JOHN SMITH, THE NEW FINANCIAL SECRETARY OF TIM-ANYONI DITCH COMPANY, MAKES A PLAN TO PUT THE CONCERN ON ITS FEET, BUT ENEMIES ARE HARD AT WORK TO THWART HIM.

Synopsis.--J. Montague Smith, cushier of Lawrenceville Bank and Trust company, society bachelor enguged to marry Verda Richlander, helress, knocks his employer, Watrous Dunham, senseless, leaves him for dead and flees the state when Dunham accuses Smith of dishonesty and wants him to take the blame for embezzlement actually committed by Dunham. Several weeks later, Smith appears as a tramp at a town in the Rocky mountains and gets a laboring job in an irrigation ditch construction camp. His intelligence draws the attention of Williams, the superintendent, who thinks he can use the tramp, John Smith, in a more important place. The ditch company is in hard lines financially because eastern financial interests are working to undermine the local crowd headed by Colonel Baldwin and take over valuable property. Smith finally accepts appointment as financial secretary of Baldwin's company. He has already struck up a pleasant acquaintance with Corona Baldwin, the colonel's winsome daughter.

CHAPTER VIII,-Continued. -7-

"You followed?" queried Stanton. "Yes, and when I got there the

"You look him up and do it quick?"

mes. "It'll most likely run into money that satisfy them?" -for expenses," he suggested.

"For graft, you mean," snapped smile was grim. Stanten. Then he had it out with this second subordinate in crisp English, and you know it. Out here on the Two onto you with both feet, Shaw; woolly edge of things a dollar is just levery crook and turn of you. More a plain fron dollar, and you can't make than that, I know why you were fired it two merely by calling it so." out of Maxwell's office; you've got sticky flugers. That's all right with the new financier. "At two to one for me up to a certain point, but beyond the amortization of the old company that point you get off. Understand?" we shall still have something like

serms, but if his employer had been ury stock upon which to realize for the watching the heavy-lidded eyes, he new capital needed, and that will be inight have seen in them the shadow sniply sufficient to complete the dama the fear that makes for treachery near can we come to placing that when the sharp need for self-protec- treasury stock right here in Timantion arises.

"Til try to find out about the hobo," e said, with fair enough lip-loyalty. md after he had rolled a fresh rigawite he went away to begin the minng operations which might promise o unearth Smith's record.

It was ten o'clock when Shaw left the real-estate office in the Hophra House block. Haif an hour earlier Booth had come to town with the mionel in the rondster, and the two and shut themselves up polonel's private room in the Timanront Ditch company's town office in the Barker building, which was two second wind now, and the race promphra house. Summoned promptly, ised to be a keen loy, Martin, the bookkeeper, had brought in his statements and balance sheets,



Out About the Hobo."

Amortization, is the word, colo- country and all that. But you can't The banker pursed his lips until the while if it be in winter he makes a had gone over Martin's summaries. ity, if that's what you're aiming to do," stiffly. Then he cut straight to the The best way to get at it now is to

John," he said. "We folks out Timanyoni Ditch?"

ther and bigger one, usually. That stock-buying from Gardner and Bol- own banker, won't you, Mr. Smith?' he The cotton plant's normal rooting may

fitness that made bim feel as if

could cope with anything. "We must close up the company affairs and then reorganize promptly was shut up in Williams' of and, with just as little noise as may see with a fellow named Smith. When be, form another company-which we got a place to listen in they were will call Timanyoni High Line-and setting ready to quit, and the colonel let it take over the old outfit, stock, was saying: "That settles it, Smith; liabilities and assets entire. You say you've got to come over into'-I didn't your present capital stock is one huncatch the name of the place—and help dred thousand dollars. This new company that I am speaking of will be Again the gentleman with the sharp expitalized at, say, an even half milnw took time for narrow-eyed reflection. To the present holders of Timunyoui Ditch we'll give the new stock "You'll move to switch over from the for the old, share for share, with a colonel to this fellow Emith for the bonus of twenty-five shares of the new present, Shaw," he decided, at length, stock for every twenty-five shares of the old surrendered and exchanged. The young man glanced up with a This will be practically giving the presfaint warming of avarice in his sleepy ent shareholders two for one. Will

