

HIS OBJECT LESSON

AT LAST MR. WESTON UNDERSTOOD WIFE'S PERSISTENCY.

She Took Some Pains to Let Him Know He Had Forgotten Something, and a New Record Was Established.

On the day of the beautiful pink and white wedding, Mr. Weston kissed Mrs. Weston 173 times. Mrs. Weston kept careful tab. On the second day of their wedded life the tab bounded up to 202—the record. And Mrs. Weston has that blessed date underlined in red. After that came the decline.

And then at last came the woful, woful day when Mr. Weston arose excitedly from the breakfast table.

"Great Scott!" he cried. "It's the date of the Ferndale lots sale. I must hurry."

"Albert!" called Mrs. Weston, standing suggestively in the doorway. "Haven't you forgotten something?"

Weston patted every pocket. "N-n-no. Got car tickets, gloves, grocery list—got everything I know anything about."

"Very well," said Mrs. Weston, in a strange, low voice. "You may go ahead, then."

As Weston descended the steps three at a time the door of No. 19 banged with a crash. When he reached the office the clerk addressed him. "Your wife rang for you a bit ago, sir."

Weston hastened to the phone. "Don't you think by this time that you forgot something, Albert?" asked his wife.

Weston went through his pockets again. "Nope—everything present, or accounted for."

At 11 o'clock she put the same query. Weston began to be worried. "Look here, Clara, if I have forgotten anything, tell me. I don't know what you're up to."

"Oh, don't you," came the snapping answer; and Weston experienced a mysterious feeling of uneasiness.

At 12 o'clock he was astounded to have his mother-in-law call. "I've come down to see you about Clara," said the irate lady. "She complains that you have forgotten—"

By the time that Weston finished sputtering his indignant surprise, the minister appeared and asked for a private audience. "I am greatly pained to learn that so valued a member of my flock has forgotten—"

"Forgotten!" roared Weston. "I'll forget myself if you people don't leave me alone."

After the minister had abruptly departed, Mr. Cox of Cox & Bagby, attorneys, entered. "I have been retained by Mrs. Weston," he declared. "I will say, however, that her grounds of complaint are as yet somewhat vague to me. It seems that you have forgotten—"

"Forget it—forget it—forget it!" belted Weston, wild with rage and worry. "I'll go and see my wife and find out just what I forgot."

On the way home Weston strained his imaginative faculties, but could not recall the fateful omission. Then it was that he conceived a really brilliant idea. Stepping into a dry goods store he purchased a spool of red silk thread and securely tied a yard of it about his little finger. When he entered apartment 19 pretty Mrs. Weston sat red-eyed with unshed tears. Weston advanced with a broad, nervous grin upon his face.

"How foolish it was for me to forget that I had placed a red string upon my finger to remind me that there was something you desired me to get matched," he rattled.

But Mrs. Weston began to cry softly. "It was not that," she sobbed.

Weston took her into his arms and kissed her. "I declare I haven't kissed you to-day," he murmured. "But I can't for the life of me think of what I have forgotten."

Mrs. Weston clung to him, weeping happily. "That was it!" she cried.

"What?" puzzled Weston.

"The kisses," she pouted.

"O," said Weston, with a long sigh of understanding.

The next day the No. 214 was registered in the little morocco-bound book of secrets. It was the record date, and as such Mrs. Weston underlined it in red.

New Precious Stone.

The turquoise is likely to have a very strong rival in a new stone discovered in the northeastern part of South Australia. The samples so far brought to Adelaide are much like turquoise, but they are slightly greener, and can be secured in far larger size. Another important discovery is of blue and varicolored corundum with such gems as sapphires, oriental amethysts, oriental emeralds, transparent rutile, tourmalin, topaz and monazite. The find was made near Mount Painter, about 75 miles to the east of Farina, in the Flinders range. The outcrop of corundum is about five chains wide and over 150 feet high, and the gems were found in the alluvial near by.

Only One Question Necessary.

The conversation had languished for a moment or two.

"Have you heard of the civil service examination for ambassadors?" inquired the man with the fur on his overcoat collar.

"No," replied the man next the car window. "I haven't heard of it. Are they examining 'em now?"

"Yes. They ask 'em just one question."

"Only one question? What's that?"

