



## Whether Common or Not

By Will M. Maupin.

TO DOROTHY

(Oct. 13, 1894-1905.)

When the crimson sheen in the sumac gleams,  
And the wild bird calls from the woods and streams,  
When the northward sun on the bare field gleams  
And the brown leaves falling, falling,  
Then we fondly, think as the twilight falls  
With its long, quaint shadows athwart the walls,  
Of the long gone days—and a voice enthalls;  
The long past calling, calling,  
When the whistling wind round the cottage eaves  
Like the wailing cry of a soul that grieves,  
Blows the whirling spray of the autumn leaves  
As the day is dying, dying,  
We nearer draw to the fireside's glow  
And watch while the dancing shadows go  
In a mystic maze, now fast, now slow,  
While the snow is flying, flying,  
Then the eyes look love and the heart beats true,  
Though the gray has blotted the clear sky's blue;  
And we light home's altar fires anew,  
And life new joys bringing, bringing,  
When the children laugh in their hours of glee,  
And prattle and clamber about my knee,  
Then I know the pleasure life brings to me,  
And my heart is singing, singing,  
Though the wind blows cold and the storm gods roar,  
And the drifts pile high 'round the cottage door;  
Though the whirling clouds through the heavens soar  
And harsh be the wind and weather,  
We have nought to fear; love lights the way  
Though the days are bleak and the clouds are gray—  
Hand clasped in hand and our spirits gay  
We walk life's paths together.

### The Investment

"Gentlemen," said President McHurdle of the Scrutable Life Insurance company, gently rapping upon his mahogany desk to secure order—"Gentlemen, you will please come to order."

The silence that permeated the room was thick enough to cut with a knife, and the sunlight that streamed through the French plate glass windows even subdued itself a trifle.

"Gentlemen," said President McHurdle, "it is hardly necessary for me to explain that we are gathered here today on important financial business. The Scrutable Life Insurance company is looking for investments for the surplus funds so kindly and confidently placed in its keeping by its millions of policyholders. It is needless for me to say that our company will consider only giltedge securities, for the interests of our policyholders are our only consideration. Now, gentlemen, those of you who have securities of the kind mentioned are invited to speak and make your offers."

"President McHurdle," said Director McHurdle of the Aurora Borealis Bond and Syndicate company, rising to his feet after President McHurdle of the Scrutable Insurance company

sat down, "our company has three millions in the bonds of the Consolidated Hot Air and Taffy company, which was organized by a number of our most prominent financial magnates. These bonds are guaranteed by the Prunella Guaranty company, which holds a first mortgage on the property of the company. These bonds bear 6 per cent interest and are offered at par and accrued interest, although there is a demand for them at 1 per cent premium. However, we desire to put them where they will not be speculated in to the detriment of our company, therefore we offer them to the Scrutable Life Insurance company."

"I have investigated your company, Mr. Director McHurdle," said President McHurdle, "and I rejoice to find it in such sound financial condition. You may put down the Scrutable Life Insurance company as subscribing for three millions of your bonds. Are there any others?"

"President McHurdle," remarked Secretary McHurdle of the Boundless Horizon & Unlimited Circumference railroad, "our company is preparing to place upon the market a five million issue of first mortgage debenture gold bonds bearing 7 per cent interest, for the purpose of construction work. This railroad taps a magnificent agricultural section whose future manufacturing prospects are very bright. We have already made tentative contracts for material and most of our townsites have been laid out. I consider these bonds an excellent investment under the circumstances."

"Mr. Secretary McHurdle," said President McHurdle, "I have noted the progress of your company with considerable satisfaction, and have thought of asking you for the privilege of taking up its bonds. Permit me to ask if this is your entire issue?"

"It is."

"Then you may set the Scrutable Life Insurance company down for the whole of them. We are determined to securely invest the money of our policyholders, thinking more of the security of the investment than we do of the interest thereon. Are there any more offers?"

"Yes, President McHurdle, I have a proposition," replied Treasurer McHurdle of the Consolidated Flapjack Frying company. "Our company, after several years of splendid prosperity, feels the need of making enlargements and improvements. We have decided, therefore, to issue six millions of bonds guaranteed by mortgage on the present plants and bearing 6 per cent interest. By placing these bonds we will secure sufficient capital to enable us to acquire control of the entire flapjack frying business of the country. This being the busy season in flapjack circles we are anxious to close our deals immediately in order to take advantage of the rush."

"I am glad that you are present today, Treasurer McHurdle," said President McHurdle, bowing profoundly. "I have anxiously awaited your decision to enlarge your business, feeling that an investment in the bonds of your company would be a great boon to the policyholders of the Scrutable Life Insurance company. You may consider the sale of your bonds as having been closed with me. Are there any others?"

"My company has nothing to offer as yet, President McHurdle," said General Manager McHurdle of the Soda Water Froth company. "We are putting perfected machinery for the

manufacture of froth for soda water, but as yet we have ample capital on hand. Should our expectations be realized, however, we may want to float a couple of millions in bonds for the enlargement of our business."

"Well, General Manager McHurdle," said President McHurdle, "when that time comes I hope you will let the Scrutable Life Insurance company have an opportunity to consider an investment in your securities."

"I will be glad to, Mr. President," said General Manager McHurdle.

"There being no further business, gentlemen, we will consider the meeting adjourned. Before going, however, I desire to thank all of you for your kindness to the policyholders of the Scrutable Life Insurance company in letting them in on such good securities."