This time Colonel Dexter Buldwin's

"You're just juggling now, John,

"Never you mind about that," cut in Shaw made no answer in direct three hundred thousand dollars treasa thing much more dangerous than and the ditches and to provide a fighthain dishonesty: a passing shadow of ing fund. Now then, tell me this: how ront Park? It's up to us to keep this thing in the family, so to speak; and the moment we go into other markets we are getting over into the enemy's country. I'm not saying that the money couldn't be raised in New York; but if we should go there, the trust would have an underhold on us

right from the start." "I see," said the colonel, who was indeed seeing many things that his simple-hearted philosophy had never dreamed of; and then he answered the direct question. "There is plenty of money right here in the Timanyonia,"

Smith nodded. He was getting his

"But they would have to be 'shown," and speed it up to the limit; we ought home?" to double Williams' force at once-put

The colonel blinked twice and swal-

"Never mind; don't get nervous," par?"

"Tell me a little something shout Mr. Kinzle before we go down to see him; just brief him for me as a man,

ed believes in the resources of the know."

"Can't we?" smiled the young man heart of the matter. the the slate clean and begin over who knew banks and bankers. "Let's The ranchman president was chuck. Kinzie as your acting financial secre- the pool will ignore those stockholders from 10 cents to \$2 or more, depending tary, if you like. Now one more ques- who don't come in?"

ly; he is a stockholder in a small way, we are giving Colonel Baldwin's brushes, You don't know the word? It But after a while he began to cool friends a fair chance to come in out means to scrap the old machinery to down a little, and now-well, I don't of the wet. Of course, if they refuse make room for the new," Smith ex- know; I hate to think it of Dave, but to come in-if they prefer to stay "In modern business it is the I'm afraid he's leaning the other way, out-" s of extinguishing a corpora- toward these Eastern fellows. He elosing it up and burying it in tried to cover Stanton's tracks in the

the colonel, taking his first lesson obscured in any battle of business. Snance as a duck takes to the "The big company would be a better Then he added: "It won't take customer for the bank than your little a little-just a little. of a liet to kill off the old com- one could ever hope to be. I guess the shape it's got into now. that's all for the present. If you're thing, and the surest, that ever came

street together that Mr. Crawford noon. It's rather cruel to hurry you Stanton had his third morning caller, so, but time is precious with us and-" little piglike eyes, closely cropped hair, man, and put a little of this precious a bristling mustache, and a wooden time of yours against mine," said Kinleg of the homemade sort. The men | zie, pointing authoritatively at the of the camps called the cripple "Peg- chair which Smith had just vacated. leg" or "Blue Pete" indifferently, "You mustn't go off at half-cock, that though not to his face. For though way. You'll need a bank here to do the fat face was always relaxed in a business with, won't you?" good-natured smile, the crippled saloonkeeper was of those who kill with smiled genially and fired his final shot. the knife.

step came in from the street.

"Hello, Simms," he said, in cort be better for us not to have one." greeting. "Want to see me? down."

shook his head. "It ain't worth while; and I gotta get back to camp. I blew fect. in to tell y'u there's a fella out there that needs th' sandbag."

