

JOKERS' BUDGET

AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Last Word Impossible to Keep Both Alike—No Excuse—Two Recipes, Etc., Etc.

THE LAST WORD. Little to his wife—You don't seem to have the courage of your convictions.

IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP. Wife—You have a fine new watch, and it's well—Yes, isn't it a beauty?

BOTH ALIKE. I look guilty. The brooch from Attleboro sighed; I look guilty.

NO EXCUSE. Mother—My dear, you were very rude in Professor Astral's call.

TWO RECIPES. O'Beese says Raysrdge, how did you manage to get so thin?

SOCIAL GRAMMATION. Returned Tourist—What became of that fool, Saphed, who had more money than he knew what to do with?

AN AMERICAN LADY VISITING PARIS was continually interested in the smart little boys in their caps and aprons who deliver the wares of the pastry cooks.

LOSING HER GRIP. Mrs. Witherby—Mrs. Plankington doesn't dress so well as she used to, does she?

DEPENDENT GEORGE. Ethel—Do say yes, papa. George can't live without me.

THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE. Young Callow—Do you think it is more trouble for a husband to manage a wife than it is for a wife to manage a husband?

THE FLY IN THE OINTMENT. Tramping Jake—It's getting to be too hard work to pick up a livin' in this country.

REWARDED. "I stole a kiss from you last eve," he said to her; "alack, it was a theft for which I grieve— I come to give it back."

A MARTYR TO CANDY. Tommy—You did not give me the whipping you said you would.

SHE WAS ON. "There's trouble in sight," said the gray-haired old funny man as he looked out of the window toward a body of men who might have been policemen.

there, de... Then possibly you had better get an older pair of glasses.

DISPROPORTIONATE. Perhaps it is too much to expect that the man who uses big words should furnish big ideas with them.

PLENTY OF TIME. Husband—Your mistress went upstairs a while ago to write a letter, Mary. Please go up and see if she has finished it, as I want to go down town.

THE WILY FARMER. In the spring the wily farmer sits him down with spirit glad, and to some city daily sends a gorgeous summer ad.

CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES. "How many are included in the general public?" "It depends on whether you are inviting it to subscribe for a newspaper, or to come up and take a drink."

AN UNFASHIONABLE PAIR. "I think Mr. True and Miss Goodheart have concluded to withdraw from society."

A NEAR HUSBAND. "I saw Mrs. Bunkerton to day," said Hicks. "She looked mighty handsome, too."

A GENUINE ANTIQUE. Mrs. Suburb—Is this the house you've been talking about? I don't like it at all.

WHAT HE MEANT. Ethel—What did you mean by telling Jessie I was the biggest fat you ever knew?

ANYTHING TO ACCOMMODATE. Druggist—Here's the only remedy in the world for a cold.

MYSERIOUS. Dusty Rhodes—That Mrs. Dogood is a mighty mysterious critter. I asked her for a ham bone this morning and naturally expected to get a civil answer.

EVERYTHING NEARFUL. Old Grimes—Hullo, Bub, what you doin' with that big dog?

TOO MUCH FOR HIM. Upon Benny's return from his first day at school his mother asked him if he had learned anything new at school.

HE DID. Brides (just after the wedding)—Alfred, you promised to give me a surprise after we were married. Say, what is it?

A LIVE MANATEE OR SEA COW was caught in Biscayne Bay a few days ago, reports the Eustis Lake, Fla., Region.

DISASTROUS FIRES

New Orleans Swept by Two Conflagrations.

PEOPLE FLED FOR THEIR LIVES. The Losses Will Aggregate Over Three Million Dollars.

The First Fire Was in the Cotton Press District. It is supposed 80,000 Bales of Cotton Were Destroyed. It is Thought Some One Threw a Lighted Match on the Cotton.

NEW ORLEANS, April 4.—This city was visited by two serious conflagrations yesterday, and property aggregating over \$3,000,000 destroyed.

A high wind was blowing at the time, and the flames spread with appalling rapidity. Building after building was quickly licked up, until all in the district mentioned were either in ruins or very badly damaged.

Among the presses destroyed were the Fire Proof, Penrose Brothers, managers; Shippers, Boyd & Herrick, proprietors; Independence Yard and the Orleans Cotton Press.

It is thought that 80,000 bales of cotton were in the buildings destroyed, but it is believed that much of this will be saved.

The fire is believed to have been of accidental origin, due probably to the careless handling of a lighted match.

A panic prevailed in the vicinity of the fire which was close to the residence district, and people living many blocks distant began fleeing for their lives.

The cotton loss is estimated at about \$85,000. This would mean a loss of about \$2,235,000 in cotton alone.

It is claimed by some that the fire was the work of laborers who wished to avenge the purchasing of the press by the trust.

While the firemen were engaged in a hopeless struggle with the cotton fire, another blaze broke out at the corner of Laurel and Third streets, a mile away.

Mrs. Valentine tried to start a fire with coal oil. An explosion followed and the house was soon in flames.

For half an hour the fire was a small affair, but no engines arriving, it finally spread to the surrounding buildings.

The loss will approximate \$500,000. A careful estimate of the total insurance on both fires fixes the amount at \$3,300,000.

A Hotel for Women at the Capital. WASHINGTON, April 4.—Within the next fortnight a scheme for the erection of a hotel designed especially for women will be placed before the public.

