death or serious injury this evening while making a balloon ascension and parachute jump. For some reason his balloon began to sink before it had attained the proper height for a parachute jump and Patenaud was forced to cut away hastily. He shot downward for 200 feet towards a building before his parachute opened and checked his course so that when he hit the structure he sustained only a sprained ankle.

Are You Ruptured?
We can fit you with one of the famous JELCO TRUSSES, make you comfortable and secure.
Do not neglect a rupture.
E. CLINTON BROWN Druggist
Cor. Union and Waterloo Sts.

If You Must Wear Glasses
WEAR HEDDING ONES.
We make a special study in the art of fitting glasses, and assure entire satisfaction, not only for correctness of lenses, but also for the accuracy of the prescription.
D. BOYANER, Optician, 3 Dock St.

FERGUSON & PAGE, Jewelry, Etc.
41 King St.
CANADIAN ORDER FORESTER Assessment System, Fraternal Insurance.
MEET OF MEMBERS CITY COURTS COURT ST. JOHN, No. 418—Crown Hall, German street, 1st Friday 1 month.
COURT UNION JACK, No. 54—Orange Hall, German Street, 1st Wednesday.
COURT NORTH END, No. 67—Unit Hall, Main street, 1st Tuesday each month.
COURT TIFKON, No. 72—Crown Hall, Simonds street, 3rd Wednesday.
COURT ELAWATHE, No. 113—Terrence Hall, Market Building, 3rd Wednesday.
Offices of the order PALMERBY CHAMBER, 64 Princess Street.
R. W. WIDMORE, District Deputy.
D. R. KENNEDY, District Organizer.

Read Classified Ads.
PAGE 3

Years of Service
Made for years of service are knives, forks, spoons, etc., stamped
"BOB ROGERS BROS."
You should look for this mark. It assures you of the best.
Best tea sets, dishes, silver, etc., we shape
MERIDEN BRISTLE CO.
SOLD BY LEADING DEALERS
"Silver Plate that Weary"

CAUTION!
Refuse any bread sold as BUTTERNUT BREAD
ROBINSON'S BUTTER NUT BREAD
without this label

A NEW LINE OF TALK
Unexpected Experience of a Drummer
In a Car With a Pretty Girl.
'Is this seat engaged?' he asked of the prettiest girl in the car, and, finding that it wasn't, he put his sams box in the rack and braced himself for solid enjoyment.
'Pleasant day," said the girl, looking for him before he could get his tongue unknotted. "Most bewitching day, isn't it?"
"Oh, yes; thanks," murmured the drummer.
'Glad to hear it," resumed the girl cheerfully. "You don't look so. Let me pe my shawl under your head, won't you? Hadn't you better sit next to the window and let me describe the landscape to you?"
'No, please," he murmured. "I'm doing well enough."
'May I buy some peanuts or a loaf of bread? Suppose I slip an arm round your waist. Just lean forward a trifle, please, so that I can."
'You'll—your hand to excuse me gasped the wretched drummer, "don't think you really mean it!"
'You look so tired," she pleaded. "Wouldn't you like to rest your head on my shoulder? No one will notice just lay your head right down and I tell you stories."
'No, thanks; I won't today. I'm very comfortable," and the poor drummer looked around helplessly.
'Your scarfpin is coming out. Let me fix it there," and she arranged it deftly. "At the next station I'll give you a cup of tea, and when we arrive at our destination you'll let me call it yours!" And she smiled benevolently right into his pallid countenance.
'I think I'll go and smoke," said the drummer as he hauled down his gris sack and made a bolt for the door. Puck.

BENEVOLENT.
Recently attended the invitation of his old chum Potts, Briggs Journey over to the little seaside town for a few days' rest. Whilst going out for a quiet walk one evening, Potts notice his neighbor, Hland, sitting in his garden idly enjoying a cigar, and of course, observed customary greetings and passed on.
'Decent chap is Hland, you know Briggs. Very charitable and considerate, and causes a lot of money to be distributed among the poor and aged."
'Glad to hear it, old fellow. I'm aware," replied Briggs. "Your friend is retired, I suppose?"
'No—oh, no," said Potts, rather eagerly.
'What does he do, then?"
'Oh, he's the district officer for the old-age pensions," remarked the jovial Potts.
And Briggs then laughed good-humoredly.

One Packet of WILSON'S FLY PADS
Has actually killed a Bushel of Flies
SOLD BY ALL GROCERS



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'You look so tired," she pleaded. "Wouldn't you like to rest your head on my shoulder? No one will notice just lay your head right down and I tell you stories."
'No, thanks; I won't today. I'm very comfortable," and the poor drummer looked around helplessly.
'Your scarfpin is coming out. Let me fix it there," and she arranged it deftly. "At the next station I'll give you a cup of tea, and when we arrive at our destination you'll let me call it yours!" And she smiled benevolently right into his pallid countenance.
'I think I'll go and smoke," said the drummer as he hauled down his gris sack and made a bolt for the door. Puck.

BENEVOLENT.
Recently attended the invitation of his old chum Potts, Briggs Journey over to the little seaside town for a few days' rest. Whilst going out for a quiet walk one evening, Potts notice his neighbor, Hland, sitting in his garden idly enjoying a cigar, and of course, observed customary greetings and passed on.
'Decent chap is Hland, you know Briggs. Very charitable and considerate, and causes a lot of money to be distributed among the poor and aged."
'Glad to hear it, old fellow. I'm aware," replied Briggs. "Your friend is retired, I suppose?"
'No—oh, no," said Potts, rather eagerly.
'What does he do, then?"
'Oh, he's the district officer for the old-age pensions," remarked the jovial Potts.
And Briggs then laughed good-humoredly.

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