"Who is it?" "Fella name' Smith. He's showin' 'em how to cut too many cornerspace-settin', he calls it. First thing they know, they'll get the concrete up to where the high water won't bu'st it

Stanton's laugh was impatient. "Don't make any mistake of that sort, Simms," he said. "We don't want the dam destroyed; we'd work just as hard as they would to prevent that. All we want is to have other people think it's likely to go out-think it hard enough to keep them from putting up any more money. Let that go. Is there any more fresh talk-among the men?" Stanton prided himself a little upon the underground wire-pulling which had resulted in putting Simms on the ground as the keeper of the construction-camp canteen. It was a fairly original way of keeping a listening ear open for the camp gossip. "Little," said the cripple briefly. "This here blink-blank fella Smith's

puts the brake on for speed." "So It does," agreed Stanton mus ingly. "But I guess you can stay while longer. I have a notion that Smith's been sent here-by some outfit that menns to buck us. If he husn't any backing-"

been tellin' Williams that I ort to be

run off th' reservation; says th' booze

The interruption was the burried in coming of the young man with sleepy eyes and the cigarette stains on his fingers, and for once in a way he was stirred out of his customary attitude of cypical indifference.

"Smith and Colonel Baldwin are over yonder in Kinzle's private office." he reported bastily. "Before they shut the door I heard Baldwin introducing Smith as the new acting financial secretary of the Timanyoni Ditch com-

CHAPTER IX.

When Greek Meets Greek. Smith allowed himself ten brief seconds for a swift eye-measuring of the square-shouldered, stockily built man with a gray face and stubbly mustache sitting in the chair of authority at the Brewster City National before he chose his line of attack.

"We are not going to cut very deeply into your time this morning, Mr. Kinzie," he began when the eye appraisal had given him his cue. "You know the history of Timanyoni Ditch up to the present, and-well, to cut out the details, there is to be a complete reorganization of the company on a new basis, and we are here to offer to take your personal allotment of the stock off your hands at par for cash. Colonel Baldwin has stipulated that his friends in the original deal must be protected,

"Here, here-hold on," Interrupted you think?" he suggested. "All right; the bank president; "you're hitting it we'll proceed to show them. Now we up a little bit too fast for me. Mr. can come down to present necessities. Smith. Who are you, and whereabouts We've got to keep the work going- do you hold forth when you are at

Smith laughed easily. "If we were on a night shift to work by electric trying to borrow money of you, we might have to go into preliminaries and particulars, Mr. Kinzle. We are not alone in the fight for the water "Say, John," he said, leaning across rights on the other side of the river. the table-desk; "you've sure got your as you know, and until we are safely nerve with you. Do you know our fortified we shall have to be prudently present bank balance is under five cautious. What we want to know now thousand dollars, and a good part of is this: Will you let us protect you by that is owing to the cement people!" taking your Timanyoni Ditch stock at

was the reassuring rejoinder. "We are | Kinzle met the issue fairly. "I don't going to make it bigger in a few min- know you yet, Mr. Smith; but I do utes, I hope. Who, is your banker know Colonel Baldwin, here, and guess I'll take a chance on things as "Dave Kinzle of the Brewster City they stand. I'll keep my stock."

The new secretary's smile was rather patronizing than grateful.

"As you please, Mr. Kinzle, of course," he said smoothly. "But I'm shovels cannot overtake him, for he going to tell you frankly that you'll The colonel was shaking his head keep it at your own risk. I am not sure what plan will be adopted, but I "He's what you might call a twenty- assume it will be amortization and a ton optimist. Dave is; solld, a little retirement of the stock of the original who was as yet slow and sure, but the biggest boomer company. The voting control of the without a title, had struck out his in the West, if you can get him start- old stock we already have, as you walk, twisting here and there very

I," was Smith's prompt verdict after horrow money from him without secur- stubbly gray mustache stood out

"You mean that there will be a ma-

pleasantly. And then: "We're going coat, so that the guard hairs can be

asked. "Why don't you loosen up and occupy two square yards of earth "That is natural, too," said Smith, tell a little more? What have you which is several times more than given I'm getting you, a little at a time," whose point of view was always un- fellows got up your sleeve, anyway?" It in practice, and the yield may often At this, the new firancial manager be reduced by this fact as the roots sincked off on the hawser of secrecy must interlap.

