

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE---

GEORGE DOES MANY DUTIES

He is a Composite Detective, Doctor, Trainman and Valet.

"George!" The word slips out easily. Of course it isn't his name, but the ducky faithful porter on any one of 20,000 Pullman cars running over the face of North America answers with a smile. His business is to answer with a smile regardless of the tone of voice you adopt.

Do you want a pillow to ease a head which has begun to swim in the stream of countryside which has been flooding past the window all afternoon? George produces a downy one and stuffs it comfortably in just the proper corner of the seat you occupy.

Do you long for a cooler breath of air? George brings one of those little folding screens about 5 inches high which he inserts under a partly raised window.

Ring for "George."

Do you want telegraph blanks, a card table, a good brisk brushing or information about train schedules at Grand Junction? George obliges. He will even permit 8-year-old Freddy, who is getting decidedly restless on the trip, to follow him out to the vestibule for a little tribulation such as "Porter, what makes your shoe bulge out that way where your big toe begins?" or "Do those two little curtains there on the sides of the doorway hold the cars together?" or "Where do you sleep; up on top of the car?"

Where Does He Sleep?

As a matter of fact there is real point to Freddy's last question. Where does George sleep, anyway? And when?

He was a lucky George indeed if he had a comfortable bed anywhere in the car regardless of the length of the run, be it of one night or three, before the government took over the railroads. But Uncle Sam took an interest in porters. For more than a year upper one has been reserved for George on all short runs where men travelers have a habit of sitting up most of the night in the smoking room, and on transcontinental trains George has been officially entitled to make up his bed on the long leather seat in the smoking room.

"When do you shine all the people's shoes?" Freddy always asks, wondering at the brilliance which the footwear of the entire car acquired so mysteriously during the night.

That, too, has a good deal to do with George's sleep, and that is the reason why he is so good. It is considerable of a job to polish 30 or 40 pairs of shoes and it runs well into the morning until after everybody is in bed. What traveler, unless he be an insomniac, detected George at his business? So the shoe business robs George of much night rest.

Women and Actors Worry.

And then that buzzer! "Some trips it just rings all time. A cahload of rich folks, especially rich women, they suitly can make it buzz," commented a gray-haired porter of long years on the road. "I don't know why rich folks want so much more attention in the night 'cept maybe they're used to servants all 'round 'em and maybe they all got little ailments and can't sleep quite so well as regular, ordinary people."

"But of all folks who ride trains gimme just as few theatrical troups as possible. They're the people who wear out the buzzer batteries in the night. A po'tah don't get much sleep on their cab. Somehow they act like they nev' had nobody to wait on 'em befo', and they got the idea the way to act like real people is to be all time demandin' sump'in'. Not so many of 'em has money ethah, so a po'tah don't get much for servin' 'em."

He Goes to School First.

The average George will tell you fervently that there isn't much in portering for any sort of people, although things are better now than they were before Uncle Sam became general manager of all American lines.

If a colored man wants to join the Pullman legion of Georges he begins at \$45 a month in any one of the several schools in portering which the company operates. First, he qualifies as a literate and produces satisfactory testimonials as to his good character. Then he hears lectures on the business, including a good deal of instruction in courtesy. He is told that he must be unfailingly courteous without groveling; for if there is anything to be groveled to, George must learn to study human nature and interpret people's wants in advance, where that is possible. But whatever he does must be done in a way that looks like honest service, not depending for its quality on tips.

After several days of these lectures each George-in-the-making is taken to a model Pullman car, where for two or three days he goes through every motion of being a porter. He makes up beds and unpacks them until he can do it with the proper skill and dispatch. He polishes up the car and learns a good deal of basic information about railroad trains as they are related to the inside of a Pullman. He does a good day's work each of those training days and must keep himself trim and neat all the time.

How He Climbs Up.

If he is ordinarily bright he finishes his schooling within two weeks. Then he goes out on two or three student trips with some tried and true porter of long service, all the while drawing his pay at the rate of \$45 a month. Then comes the great day when he is listed as ready for service. Maybe he catches a regular run at once, but the chances are he stays on the "extra board" and picks up random runs for a while. He is assigned to a certain railroad district and there he probably stays indefinitely, drawing his \$45 a month, but now he is getting tips and his income varies.

If he is good, and stays with the company long enough, he may be listed in the class of "porters in charge," men of intelligence, who

The Pullman Porter?



can take over the operation of a car without the supervision of a Pullman conductor. There are many jobs for such men, especially on trains which carry only one Pullman. When he attains this goal his pay is raised to \$60 a month—with tips.

\$20 in Tips—Sometimes.