"Are you a multimillionaire and a free spender?" — Cleveland Plain Dealer.

DOG WITH PECULIAR TASTE

Animal Didn't Like Anybody or Anything Except Birds' Nests and One Cat.

"I once knew a very eccentric dog," says a writer in Bailey's magazine. "He was a real old English spaniel, with long body, short legs with great bone, grand head, jaws and teeth like a wolf's almost and long ears that would meet his nose. Poor fellow! His temper was certainly unamiable, but I think this was caused by the state of his health."

"He was a very curious animal, never showing much attachment to any one; he would bite his best friends on the least provocation. Nothing, though, offended him so much as being laughed at—that was an insult he never forgave. If you began to laugh at him he would growl in a very ominous manner and if you persisted in it would snap at you and give you such a bite that you would not care to try again."

"If you wished to please him you had to get a lot of old birds' nests and give them to him, one by one. He would carry them about for some time and then he would sit down and tear them to pieces. He was not particularly fond of going for a walk with any one, but if you got some nests and gave him one occasionally he would trot along with you as happily as possible."

"Another curious habit of his was that he would never get out of the way for any one. When he was trotting along he never moved from his line if he saw any one coming, but if he saw they did not intend to move would begin to growl and look so savage that people usually made haste out of his way. When he happened to be running down a hill he did not growl, but merely ran against people if they did not clear out—his great weight usually upsetting them, of which he took not the slightest notice."

"A great friendship arose between this dog and a fine cat we had and it was very amusing to see them together. He would walk up to the cat and begin to lick her all over and then she would rub all around him, purring and seeming to be very fond of him, when all of a sudden she would stop, look up in his face and spit at him, at the same time giving him two or three sharp scratches, the only notice of which he took was to close his eyes so that they might not be hurt."

A Defeated Conscience.

George W. Martin, secretary of the Kansas State Historical society, tells a story about an early day Kansas justice of the peace, who will be nameless here:

"This J. P.," said Mr. Martin, "would marry a couple one day as justice of the peace and divorce them the next as notary public."

One time, as the story ran, a man surrendered himself to this J. P.

"An phwat's the matter?" asked the judge.

"I killed a man out here on the prairie in a fight," was the reply. "I want to give myself up."

"You did kill him, sor?" asked the J. P.

"Yes, sir," was the reply.

"Who saw you?" asked the J. P.

"Nobody."

"An' nobody saw you kill 'im?"

"No, sir. Just we two were there."

"An' you're shure nobody saw you?" reiterated the J. P.

"Of course I'm sure," was the reply.

"Thin you're discharged," said the J. P., bringing his fist down on the table. "You're discharged. You can't criminate yourself. Fifty dollars, please!" — Kansas City Journal.

Children's Tragic Fate.

After a brave battle for life, Arthur Shibley, a little five-year-old boy, has died at New York. Along with a companion, little Robert Lomas, he was shot by some inhuman ruffian while tobogganing in a city suburb. Young Lomas died almost immediately, but poor Shibley, with a revolver bullet in his lungs and another in the heart, lingered a week in agony. The doctors said that he wanted blood, and some was transfused from his mother's veins, but the youngster, though brave, was conscious all the time that he was doomed. Nobody saw the tragedy, and when the youngsters were found both were nearly dead. They were beautiful children, with long curly hair, strong, sturdy and plucky little fellows, who played in the snow all the winter.

England's New Form of Oath.

The new oaths act, which is designed to do away with the old unsanitary habit of "kissing the book" in English courts of justice, came into operation on January 1, and caused considerable embarrassment in police and coroners' courts owing to the unfamiliarity of its terms and procedure. A witness has now to hold a Testament (the Old Testament in the case of Jewish witnesses) in his right hand above his head and repeat the following words: "I swear by Almighty God that the evidence I will give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

The Oft-Reported Demise.

"Why did you name your cat King Menelik?"

"Because," answered Miss Cayenne, "the creature is supposed to have at least nine lives."

Didn't Worry Him.

Kind Man—Madam, won't you take this seat?

Lady—I cannot deceive you, but I am a suffragette.

Kind Man—Then sit in my lap.

CONFIDENT CAN DOUBLE YIELDS OF FARM CROPS

Wyoming Seedman Tells How Soil Can Be Made to Produce More—Scientific Methods and Patience Required.