"Mr. Kinzle, we've got the biggest ready, we'll go down and face the to Timanyoni Park; not in futures, mind you, but in facts already as good "By Janders!" said the colonel with as accomplished. If it were necessary - knew a fellow who did, and the girl se an open smile; "I believe you'd just as | as it isn't-L could go to New York to- fused him.

a tackin a banker as to cut your dity and put a milition dollars behind dinner; and I'd about as soon take a our reorganization plan in twenty-four bursewhipping. Come on; I'll steer hours. You'd say so yourself if I were you up against Dave, but I'm telling at liberty to explain. But again we're you right now that the steering is dodging and wasting your time and about all you can count on from me." ours. Think the matter over about It was while they were crossing the your stock-and let me know before

a thickset, barrel-bodied man with "You sit right down there, young

Smith did not sit down. Instead, he "No, Mr. Kinzie; we shan't need a Stanton looked up from his desk local bank—not as a matter of absowhen the pad-and click of the cripple's lute necessity. In fact, on some agcounts I don't know but that it would

"Sit down," insisted the bank president; and this time he would take no Simms threw the brim of his soft denial. Then he turned abruptly upon hat up with a backhanded stroke and Baldwin, who had been playing his part of the silent listener letter per-

> "Baldwin, we are old friends, and I'd trust you to the limit-on any proposition that doesn't ask for more than



"We Are Not Deeply."

the straight-from-the-shoulder honesty How much is this young friend of ours talking through his hat?"

"Not any, whatever, Dave, He's got the goods." Baldwin was wise enough to limit himself curefully as to quantity in his reply.

Again the banker made a comical bristle brush of his cropped mustache. "I want your business, Dexter; I've got to have it. But I'm going to be plain with you. You two are asking me to believe that you've gone outside and dug up a new bunch of backers. | More Transcontinental Lines Than is That may be all right, but Timanyoni Ditch has struck a pretty big bone that maybe your new backers know aboutand maybe they don't. You've had a lot of bad luck, so far; getting your land titles cleared, and all that; and you're going to have more. I've--"

It was Smith's turn again and he cut

The next installment describes a sharp clash between Stanton and Smith. The fight ceases to be merely a battle of with and becomes deadly and desperate and bloody.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

ODD TRICKS OF THE BADGER Even When Dog Gets Throat Hold H

Can Give Good Account of

Himself.

It appears that the pelt of an adult badger is extremely thick and difficult for a biting adversary to penetrate. and so loosely does the skin cover the

hody that the animal is, so to speak,

able to turn almost around in its

hide, says the Los Angeles Times. Should a dog acquire a hold on the throat, the badger turns himself so that the dog's grip is on the back of the badger's neck, without having loosened his first hold. Then the badger secures a viselike grip upon some vulnerable portion of his enemy, and while his long tusks penetrate to the limit he digs and scratches with his front feet, that are furnished with claws almost as formidable and deadty as might be expected in an ant-

eater of the dark continent. He who has removed the pelt of a badger and is at all observing, does not wonder at the animal being sharphitten and that he is able to hang with bulldog tenacity when the formation and adjustment of its claws are noted. Neither is it much of a mystery how he manages to bore through the soil so rapidly that half a dozen men with is a mass of cords and museies, particularly in the neck, chest and shoulders, very similar in physical construc-

tion to the ground mole. The badger toes inward sharply business of hunting buried dormant

He is a fur-bearer of rather coarse quality, and there is a great range of go and see. You may introduce me to jority pool of the old stock, and that value in the pelts taken, all the way upon the length of the coat. A badger Once more you'll have to show flon: What is Kinzle's attitude toward "Something like that," said Smith is chiefly valuable when it has a long "At first he was all kinds of friend- to be generously liberal, Mr. Kinzie; plucked and used to make shaving