The little matter of tips, of course, is forward in every porter's mind, especially if he has a family somewhere to support. That is the reason certain trains on every railroad are more desired by porters. The trains patronized by men of big business are better for porters. Such passengers know what they want, ask nothing unreasonable of George and pay liberally for attention. Porters working crack New York Central trains between New York and Chicago not infrequently end a 20-hour run with \$20 in tips, but the average is far below this. If an efficient porter rounds out a month with \$175, he is doing well.

He Lives a Spotted Life.

To earn his money, however, he lives a spotted life. He has to be on occasion a detective, a laboring man, a shoeblack, a waiter, a valet, a trainman, and even a doctor and nurse combined. He is constantly in danger of stepping into a trap by some criminal seeking to escape a train leaving all evidence of an unlawful act pointing to the porter. He is constantly in danger of being accused, for if a ring or watch is missing black George is inevitably the first to fall under suspicion.

Some of the best trains in the country are frequented by men whose success in life depends upon getting away with other travelers' valuables leaving George to face the music. Too often George has no more convincing defense than simply "I know nothing about it," and must submit to a thorough investigation and search by some railroad detective. But the very fact that it is so easy to accuse George is his strongest bulwark, for the Pullman company considers its men absolutely trustworthy and proof against them must be absolute. They degrade them in the estimation of their employers.

George in Detective's Role.

In the role of detective, the experienced porter, who has held a certain run for a long time often finds land crooks of the breed which preys constantly upon travelers. The most well known device used by such workers is for one to board a train with the bearing and appearance of a prosperous business man. He

Omaha Woman Will Be Presiding Officer at Big Y. W. C. A. Meet

Cleveland, O., Jan. 3.—Financial support and the membership basis for the association will be among the important questions considered by the national convention of the Young Men's Christian association of the United States of America here the week of April 13 to 20. The convention was postponed from the spring of 1918 to comply with a government request that expense and travel be reduced to a minimum during the war.

The granting of charter membership privileges to the Chicago Y. M. C. A., a recommendation that the interim between convention be reduced from three years to two, and providing an increase in membership of the national board of the association also will be discussed. Sectional meetings will occupy the afternoons.

Rev. Charles W. Gilkey, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist church, Chicago, will give a series of morning addresses during the convention week. Dr. Robert E. Speer, secretary of the foreign missions board of the Presbyterian church, north, will also give an address. Mrs. Speer is president of the national board of the Y. W. C. A.

Mrs. W. P. Harford of Omaha will preside at the opening session, having been elected as president at the last convention held in Los Angeles in 1915.

Mrs. John French of New York is chairman of the committee on business to come before the convention. It is estimated about 2,000 delegates will attend.

Police Will Not Be Used as Internal Revenue Agents

Cleveland, O., Jan. 3.—Detectives or policemen will not be engaged as internal revenue agents in the enforcement of the federal prohibition laws, according to an announcement by Collector Harry H. Weiss. "It is not the intention of federal agents to relieve city, county or state officials from any of their obligations in enforcing the liquor laws, but rather to work as a supplementary agency," Mr. Weiss said.

finds company in the smoking room or observation platform of some car other than the one in which his berth is—always some other car. Along toward night of the first day out he has made one or two friends among men of obvious affluence. Usually just before bed time he gets down to cases.

"Well sir," he says with a shamed little laugh, "I don't know what made me so forgetful but I left the office today in such a rush to catch this train that I got all flustered. After we got out of New York I discovered my wallet was flat—didn't bring enough money to pay over my hotel bill in Chicago. Crook takes the necessary hesitation and finally consents to accept about \$100 and writes a check for it, which, you understand, is just as good as cash. He's sorry he has troubled his new friend so much and certainly appreciates—etc., etc. They talk awhile longer, yawn and part with a handshake.

The new friend never sees Mr. Crook again. Of course the check comes backed marked "No funds." George gets familiar with men like these if they travel often enough, and with the aid of Pullman conductors, spoils the game. Then there are the professional card sharks who patrol main railroad lines periodically, working in pairs and engaging in "a little game" friendly travelers who obviously have funds. These, too, are sometimes spotted by George.

Is George's job full of others' crimes? "Things don't happen every trip, of course," related a porter of five years' experience, "but they happen often enough. Usually they are opposed to so quietly that hardly anybody in the car ever hears of them. Oh, you may sleep through a lot, if you travel a good deal. "Only last winter two men in soldiers' uniforms got on my car coming out of Denver. One of them had a scar across his face. I heard him tell a passenger in the smoking room that a German did it with a bayonet; and that he was so badly hurt he was sent back home and had just been discharged. That scar looked like a razor mark to me—and an old one. The other soldier had one hand tied up and said most of it was shot away and that he, too, had just been discharged. They were both telling how hard up they were."

