

# Taxi Fares

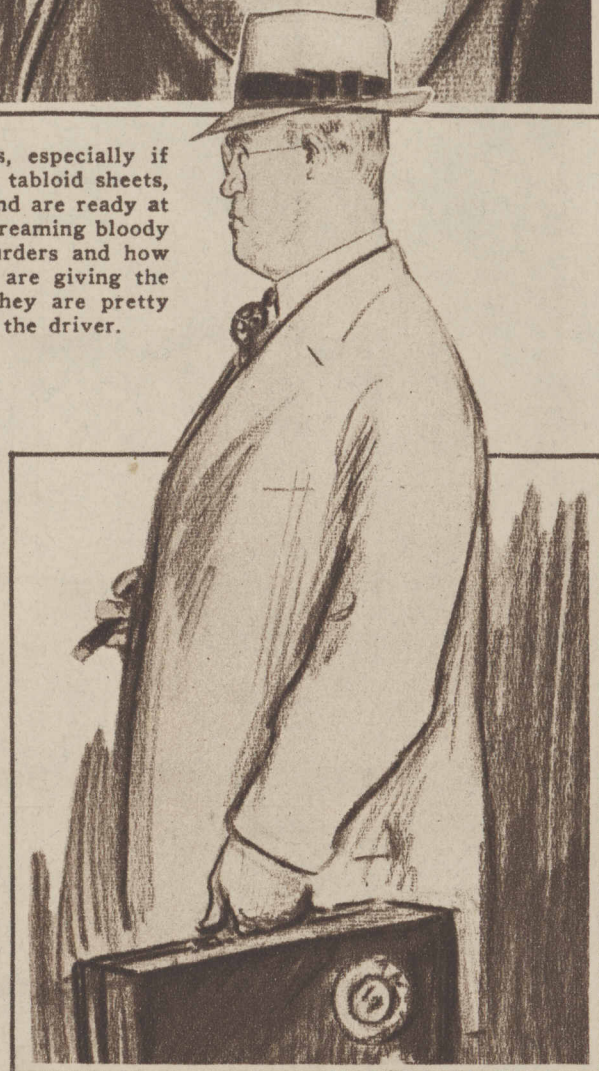
By W. E. Hill

[Copyright: 1931: By The Chicago Tribune.]



Elderly girls from the quieter localities, especially if they are up on all the crime news in the tabloid sheets, are very suspicious of city taxi drivers and are ready at a moment's notice to jump from the cab screaming bloody murder. They know all about torch murders and how one gets put on the spot. These ladies are giving the driver's license a rigid once-over and they are pretty certain that the attached photo is not of the driver.

"Hey! What ya think you're doing? Y'oughta go across and then down to Garfield street. Why didja come up this street?" Nothing gives a taxi driver greater joy in this life than the fare who knows much more than necessary about the city traffic arteries.



"Get out! Your meter must be all wrong! Why, I went three times as far yesterday and wasn't charged half that!"

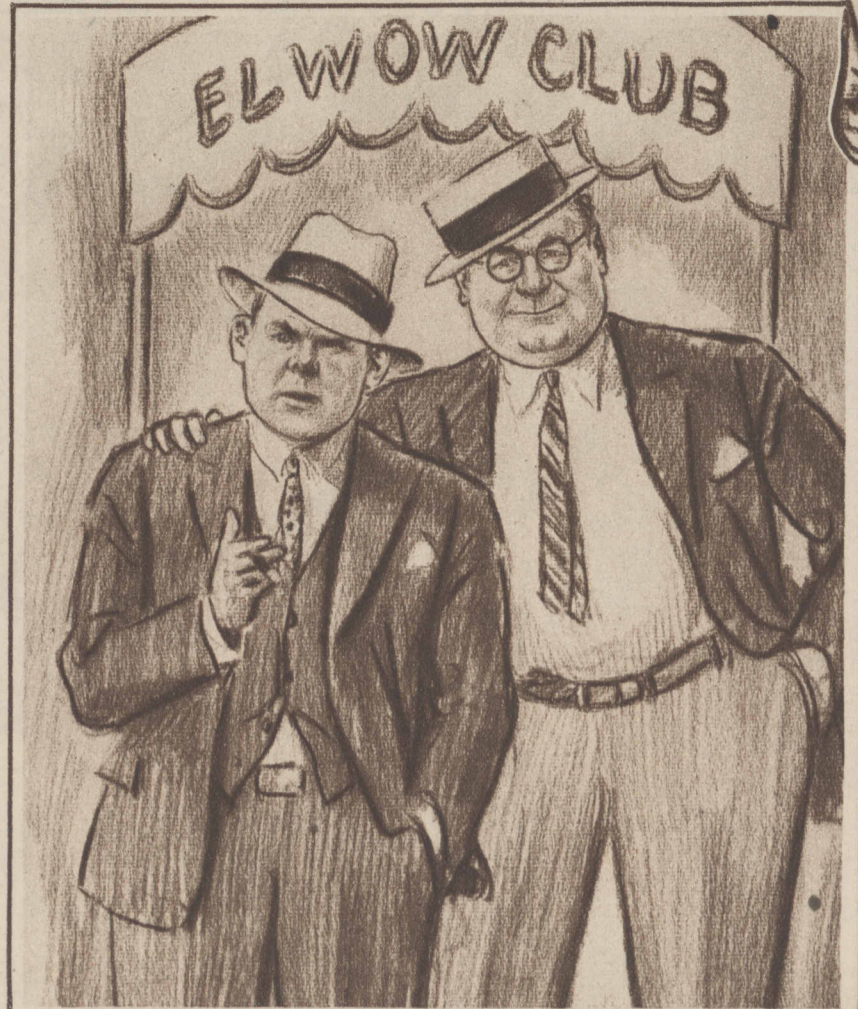
"Now, driver, you must promise to drive, O, so carefully! And very slowly, because it's not a month yet since my operation!"



Certain people who do a lot of going hither and yon in taxis just naturally seem to inspire a feeling of chumminess on the part of chauffeurs. Just as certain parties have sex appeal, these others have something just as potent which impels a taxi driver to tell them all about his wife's gall bladder operation, or how last winter, he was driving a guy home from a speakeasy, etc., etc. This power of inviting confidences is often a great trial to the possessor, especially in crowded traffic.



Taxi drivers are very sensitive to the fitness of things, and if they note that a party signaling a taxi in front of a theater on a wet night has the wrong overcoat and hat for evening clothes, they will pass him by every time.



These jovial boys are out for good, wholesome fun. They are about to hail a taxi and command the driver to take them where they can get some liquid refreshment of high power.



Some sixth sense will tell a taxi driver that this lovely lady has nothing but the exact change with nothing left for a tip.