With this the meeting adjourned, and President McHurdle, Treasurer McHurdle, Director McHurdle, Secretary McHurdle and General Manager McHurdle went out as one man and sat down to a bountiful dinner for which the grateful policyholders of the Scrutable Life Insurance company paid.

### Both Sides of the Shield

"I saved three cents a yard on that lace," boastfully declared Mrs. Bargain-Hunter.

"And my wage of 37 cents a day was reduced to 33 cents a day in order that you might secure the bargain," said Mrs. Sweat-Shop Worker. "Last year this ready-made silk-waist suit would have cost me \$45, but this year I secured it at the bargain price of \$39.98," said Mrs. Bargain-Hunter.

"And I had to deprive my little ones of sufficient food and clothing on account of it," said Mrs. Sweat-Shop Worker.

"My what a beautiful cloak!" exclaimed Mrs. Bargain-Hunter. "Only \$75, and the material must have cost all of that. I'll just take it. It is a wonderful bargain."

"Yes, it contains more than material and workmanship," sighed Mrs. Sweat-Shop Worker. "It contains the hungry looks of my little ones, it contains my tears and heartaches, it contains my heart's blood, it contains the warmth and comfort that my children never knew. Yes, it is a great bargain."

### Precaution

The great Mine Owner was showing his Distinguished Visitor about the mine property.

"This," said the Mine Owner, "is where we care for the sick and injured mules that haul the little cars through the galleries to the main shaft."

"What wonderful philanthropy, what distinguished consideration for our dumb animals!" exclaimed the Distinguished Visitor. "Now show me the hospital where you care for the sick and injured miners."

"Huh! We have no such hospital," said the Mine Owner.

"And why not, pray?" queried the Distinguished Visitor.

"For the very simple reason that we are constantly pestered by men looking for work, while we are compelled to keep men out on good salaries looking for mules," replied the Mine Owner.

### Precaution

Calling the lesser officials of his life insurance company into the main office the president asked:

"Are the books in such shape that there is no danger of an investigation revealing crookedness?"

With one accord the lesser official replied in the affirmative.

"Then you may retire, gentlemen," said the president.

After the lesser officials had retired

the president turned to his private secretary and said:

"James, you may now address and mail those invitations to my little dinner party in honor of Madame Remane, the favorite dancer of the Theatre DeJol."

### The Speculator

Upon the noisy board of trade Snooks was a "bull" for fair, But in his home his wife oft said He was a perfect "bear."

### Brain Leaks

No road is long that love walks. It is easy for a mother to excuse. The sin found out is no worse than the sin concealed.

The man in the pulpit should never be the model for the man in the pew.

There is nothing else so grouchy as a man who thinks he is just about half sick.

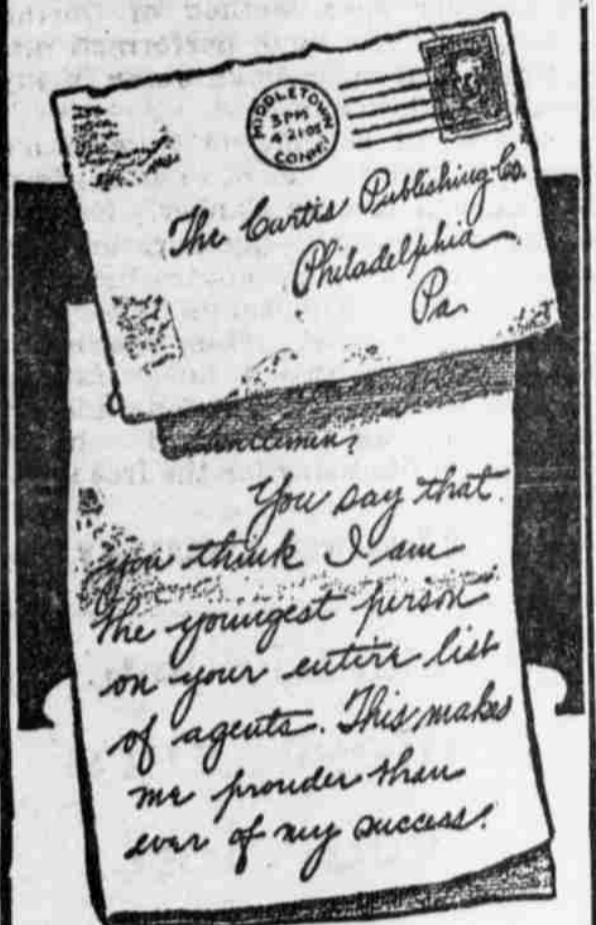
The smile that illuminates the counting room will also make light in the home.

Some men are proud of their ability to give; other men are thankful for an opportunity to give.

Satan's promises to pay are printed on fine paper in artistic style, but they invariably go to protest.

It is rather difficult to have respect for a law when we can have none for the men who made it.

## How Young People Can Earn Money



### Continuing, this Bright Schoolgirl in Middletown, Conn., writes:

"I do not know of any other little girl who has earned thirty-five dollars in so short a time and in such a pleasant way as I have, and I am quite sure that none of your older agents are more pleased with their success."

### What this Schoolgirl did others can do

THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL and THE SATURDAY EVENING POST will willingly co-operate with others who want to accomplish the same result. A very liberal commission will be paid upon each subscription and renewal secured, besides offering each an opportunity to share in \$5000 to be divided EACH MONTH from now until next June among those who do good work.

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