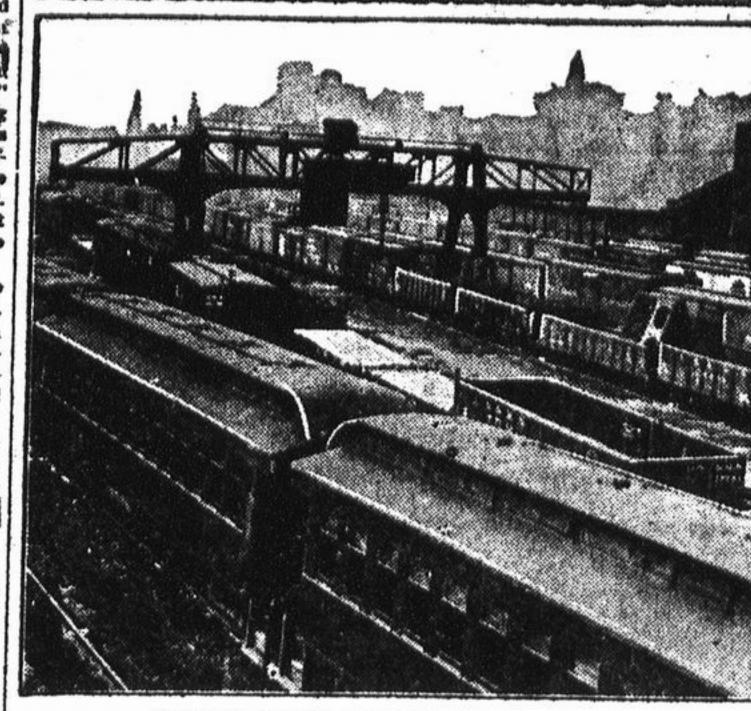
The yield of cotton is dependent

Roots Must Have Room.

upon the number of flowers we are able to induce the plant to form, and "You'll have to take care of your root space is necessary to flowering.

> Proposing on Friday. She (superstitions)-I should never propose on a Friday; it's unlucky. He (cynical) -- Not always. I once

OF WAR BOARD ADVISES RAHROADS



CONGESTION IN CHICAGO SWITCH YARD.

Fairfax Harrison, the railroad man mage is insufficient to load them fully, who is at the head of the war board of the American Railway association. has issued a notice to all railroads, as

"First-Consolidate, where practicable, through passenger train service, and eliminate those trains which are not well patronized.

"Third-On branch lines, where two

one train a day. "Fourth-Where practicable, substi- sible. Store coal in slack times, tute mixed train service for separate . "Eighth-Make proper train loading

with a view to reducing the number of

double-headed for speed, a readjustment of schedules or cutting off cars where possible will release locomotives for freight service.

"Sixth-Reduce, as far as practica-"Second-Reduce the number of spe- In the interest of economy, reduce the bills of fare on many dining cars.

"Seventh-Move 'company' freight trains are operated, try to reduce to on underload trains. Operate work trains in slack times, as far as pos-

passenger and freight service on of primary importance with officials branch lines. Closely review number and train crews. Give publicity to of scheduled freight trains where ton- those making good and poor records,

"Fifth-Where passenger trains are

ble, luxuries, such as observation cars, cial trains, and give up running excur- present rather elaborate and luxurious

had the peacetime rate of construction

been maintained. Moreover, like all

strategic railroads, this military con-

struction is worth far less as an eco-

nomic asset than an equal mileage of

line built for purely commercial pur-

SEAL ATTACHMENT FOR CARS

Goods in Transit Cannot Be Tampered

With or Fraud Committed With-

out Detection.

ing a cur seal, the invention of P.

Schooltz of Cowletz Prairie, Wash,

"The seal is for attachment

freight cars and the like, whereby the

goods therein cannot be tampered with

or a fraud committed without detec-

tion, and to this end the invention

Railroads Unite in Effort to Produce

Maximum of National Transpor-

tation Efficiency.

in session in Washington. The execu-

tives pledged that "during the present

war they will coordinate their opera-

tions in a continental railway system.

merging during such period all their

merely individual and competitive ac-

tivities in the effort to produce a maxi-

foum of national transportation effi-

GIRLS DO BIT ON RAILROADS

Young Women of Ohio Are Working

at Manual Labor to Fill Jobs of

Men Who Have Enlisted.