Dangers of the Trolley System. NEWARK, N. J., April 4.—A furniture truck, drawn by three horses which became frightened at an electric car on Central avenue, ran away, and dashed madly down the avenue.

Henry George Will Provide for Her. CAMDEN, N. J., April 4.—Mrs. George N. Hutchins, of Ancora, whose husband died and left his estate to Henry George for the purpose of disseminating his views, and who recently had to go to the Camden County Almshouse owing to her impoverished condition, was taken away from that institution by Henry George, who is going to provide a home for her in Philadelphia.

Minister Smith's Resignation. WASHINGTON, April 4.—Nothing definite can be learned here in regard to the published statement to the effect that Charles Emory Smith, Minister to Russia, will resign upon his arrival in the United States.

Important Steamboat Purchase. KINGSTON, N. Y., April 4.—S. D. Coffendall has purchased ten steamers known as the Cheny line and acquired the all the property south of the Jerusalem Road, but does not take in that to the north of that famous drive.

New Orleans, April 4.—The Rev. C. S. Hedges, the oldest clergyman in the South, has died of old age. He was 94 years old. He was born in Berkeley County, Va., and was a graduate of the Virginia Theological Seminary.

A COWARDLY MURDER.

George Whalen Will be Lynched if Caught and Taken to St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, April 4.—Indignation is at a high pitch in St. Paul last night over the murder of George H. Spaulding, a boy of 19 years, at Portage, Wis., shortly before dawn on Saturday morning.

Three or four days ago Whalen coaxed Spaulding to take a trip to Chicago. On Friday Spaulding's father purchased tickets for both young men, gave his son \$25 dollars and a gold watch, and accompanied the pair to the evening train.

After walking a few rods along the track Whalen picked up a broken, jagged coupling pin and beat Spaulding's head into a jelly. Robbing the body of the money and the watch, Whalen took Spaulding's coat and shoes, threw the body into the canal, and made his escape.

They were taken into custody by two members of Inspector Byrnes' staff after a slight struggle. A companion attempted to assault the detectives, but he, too, was arrested.

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SENATE AND HOUSE

The Week's Prospectus for Washington's Lawmakers.

CONSIDERATION OF TARIFF BILLS For Silver Legislation the Outlook is Not Very Bright.

The Less Radical of the Silver Advocates Do Not Deem it Advisable to Block Legislation by Filibustering.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The House will devote the greater part of this week to the consideration of the tariff. To-day Mr. Wilson (W. Va.) will close the general debate on the Democratic side, and acting for Mr. Springer, will move a vote on the pending bill.

It is altogether probable that the members interested in measures on the private calendar will make a strong effort to secure the regular order on Friday for that purpose.

The prospect for silver legislation in the House is decidedly poor, the boasts of the free silver men to the contrary notwithstanding, nor is it probable that the ardent advocates of the Free Silver bill will go so far as to attempt to obstruct all measures except the tariff bills if their efforts are disregarded.

The less radical element of the silver advocates believe that it would be both poor policy and poor politics to filibuster against measures of paramount national importance and to go to the extreme of attempting to block necessary legislation.

The Senate has resolved to devote two uninterrupted days during the coming week to the consideration of bills on the calendar. How far this intention will be interfered with by the "debating school" on the silver question, as Mr. Sherman terms the prospective debate on the Morgan resolutions, remains to be seen.

Appropriation bills also have to be taken into consideration. They have the right of way at any time.

The Indian bill is not yet completed. Mr. Dawes wants another vote on the question of authorizing the President to appoint army officers as Indian agents.

That passed the Senate with a discretionary modification, when there was barely a quorum in attendance. Mr. Dawes hopes to secure the compulsory retention of civilian agents, as at present, if he can get the question before a full Senate.

Mr. Allison has the District of Columbia appropriation bill ready for presentation. Its consideration is likely to occupy two or three days at the least.

Between these opposing forces the general bills on the calendar will probably stand a poor show, especially as Mr. Stewart's free coinage bill is high up on the list, and he has given notice of his intention to call it up to-day.

BOARD OF ARBITRATION. A Rumor that Judge Putnam, of Maine, Will be Selected by the President.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Judge Putnam, of Maine, called on the President in company with Senator Hale, and his visit started a rumor that he is to be assigned to duty in connection with the Behring Sea arbitration, either as an arbitrator or as one of the counsel on the part of the United States.

It is impossible to verify the rumor, but it finds many believers from the report that the President desires to have both political parties represented on the Board of Arbitration.

The Champion Swimmer's Challenge. PROVIDENCE, April 4.—Prof. Gus Sundstrom, champion swimmer of the United States, while in this city with the New York Water Polo team, issued a challenge to swim from one to ten miles for the championship and stakes of from \$500 to \$1,000, and expressed a preference for a match with Robert Magee of Baltimore, who is instructor for the Manhattan Athletic Club of New York.

Treasurer Webster's Accounts Correct. KINGSTON, N. Y., April 4.—The investigating committee of the Common Council, which has been for six months looking over the accounts of ex-City Treasurer Grove Webster with the aid of two experts, has reported that Mr. Webster's accounts are correct, and that he does not owe the city a dollar.

To Allow Methodists to Dance. NEWARK, N. J., April 4.—A resolution was introduced at the Newark Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Morristown when brought up a heated discussion was intended to modify one of the strongest provisions of the Methodist books of discipline and will, if adopted, allow Methodists to dance and indulge in other amusements that have heretofore been prohibited by the Church.