"Well, one passenger hauls out a thick roll and peels off \$10 for each

soldier. The way those two eyed that roll when he put it away made me suspicious. They all went to bed pretty soon. The car was all quiet and I went to shining shoes. Twice as I walked back into the car to return shoes I saw one of those soldiers jerk his head back behind his curtains. By the time I had worked back to No. 8 and No. 9—I always take out all the shoes in two berths at a time—I stumbled over a pair of pants in the dark aisles. While I stood there with my hands full of shoes staring at the pants, I heard a groan. Well, it might have been a snore—some folks make mighty funny noises in a sleeper. Anyway I picked up the pants and asked the man in lower 9 if they were his. No answer. I asked again. Still no answer. I touched him and he didn't move. Then another groan and I knew where the sound had been coming from. I dropped the shoes and got the Pullman conductor quick. We found the man—he was the one with the bank roll—had a dent in the back of his head the size of a dollar and his pillow was soaked with blood.

I suspected those soldiers and told the conductor all about it. Of course they both denied any knowledge of it. We got them into the smoking room just as the train was slowing down into a yard. The train conductor all of a sudden whipped out a revolver and threw it down on those two just in time, for one of them was making a pass for a big automatic inside his coat front. The butt of that automatic had a little knot of bloody hair on it. Well we found the fat roll, wrapped around those fellow's legs inside their spiral puttees. They were turned over to detectives at 1:30 a. m.—it was about 12 when they first left the smoking room and went to bed—and the next morning met another soul in that whole carload of people knew a thing had happened."

Why People Call Him George.

But George doesn't live a dime novel life all the time. "Really, it's fine to meet all the people we do," declared one porter. "The only trouble is we don't see the same people often enough to learn just how they want things done and so I s'pose we don't please them as well as we might. If we could only know folks better, I guess hardly anybody would have to complain about us."

It's fine to meet people, mainly because most everybody is pretty good. There are only a few 'crabs' after all. Why the very fact that everybody calls me 'George' proves that. I don't know who started this 'George' business, but I guess everybody does it just to be friendly. It sounds better to say, 'I say there, George!' than to say 'Hey, you!' We don't get rich—look at the shoes I have to wear—but portering is steady and comfortable work and I'm pretty glad old Mr. Pullman provides in his will that colored men should always be hired for his cars."

Insects Are Five Times Larger Than Human Race

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 3.—Insect life of the world in point of size is five times greater than that of the human race, according to Prof. E. D. Ball of Ames, Ia. Professor Ball made his statement to the Iowa Vegetable Growers' association, and said if all the insects were in one pile and humans in another the insects would occupy five times as much space.

The Loveliest Curly Hair—So Easy to Have!

Why make your hair dry, brittle and dead-looking with the heated waving tongs, when the simple slimerine method will produce a curliness far more natural in appearance, and at the same time preserve the luster and beauty of your tresses? Liquid slimerine is so agreeable to use, being neither sticky nor greasy, and the over-the-counter transformation it so pleasing, the first trial will make it your firm friend.

The approved way to apply it is to pour a little into a saucer at bedtime, dip a clean tooth brush into this, and draw the brush through the hair from crown to tip, one strand at a time. A few ounces of this harmless liquid from your drug-gist will last a long time. You will like it not only because of the charming curly and wavy effect, but because you will also find it an excellent dressing for the hair.

To Break Ground For New \$1,500,000 Burgess-Nash Building in February

Structure Will Be Nine-Story Affair on Present Site Of Boyd Theater, Which Is to Be Razed—Plans Drawn by George B. Prinz—Interior Decorations And Furnishings Planned by C. A. Wheeler of Chicago—All Contracts Let.

Construction of a new nine-story store building, to cost approximately \$1,500,000, by the Burgess-Nash company, where the Boyd theater now stands, will be started on February 3, it was announced yesterday.

The Boyd theater, which was erected 29 years ago, will be razed, leaving a frontage on Seventeenth street of 26 feet, and on Harney street of 139 feet, for the new building.

Plans for the structure, by George B. Prinz, architect, have been completed, as well as interior decoration and furnishing plans, drawn by C. A. Wheeler of Chicago, and all contracts have been let.

Four floors of the new building will connect with those of the present Burgess-Nash store, extending in length an entire block and half a block in width. Decorations and furnishings will be uniform throughout both buildings.

Men's Rest Room. Every practical feature in use in the largest eastern department stores will be embodied in the new Burgess-Nash structure. The entire main floor, opening on Seventeenth street, will be devoted to a gigantic men's department. There will be men's clothing, furnishings, a barber shop, tailors to give first aid to loose buttons. This floor will also contain a rest room, the first of its kind in the city, where tired business men may loll and smoke while wives shop.