Women of Cleveland are doing their

Fifty of them, clad in overalls and

dark-colored middy blouses, are wiping

Sozen or more see working in the

shops, running lathes and the sach

or ironing." is the chorus,

UNDERTAKING IN

American Engineers and Capitalists

Working for Greatest Railroad

Scheme Ever Known,

American engineers and capitalists

acting for the Chinese government, are

working on the greatest railway under

taking that China has ever known. The

plan calls for a line two thousand

miles long, to cost more than one hun-

bit by working at manual labor to fill

the Jobs of men who have enlisted.

The Scientific American in describ-

## 

Complete and Evenly Developed System Is Outlook.

## ROADS HAVE BRIGHT FUTURE

South America or Asia Are Expected Within Course of About Ten Years.

Africa strendy has the foundation for one of the completest and most evenly distributed rullway systems of all the great continents of the world. observes a writer in World Outlook. Save Europe, the milways of all the other great geographical divisions are largely located in certain highly developed areas-as in the United States and southern Canada in North America, while other regions are left blank and promise to remain so indefinitely the indes a main casing in which is In Africa a vigorous pushing of any inclosed and locked a part of an idenconsiderable proportion of the projects tification strip, the other part being that were in contemplation before the detached before the seal is locked, and war will give that continent, a decade separately forwarded to the same hence, not only a fairly even network desilnation as the goods," of lines over the greater part of its area, but also more transcontinental PLAN COMPACT FOR VICTORY nal-than either South America or Asia will be able to boast of at the

same date. Railroad Building in Africa.

In the imminent completion of the Cape-to-Cairo project—a consummation which will be considerably accelerated by certain work done during the war-Africa will have a line traversing its entire length from north to south long before any continent but Europe can lay claim to such a railway. The Cape-to-Cairo-with metals all the way and stenmer transport on Nile and the lakes eliminated-might eastly bring Capetown within ten or twelve days of London and Paris, and a day or two could certainly be cut from even this schedule by a line the French plan to run from Tangier-opposite Gibraltar-across the Suhara, via Lake Tchad and the Beigian Con-

go, to northern Rhodesia, At the outbreak of the war Africa had a total of something like 25,faxt miles of completed rallway, and was building new lines at the fate of about 2,000 miles a year. At the firing of the first shot much important construction work was dropped instantly, not to be engines at the Erle councilholise. Two resumed until the war is over. This affected what would probably have amounted to 4,000 miles of new line Thirty-five more have gone to work as that would have been completed in the checkers for the Baltimore & Ohio two and a half years that war has railroad. And everyone of them like lasted so far. their work. "No harder than washing

Lines for Military Purposes.

This loss is partially offset by the new construction -- purely military lines for the better prosecution of certain campaigns-that might not have been undertaken for many years had not the war rendered it imperative from a strategie standpoint. Such was the linking up of the Union of South Africa system with that of German Southwest Africa by Botha in pushing his campaign for the conquest of the latter region; and such the running together of the railheads of a branch from the Uganda railroad and the dred million dollars. It will cross half Usumbara line at the frontier of Ger- a dozen mining and agricultural provman East and British East Africa. inces in the central part of the empire. Similar construction has also taken -The Youth's Companion.

Passengers Through Subway.

400,000 passengers a day.

Railroad Receipts in Sweden. Due to the vastly increased traffic In winter the Siberian railroad owing to the war, the receipts of the one long continuous view of snow, Swedish state railroads for 1916 far stretching for miles and miles along exceeded those of any previous year. the seemingly endless desert. Somethe aggregate amounting to a sum of times the villages and stations are al-150,000,000 kroner, against 118,000,000 most buried in snow, and not infrekroner for 1915. quently the train gets snowed up.