A doubling of the present production of farm staples is in sight, according to Prof. B. C. Buffum of Worland, Wyo., who is a pioneer in the science of seed breeding.

"We already have practically doubled the yield of corn by selection and plant breeding," said Prof. Buffum, who was in Chicago the other day, "but we need not stop with corn, as we can deal with all other crops in a similar way. The reason that this has not been done earlier is that plant breeding has been utilized heretofore mainly for the production of curiosities. Men who brought out anything new were 'wizards.' Few saw any practical value in what was being done. Much was accomplished in an esthetic way with reference to improvements of flowers, but the great farm crops were neglected."

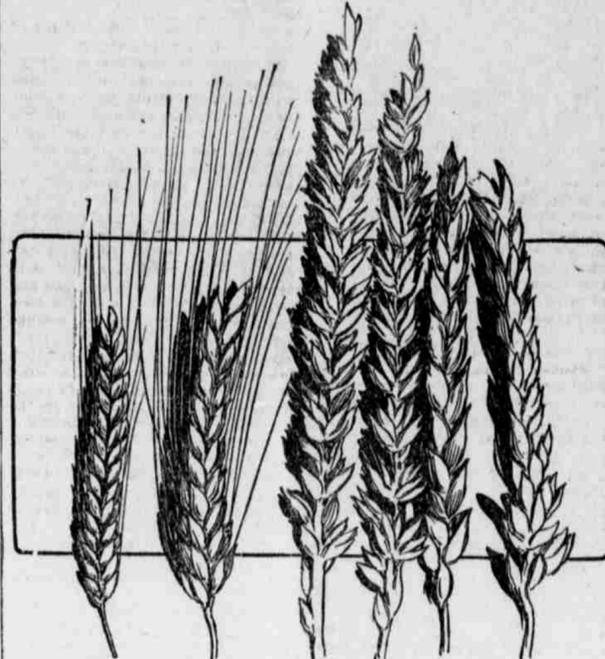
"The condition of our agriculture and its improvement is being given serious consideration by all thoughtful men. It is the foundation of our social economy, for production from the soil means the creation of new wealth. The high cost of living is, in my opinion, due to conditions resulting from the neglect of the farm. The city has held out alluring charms to the country youth in the form of greater advantages for education, more of the comforts of life, more excitement and more liberties to the individual with regard to little vices that would cause ostracism among provincial friends, but are overlooked in a crowd of strangers."

"This rush to the cities has brought about a lack of balance in the business of the country. It has given rise to an unnecessary amount of artificial

but he has not given much attention to practical features that appeal to the farmer.

"Alfalfa is the basis of western agriculture, yet it has never been pedigreed or improved by scientific breeding. Like 'Topsy,' it 'just grew.' It is a mongrel plant, with probably the greatest value of any mongrel on earth. I now have in my breeding gardens 70 varieties and strains of alfalfa, including those raised from seed from every part of the world where the plant is grown, in addition to my own hybrids. The method pursued in improving alfalfa is to make crosses and hybrids between all of these varieties and then select the one that shows the best quality, combined with the greatest productiveness. This last season I had two hybrids that grew to a height of three feet in 90 days from the date of planting the seed. Any one who has grown alfalfa can appreciate the significance of these figures. By fixing some type of this sort I can put into the hands of the farmers improvements that greatly will increase the yield."

"Those who are trying to improve alfalfa have three objects in view. The first is to develop a quick growing, heavy yielding strain. The second is to obtain fine stems, with a large percentage of leaves, for the leaves are of the most value to the stock farmer. The third object is to gain power to resist disease. One troublesome disease is known as leaf spot. It is a new fungus disease affecting many plants that can be made immune by proper treatment. This disease is general and is causing



How Crossing of Wheat Improves Plant.

business. There are too many middlemen, all of whom must share the profits from land and labor.

"The great hope of the future is better farming. Vast improvements have been made in our crop and stock production through experimental investigation, scientific study, and agricultural education. The physical sciences, soil management, fertilizers, improved machinery, and some of the principles underlying crop production and animal feeding are being worked out, and, as a general statement, it may be said that farming is our most staple and prosperous business."

