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SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1912

REWARD FOR NEWS-GATHERERS.

The "Rag" staff will hold a smoker next Wednesday evening. This affair will not be devoted to the demands of news gathering or copy reading, but rather to the airing of ideas, the spinning of yarns, and the smoking of tobacco, to say nothing of the consumption of food.

The news-hunters have so far worked with such untiring energy and willingness of spirit that it becomes fitting and proper to show them the appreciation that their efforts have aroused. The reporters are bound together by the feeling of fellow sufferers and their organization has gradually become perfected to a high degree.

The various individuals have thrilling experiences to relate; in fact, one "cub" claims to have been threatened with execution for announcing, in February, the discovery of a blade of grass. With such narratives as these the smoker will be enlivened and the spirit of industry fostered.

Some critical reader made the remark that the column entitled "About People" seems to be mostly about advertisers—and it is sometimes.

Gift to Mechanical Engineers.

The H. W. Johns-Manville Company, of Milwaukee, has donated to the Mechanical Engineering department a three-action cabinet filled with samples of molded pipe covering and insulating materials.

LITERARY DEPARTMENT

ENGINEER BILL'S EXPERIMENT.

By "Q. T."
 Chapter III.

You remember how the Artist, "Penny," received Bill's check. He took it to the bank and received a bundle of soft old green that made his head buzz like a bee in a bottle. Immediately he notified several of his brother Artists, and they held a conclave, but even then there was some of it left. "Penny" scratched his head and reflected that if he paid his debts there would not be enough to go round; so he decided to do a little rushing and get engaged. Then Father would have to come across.

Meanwhile, Bill's Girl vainly expected the diamond ring Bill had prom-

ised her. You see, the trouble was that Bill liked the Artist, so he sent the money to keep "Penny" in school instead of buying the Girl her ring. There are some people made that way yet, you know. That was a bad step off! But Bill did not know very much about girls. He was bossing a gang of men out in the hills and cutting his way through life with a steam shovel. He was busy during the day, but at night he would go to sleep watching a star out of the open tent flap.

He certainly made a big mistake in not sending her that ring. A ring sort of keeps her mind busy. If it isn't busy on one thing it will be on another. They say that most girls prefer a short excitement to a long engagement! However that may be, she soon begins to look upon the excellent frat pin so fondly bestowed as a sort of "Sold" tag which, indeed, it often is. Bill surely made a bad mistake but he really thought he was doing the right thing.

At any rate, the Artist, having made his decision, began to rush Bill's Girl on Bill's money! It seemed perfectly proper to him and he never noticed how people watched them, and whispered to each other. He told her that her eyes were like two violets under the sun of her hair and she believed it—because she was a blond, as you remember. Sometimes you can get away with these if you are very clever and a good actor. The Artist knew a beautiful face when he saw it, and he did not need a galvanometer to measure the current of his thought when she opened her eyes wide close to his. He called often after that.

CHAPTER IV.

The Artist and The Girl had graduated that year and Bill's money was nearly all spent. The Artist was afraid he was going dead broke pretty soon. So when he discovered that the Girl's father was "well to do" as they say, he decided to marry her. She was blond, you know, and very romantic, and because the Artist was also romantic and on the whole a charming fellow, she forgot all about Bill. So they agreed to marry—papah or ne papah!

Now about this time Engineer Bill began to wonder about his little affair back here in Lincoln. He wanted someone to mend his socks. Engineering is hard on socks.

One day, to his delight and surprise, he received a telegram that said in the regulation ten words: "Bill:—Come to our wedding next Saturday 20th NELLIE." Whereupon Bill joyfully informed his employer that he had "the keenest little joker of a girl you ever saw, who was tired of waiting for him and who had telegraphed him to come home and marry her right off" which, "job or no job," he would do "immediately." Then, because he felt strongly on the matter, he "set 'em up" to all the boys at the nearest place of refreshment and left on the next train, amid friendly yells of approval from the assembled.

Arrived at the frat house, he began to pound out a thundering, rollicking rag on the piano, while enthusiastic underclassmen beat on his shoulders. Finally he spun round and announced that he had "come back to get married" and they were all pitiful idiots if they did not know to whom, but be hanged if he'd tell them."

Then there fell a strange silence on

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