Japa Push Tram Care. During the latter part of 1916 the A tram car operated just outside of New York subway not infrequently Tokye is run by man power. Two carried an average of more than 1,-Japa are employed to push it along over the tracks.

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA Offers Complete Course in Agriculture Full courses also in Letters, Journalism, Library Science, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Modis sine, Architecture, Commerce and Law.



Is not recommended for everything; but if you have kidney, liver or bladder trouble it may druggists in fifty-cent and dollar sizes. You may receive a sample size bottle o this reliable medicine by Parcel Post, a so pamphlet telling about it Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, Y. Y., and enclose ten cents, also men-

HOW TO CONQUER THE CRAMP

Worst Effect Is Panic, Which Causes the Swimmer to Let All the Air Out of His Lungs.

A cramp is merely a contraction of the muscles caused by the penetration of the cold. Ohviously, it could not of itself cause drowning. Its effect, according to Popular Science Monthly, is to cause a panic which throws the swimmer off his guard, causing him to let the air out of his lungs and thus place in Nigeria, the Kameruns, porth allow the air passages to become filled ern Rhodesia and probably the Bel with water. The safeguard against gian Congo. The total milenge that such a punic is absolute confidence in has been added for military purposes the floating power of the body and a demonstrable knowledge of the proper is difficult to estimate, but it would hardly be in excess of from 20 to 25 way to quickly fill the lungs to utmost per cent of what would have been built

capacity with air. The moment a cramp is felt, the swimmer should turn on his back and begin to gulp the air, making no effort to keep himself from sinking. As he sinks he slowly exhales under water, through the mouth, with the lips puckered as for whistling. If it is a stomach cramp the knees will be drawn up against the abdomen, but the swimmer should force them out, pushing on them with both hands and using a his strength until they are fully extended. This will no doubt cause great pain for a few seconds, but as soon as the legs are straightened out the eramp will ranish, and the body, buoyed up by the air in the lungs, will shootup to the surface. There still inhality in great gulps and examing through puckered line, the swimmer may float until he regains his strength or to

In case of cramp in the leg or arm the same system of breathing is followed and the affected part is straightened out by sheer strength,

Explosion Averted. "I hear you have been a very sick man." said the manager of the garage. "Yas sur," replied Mr. Ernstus Pinkct. "Der mos' despoired of my recorery. But I never had no doubt about it myself. I Jes' had to get well."

"Whe for "Well, suh, I knowed I wasn' good enough to go to heaven. An' working One of the great compacts for vicin dis garage has got me soaked so tory which have been entered into in this early period of the war is the chance of deir wantin' me aroun' de pledge taken by the railroad executives

Try This on Chiggers. Calladian is said to give relief from the irritation caused by the bites of chiggers. Collection is a solution of gun cotton in alcohol and ether. When It is applied to the skin, the alcohol and other evaporate, leaving a colorless film which adheres to the skin. An application of collection is excellent treatment for hang nails. The bottle should be kept tightly corked.

Hated to Play With Him. At the club Thompson and Taylor were discussing the peculiarities of certain of the card players when Thompson said

"There are two men here Parker and Perkins-I surely hate to play "th," said Taylor, "I know Parker's

always a hard loser, but what's wrong with l'cEkins?" "He," said Thompson, "Is niways and

Londevity.

tax) winner."-Puck.

Mr. Pipple-This is a very healthy Mr. Rimple-I must say this town

holds the record for health. Mr. Pipple-My father died here at righty-four, and my grandfather died at one hundred and forty.

Mr. Ripple-One hundred and forty? Mr. Pipple-Brond street.

No Police Record. "Have you ever been arrested?" "No. sir. I've never owned an auto-

A financial note says that money in easier. Perhaps it goes that way, but it comes about as usual.