"At present there is a strong movement for the improvement of the staple farm crops and I do not believe there is a question but that the work now going on will result in a doubling of the yield in the mountain region of arid America on land that is either irrigated or not irrigated. In speaking of doubling I am taking the government 'average' yield as the present standard. I know the average yields through many years of experience, and also realize what can be done by the best methods of farming. The great industries of the west are the production of live stock and fruits. With the breaking up of the range we are now producing better live stock at less hazard. Anything that enables the ranchman to increase the production of stock food would be one of the greatest factors in increasing the wealth of any region."

"Cereals can be improved much faster than live stock, but, nevertheless, the development of horses and cattle in the past has been much more notable than the progress in grains. At a recent convention the statement was made that it would require about 8,000 years of live stock breeding to duplicate the advance made with grains in one year's work at my experimental farm. The reason for the delay with regard to grains is that it is only a few years since the principle of hybridization has been discovered. Burbank has done more in this line than any one else,

much trouble, especially where alfalfa newly has been introduced.

"The old statement that wheat is a direct gift from God to man needs some modification in the light of recent discoveries. Wheat is a splendid gift, but development was necessary before it could fill all of man's needs. This fact, however, does not in any way detract from its value as a benefaction to mankind. It had been supposed for a long time that the true wild form of wheat was not known, but we have discovered that one of the early forms is Einkorn, which is found wild in Mesopotamia. About three years ago Dr. Aaronsohn discovered a wild emmer growing in barren places in Palestine, and the fact that it can be crossed with other wheat indicates that it may have been an ancestor from which have come important improvements."

"At the Worland ranch we have been working with winter and spring wheat, oats, barley and rye. Although operations have been going on at the present site, only three years, some remarkable results have been obtained. From the department of agriculture I obtained a black emmer, which is an early form of wheat, differing from the common grain in that it remains in the hull when threshed, like barley. By throwing this grain under unusual conditions a 'sport' or mutation, was obtained from which the yield was heavier and better than the original."

"Emmer is bearded, like barley, so we crossed it with winter wheat for the purpose of eliminating the beard. From this cross has arisen a remarkable series of new types of grain. Between 5,000 and 10,000 variations were obtained. From those I have selected 16 of the best, which are being developed so as to be of practical value. In addition to working with what are known as 'feed' grains, I have developed a type of winter wheat that appears to be superior to the popular turkey red, now generally grown throughout the northwest."

WHO'S WHO-AND WHY

CARNEGIE'S FIRST \$10,000



Andrew Carnegie, who has given to public uses a sum exceeding \$150,000,000—more than \$2,000,000 a year for every one of the 72 he has lived—told while in Chicago recently how he made his first \$10,000 by borrowing several hundred dollars and paying it back at the rate of \$5 a week.

Mr. Carnegie, who stopped in Chicago several hours while on his way to California, with eyes twinkling, asked Mr. Leach, superintendent of the Pullman Palace Car Company: "How much did you get when that melon was cut a while back?"

"I don't hold any shares, sir."

"That's too bad. Didn't let you in on it, eh?"

I remember I was working for the Pennsylvania railroad and a fellow named Woodruff came around with a couple of little sleeping car models

wrapped up in a cloth. "Why," I said to him when I saw them, "we're going to need these some day in the railroad business."

"The outcome was that the Pennsylvania railroad ordered a couple. And later, when I saw Mr. Woodruff again, he said to me: 'You seem like a bright young fellow, Carnegie. I believe I'll let you in with me on this.'"

"All right," I said; "I'm willing."

"I think I'll give you an eighth interest," he told me. And he named a sum of a few hundred dollars I would have to pay. I didn't have the money, but I went to one of my employers and asked him to lend me a few hundred dollars.

"All right, Andy, yes; you're a good boy," he said. "I guess I can let you have it."

"I'll pay you back \$5 a week," I told him. For I knew I could save that out of my salary. It had just been raised to \$40 a month then, I believe. So he let me have the money and that's how I got my start. I made \$10,000 off that stock and later got into the Pullman Company.

"The United States is good enough for me. I don't want to go to heaven yet. I wish I had an option on the trip to heaven so I could go when I pleased."

