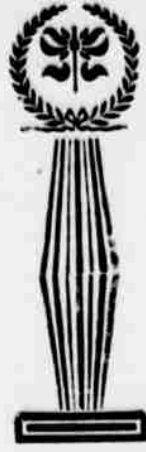


# DECORATION DAY



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### WHAT SAM THOUGHT

By BILLY BACHELOR.

"Well, what do you think of this, Billy?" Sam Martin exclaimed, as he handed me the evening paper, pointing to a paragraph under the heading, "Social Cleanings," which read: "Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Hamilton announce the marriage of their daughter, Ethel, and Oscar Newman, at Grace church, Oakburn, Tuesday, October 1."

"What do you think of it, Sam?" I inquired as I tossed the paper back to him.

"It's an outrage, a blanked outrage! What right has Os Newman to marry anybody but Beatrice Price? Don't all her friends, all his friends, know he is wildly in love with her? Haven't they known it for ever a year? Hasn't he followed Beatrice about like a hungry dog chasing a bone ever since he first met her? I repeat, what right has he to marry Ethel Hamilton? Why, she's a child, a silly little butterfly of fashion. Os never can love that type of woman, and you know it, Bill."

"Yes, I know it. What do you suppose poor old Oscar did it for?" Sam hitched his chair up closer to mine, lighted his pipe and took a few slow inhalations before he replied by shaking his head slowly and pronouncing the one word, "Pique."

"It looks like it, I must admit," said I. "And yet I gave Oscar credit for too much common sense to ever let him do a fool trick like that."

"Beatrice turned him down, and he swore he would get even."

"Well, of all the—! It's a mighty queer thing, Sam, how men—and women—try to prove how little they really care for the person they once professed to love so deeply by turning around and marrying some one else. How the proving of themselves fickle-minded should give them one moment's pleasure, or how, under such circumstances, they can hope for happiness passes my understanding."

"It just goes to show, I think, that the love such people have is very small, not the grand passion, the overpowering devotion of a great soul, as they like to imagine it is. Hurt vainly, smarting pride and the fiendish desire to hurt in return are more responsible for the marriage from pique than any 'heart wounds' either man or woman may feel."

"The man who has tried his best to win the one woman in the world and failed; the woman who has given her best to a man who proves himself false, will not be in any hurry to bind themselves by marriage vows to another person."

"Such fatal steps—and they nearly always are fatal—show suffering self-conceit rather than a broken heart—an error into which those who are only half in love ever fall."

"The man squares up his shoulders and says, 'Well, maybe I won't show that girl a thing or two!' The girl tosses her pretty head, pins on a saucy little bow of ribbon or dons a new frock and fares forth, vowing that she'll just show that man how little she really cared."

"This is far more dangerous for a man, especially a man of Oscar's temperament, than for a woman. The woman may come to love her husband if he is kind and good to her, but, as you know, Sam, no man ever gives his heart to a woman after marriage."

"You are right about that, old man! It hurts, though, to think that Oscar could display so much innate meanness. I can't understand how any honorable man could allow himself to commit such a fraud. It is a fraud, a lie, a cheat! Do you suppose even silly little Ethel Hamilton would consent to marry a man who frankly admitted he only asked her to be his wife in order to 'get even' with another woman?"

"Os has committed not only one of the greatest pieces of folly in his life, but has acted in a shameful manner toward the girl who is now his wife. By George! I feel like—"

"But here I laid a detaining hand on Sam's arm and told him it didn't matter what he felt like doing, he must not do anything. "If Oscar has been fool enough to marry out of pique, then his life will be punishment enough, without any one else butting in and making things more miserable for the girl."

"You're right, old man! Well, so long; it's about time to turn in, and I'm tired."

"Good night, Sam. Don't worry about other people's troubles. We all have enough of our own."

**Explosion of a Flower.**  
Sometimes the floral spathe of a great palm tree will fly open with a sound like a detonation in a mine. Such an event occurred in the botanical garden in Algiers recently. The spathe, nearly three feet long, was projected to a great distance, and for some moments the head of the palm tree was wreathed with golden dust formed of the debris of the flower. The sun's heat had roasted the flower to the color of rust. The director of the garden explained the explosion as being due to a fermentation in the flower caused by the extraordinary dryness of the air. A violet stirocco had just passed. In Algeria ostrich eggs explode in the same way and from a like cause.—Harper's Weekly.

**Trying His Own Hand.**  
"John," said the minister of a Scotch parish, "I fear you are growing remiss in your religious duties. I have not seen you in the kirk these three Sundays." "No," answered John, "it's no that I'm growin' remiss; I'm just tinkerin' away wt' my soul masel."—Methodist Recorder.

## SUMMER DRESS GOODS

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Did you ever visit "The Charmed Land of the American Continent," bordering on America's Mediterranean (Puget Sound) and the surrounding country to which Nature has given a bewitching beauty and a wonderful climate?

Are you familiar with the undreamed of scenic wealth of glorious California, that land of our doors?

Make the most of your trip—let me help you plan it. The furnishing of complete details for vacation trips is a part of "Burlington service."

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## How To Kill Gophers In The Alfalfa Fields

Superintendent William Foster of the state board of agriculture has declared war on the industrious gophers. These are practically the only pests that afflict the alfalfa growers of the state.

"The use of concentrated lye will aid in the extermination of gophers until the scientists devise a more speedy method of killing them," he said. "These pests in alfalfa fields cause thousands of dollars in damage and it takes hard work to thin them out. I believe that the scientists will discover some method of disease propagation in the near future."

Mr. Foster used a wagon rod to find the runway between the gopher mounds. Through the hole made by the rod he then sifted some powdered concentrated lye into the runway. He then covered the opening, thus darkening the runway. A part of the lye adheres to the feet of the gopher. The animal attempts to lick the lye from its feet and death follows.

A gopher bounty bill was introduced in the last legislature, but failed to pass. A number of the members did not realize the extent of the havoc wrought by the gophers and considered the measure in the future of a jest.

Cotting, the Druggist, is showing some beautiful books for Commencement presents. adv.

## LAND

Improved Alfalfa, Grain and Stock Farms in The Great Republican Valley

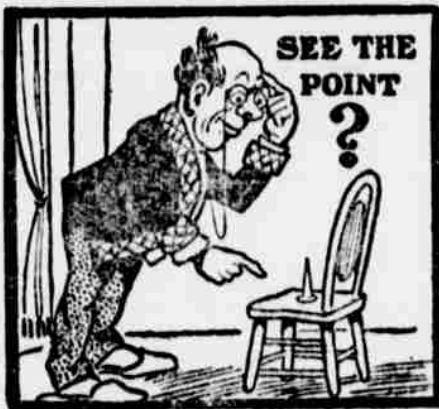
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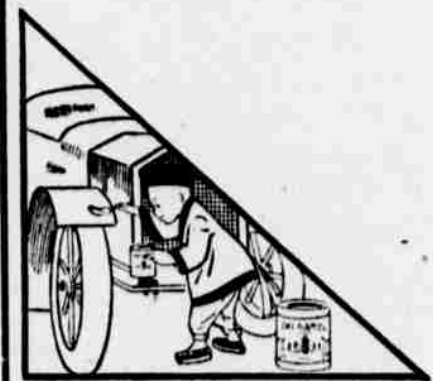
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