The second floor will be devoted to yardage goods and the daintier things of women's wear. A feature here will be small individual shops, entirely enclosed, each containing its own particular article of wearing apparel. There will be fine linen on this floor, and as a daylight lighting system will be used, shoppers will experience little difficulty in picking just the shade of goods they desire.

The third floor will contain a large infants' wear department, individual enclosed shops as on the second floor, hair dressing and manicuring departments, and a luxurious women's rest room.

House furnishings will occupy the fourth floor, according to plans, and model rooms, furnished completely, will be a feature. There

will also be an interior decorating department on this floor.

Fifth Floor Auditorium.

The fifth floor will be devoted to music. There will be 10 concert rooms. All types of pianos and talking machines will be on sale. A feature of the music department will be a large polishing and packing department, which will enable



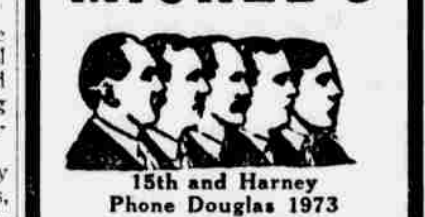
"Mr. Piano Buyer"

Make every dollar count. A dollar saved is a dollar made.

Don't buy a Piano or Player from anyone until you see us—

For We save you money.

Hobart M. Cable and Packard Pianos MICKEL'S



15th and Harney Phone Douglas 1973

workmen to prepare instruments for delivery without moving them to another floor.

An auditorium, with a large seating capacity will also be built on this floor, for the benefit of both customers and employees of the store.

Sporting goods, toys and a children's play room will be located on floor six, as well as the general offices of the store. On the seventh floor a cafe and tea room will be operated. The eighth floor will be devoted entirely to the use of store employees. An open air roof garden, which in the winter will be enclosed in a glass and heated, will also be available to employees. There will be a cafeteria, club rooms and a gymnasium for their use on the roof.

A separate and distinct store will be operated in the combined base-

ments of the old and offering new merchandise at lower prices. A basement store will house, completely fur-

Negro Pneumonia Takes Stroll In

Rockford, Ill., Jan. 3.—Wetlington, negro, patient in a local hospital tendants and took a nightshirt. Although hammered the thermometer 12 degrees above zero. Several blocks away he the door of a residence prisoned occupants called who took Wethington hospital none the worse enande.

See Want-Ads Prod

Bad Teeth Are A Positive Injury To Health

It is estimated that 75% of all ailments are caused by defective teeth and unclean mouths. You do not know this, but you do know that decayed, broken-down, dirty teeth spoil the appearance, interfere with chewing of food. It is no less excusable for anybody in even the most modest circumstances to have bad teeth.

The convenient location of our office, the excellent service rendered and the very reasonable price make it possible for everyone in Omaha to have good teeth.

FINEST X-RAY SERVICE

McKenne Dentist

1324 Farnam St.—Corner 14th and Farnam Phone Douglas 2872

Displays of The New Fashions for Winter Sojourners

Each year many wise folks plan their annual pilgrimages southward, to laugh and dance and play and be young in a warm, sunshiny climate.

But before leaving on their southern route the fair sex must select the wardrobe that will improve each shining hour.

It has been with these sojourners in mind that we have carefully selected the beautiful assortments of

Newly Created Apparel Modes

which are now on display.

And one need not be going to one of the many summer modes of winter to enjoy to the full these new modes, for every woman interested in the new will find it here.

"Ask Mr. Foster" Travel Bureau will give you any information required on traveling

BURGESS-NASH COMPANY EVERYBODY'S STORE

at A. H. Blum



Get Rid of Your Fat

Thousands of others have gotten rid of theirs WITH-OUT DIETING OR EXERCISING often at the rate of over a pound a day and WITHOUT PAYMENT until reduction has taken place.

I am a licensed practicing physician and personally select the treatment for each individual case, thus enabling me to choose remedies that will produce not only a loss of weight harmlessly, but which will also relieve you of all the troublesome symptoms of over-stoutness such as shortness of breath, palpitation, indigestion, rheumatism, gout, asthma, kidney trouble and various other afflictions which often accompany over-stoutness.

My treatment will relieve that depressed, tired, sleepy feeling, giving you renewed energy and vigor, a result of the loss of your superfluous fat.

You are not required to change in the slightest from your regular mode of living. There is no dieting or exercising. It is simple, easy and pleasant to take.

If you are over-stout do not postpone but sit down right now and send for my FREE TRIAL TREATMENT and my plan whereby I am to be PAID ONLY AFTER REDUCTION HAS TAKEN PLACE if you so desire.

DR. R. NEWMAN
236 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.
Desk. C-134

Dr. R. Newman, 236 Fifth Ave., N.Y. C-134
Kindly send me your FREE TRIAL TREATMENT and "pay-when-reduced" offer.
Name
Address or R. F. D.
Town State