

on the**MAIN STREET**

July 18/70



Have you had in your town a "character" like the Cabby they called Friday? The town could boast of several good livery stables and Friday was one of the most gentlemanly Cabbies that ever was. He was Irish to the core, full of good humor and exceedingly courteous. He sat up as straight as a lance on the front seat of his one-horse, open-roof cab. It was a swanky cab at one time, with lots of smooth black shiny leather, well cushioned leather seats and two large artistic lanterns on each side of the front seat, lanterns which today are valued highly as antiques. Friday had two or three pals and usually on Saturday night they held a little get-to-gether, when everything from bovril to good Scotch was on the menu, with a liberal allowance of good old crackers and cheese. Occasionally the cabbie went forward to pick up some sticks of wood to make a fire in the old cook stove, located at the back of the livery. Friday had one special customer, a local Judge, who had the cab call for him going to and from the station or the court house. Friday never missed a call and was always punctual. But one early, cold and frosty December morning he called for his friend the Judge, hopped down off the high perch and courteously opened the door. Lo and behold it was half filled with sticks of wood left over from the Jamboree of the night before. His Honor the Judge smiled and mounted to the top front with Friday and drove away. Unfortunately this town character died an untimely death when he was

burned to death in his little shack near the railroad track.

Many towns and villages have had their "mug-wumps" especially when it comes to small town politics. There is the very popular chap, affable and friendly at all times, who never has an open quarrel, but is often "on the spot". The man who tries to please everybody, who in the majority of decisions plays to the audience and goes with the crowd. The citizen who actually had done much for the home town but seldom takes a firm stand. He fears to let the chips fall where they may, but is inclined to play both sides and as a rule confuses friends and foe. Soon there will be no fence to sit on, but until that time comes, he is one of the most likeable chaps, but yet cannot be depended on to take a firm stand.