RUSH FOR PEARSON'S GOLD



Since Dr. Daniel K. Pearsons of Chicago announced that he would make a general distribution of his fortune on April 14, his nineteenth birthday, the intermittent stream of letters has grown to a steady torrent amounting to more than 500 daily.

Dr. Pearsons has given away \$4,000,000 in a score of years and vows that he will die penniless. So far he has aided 47 colleges.

"Look at this room," he said in despair recently at the sanitarium in Hinsdale, where he is spending the winter.

In one corner lay a stack of college catalogues; in another pamphlets from religious institutions; the drawers of his desk and tables were piled with letters, many unopened, and the contents of two waste paper baskets had overflowed

and lay in a heap on the floor. "And here comes the postman," he added, with resignation.

The clerk at the resort entered the room with a sack containing 250 letters. One was accompanied by a stamped envelope.

"There, that's better," the philanthropist said, as he glanced through the note. Then he wrote "No" at the bottom and dropped it in the letter box.

Most of the notes were from individuals, some picturing at length the writers' needs, others asking breezily for the loan of a couple of thousand that could be put to good use.

"I give almost nothing to individuals," Dr. Pearson said. "It is to the colleges in the new west and in the poor sections of the south that most of my money will go."

"I have so arranged my affairs that at my death there will not be one cent to quarrel over. I don't know yet how much I shall give away in April, but it will be to those on a list already made out. At the University of Copenhagen there is an endowment fund 900 years old, not one cent of which has been lost or wasted, and a German mission society has maintained a \$50,000 fund for more than a century. All my gifts are to be given with this end in view."

NAME LODGE AS CHAIRMAN



Despite the opposition of Senator Elkins the senate committee to investigate the high cost of living in this country will be headed by Senator Lodge. The other members of the committee are Gallinger, McComber, Smoot, Crawford, Simmons and Clarke of Arkansas.

The question as to whether Senator Elkins or Senator Lodge should be the chairman was settled in a conference between Vice-President Sherman, Senator Aldrich, chairman of the finance committee, which favorably reported the resolution providing for the investigation, and Senator Elkins, who was the author of the resolution.

The results of that conference were stated by Vice-President Sherman, when he announced the personnel of the committee. He explained that he had offered the chairmanship of the committee to Senator Elkins because the latter was the author of the resolution that was adopted, and that Senator Elkins has declined on account of the pressure of other work.

Senator Elkins later explained his reasons for declining the honor in private conversation. He said that when he introduced his resolution he did not have as much work on hand as he has now and had considered then he had time to conduct the inquiry which he proposed. Since then the administration bill for the amendment of the interstate commerce laws has come up before the committee on interstate commerce, of which he is chairman.

That is taking so much of his time at present, he said, he has no time to devote to the inquiry into the high cost of living. He told the vice-president that he could not even consider being a member of the committee.

After Senator Elkins had declined the chairmanship the vice-president talked over with him the personnel of the committee. It is believed that his wishes are shown in the appointment of some of the members, but the West Virginia senator didn't want Lodge to be the chairman.

SOCIETY WOMAN A CANDIDATE



The club women of Topeka, Kan., created a sensation in city politics when they announced they would run Mrs. F. W. Watson, a past president of the City Federation of Women's Clubs, as a candidate for the office of commissioner.

The commission form of government has recently been adopted in Topeka and the first set of five commissioners will be elected the first Tuesday in April. The primary election will be held one week earlier and if Mrs. Watson is one of eight candidates to receive the highest number of votes, she will then be nominated for election.

The women supporting Mrs. Watson intend to hold meetings in every ward to teach the women of the city the value of the commission form of government; to instruct them as to the politics and qualifications of the various candidates for city offices, and to inspire in them a greater interest in municipal affairs.

There is evidence on all sides that Mrs. Watson will have many men fighting in her cause. Signed to Mrs. Watson's petition for nomination are the names of some of the prominent business men and politicians of the city.

Besides the Federation of Women's Clubs many other women's organizations are flocking to Mrs. Watson's support. The Topeka members of the Kansas Press club, a society of women in the Catholic church, and the women of the East Side Progressive league have pledged their allegiance.

Mrs. Watson, who is a past president of the City Federation and the wife of a wealthy nurseryman, lives in a beautiful home, holds an important social position, entertains a great deal and always wears beautiful gowns.