Chivalry in Office Elevators

By BENJAMIN DE CASSERES.

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He found the growing necessity for a Muse of Politeness. He would not consider the formal of the "lobster shift" in the Hall of Fame about the question, supposing in interest in some office buildings the question. Whose turn is it for the cellar party?

Lower New York is frequently divided into three camps—the men who defend it to remove their hats in the presence of women in elevators, those who do (subdivided into two classes, those who do it instinctively and those who do it because they fear elevator opinion) and those who nervously play with the rim of their hat from floor to floor, being all "up in the air" about it.

Many men are polite, but bald headed. Many bald headed are common in winter, Winter and Summer, twelve to fifteen times a day in commercial elevators. A draft striking a bold head from a certain angle between floors produces a chill which makes the man run like lightning straight down to the hip pocket.

A beautiful girl steps into the elevator on the second floor. Baldhead is going to the thirtieth. It looks as though the beautiful girl would go the distance with him.

Puzzle: Should Baldhead remove hat and run the risk of contracting pneumonia or put his uniform senator hat in his coat pocket? Should he be a "lift" at the Hotel della Robberie if Mrs. Fuller Rhine of Chicago get in? Prefond and ultimate questions of conscience which may yet bring the Supreme Court to loggerheads.

The chairman of the committee, Less N. Less, arose in his orator's report amid profound chucking.

He deplored, first of all, that there was no standard of politeness in New York, or anywhere else for that matter. He had read Lord Chesterfield from end to end, and could find nothing about elevators and hats. He had gone through fifteen lives of Emile Brumelle and found that those gentlemen never even walked up or down stairs. They were generally seated. They did not recognize elevators in their day; and the only mention of "lift" in their lives is as aforesaid.

If Horn, Rimm ruled her resolution out of order. He wisely said that the Constitution did not need any amendments to it. Less N. Less had found that only one man in ten took off his hat in a commercial elevator in the presence of women, and that nearly all these men were residents of Brooklyn. He urged that Southern- ers and Westerners were rarely seen in commercial elevators, as they came here for an entirely different purpose. (Cries of "Oh! Oh!" and "Tell it!" and "Hai! Hai!")

Touching the third class—those men who fumble with their hats and watch what the other fellow is doing with his—Less N. Less said they were pitiful victims of doubt, neither rich nor poor, nor good red roughnecks.

The cattle-car candidates were, he said, up-stairs, while the brim-fitters were up-stairs.

This last affair roused the ire of Hastings Tuckahoe, born in Goat's Island, Nebraska, and educated in the public schools of the town of Goat's Island.

He denied that the chivalry from up-State was milk-fed. The Republican majority last year was.

He was thrown out at this point by the Seragont at Arms, Eook E. Kidd, for addressing the meeting with his hat on.

A vote was then taken on the whole matter. It was finally the sense of the society that some men who ride in elevators are born chivalrous, others achieve chivalry, while others ought to be locked out of elevators and have their hats thrust upon them.

Arose then a great clamor as to the precedence of the three other committees on politeness in public places in their reports. The Subway Committee, the Automobile Committee and the Stamp Window Committee each fought all over the floor. Professor Horn Rimm lost control of the Society for Polite Associations in Public Places.

He finally put his gavel in the loophoel drawer of his desk and declared that, as it was past 11 o'clock, and the currants had been popped for a week in the bottles in the corner at home, he would declare the meeting adjourned. But his voice was lost in the tumult.

The police made no arrests, but...