



Whether Common or Not

By WILL H. Noyes.

Lonely

O, but it's dull and lonesome, and the house is strangely still, When the day is done and the setting sun hangs low o'er the western hill; Silent and dull and lonely, for now at the close of day, No shouts of glee are awaiting me—the kiddies have gone away. Left me, their dear hands waving, and faces alight with joy—Rena so tall, Margaret small, Dorthy and wee Dickey Boy. And so, when the twilight gathers, and daylight fades to gloom, Silent and sad and lonely I wander from room to room.

There in the corner lying a tattered and well-worn shoe, And I think I see in my fancy free a pink toe peeping through. A small sunbonnet hanging just there on the bedroom wall, And out of the gloom of the quiet room ghost voices seem to call—Voices of happy children who left me but yesterday For the woods and streams and the sunlight gleams of the quiet country way. And the ghostly echoes answer the call of my lonely heart, And I seem to see hands beckon me over the miles that part.

Silent and sad and lonely—but out in the country way, The kiddies run in the wind and sun, happy and free and gay, Picking the flowers that blossom, and weaving their daisy chains, Joining in song as they play along in the shade of the country lanes. And the echoes of joy come to me as sitting alone out here, I dream day dreams of the woods and streams that confront my kiddies dear. Silent and dull and lonely, and the home sounds strangely stilled—But my children play in the country way—and my heart with joy is filled.

Fools

The world is full of fools, I trow, But I would have you note The biggest fool that we may know Is the fool that rocks the boat.

Collegiate

"What course did you take at Yaleard?"

"Rowing, football, high jump, quarter-mile dash, baseball, hammer throw and discus throw."

Educational

"Did your son acquit himself with credit at college?"

"I should say so," replied Farmer Corntosel. "I don't expect to get his bills paid for a year."

Sure!

"I see that the republican organs are referring to the tail of the ticket as 'Sunny Jim' of Utica."

"Yes, and the sunnier it is the better he likes it. He's president of an ice company."

Competent

"This," said the man with a great scheme who was looking for some one to put it through for him, "is something that must be handled cautiously and with conservatism. Do you think you are fitted for the job?"

"Well, I guess yes," replied the

applicant. For the last twenty years I've been writing editorials for a standpat paper advocating revision of the tariff after the next election."

A Sign of Dyspepsia

* * * * * * * * * *
* GONE TO LUNCH *
* BACK IN 5 MINUTES *
* * * * * * * * * *

Then and Now

Referring to your early married days—remember with what pride you handed your wife that first ten-dollar bill?

Also, remember how hard it was to cough up that two-dollar bill yesterday?

Emergency Currency

It's the five-dollar bill the friend lets you have just when you have come to the conclusion that every friend you have is broke as flat as you are.

That's one kind of emergency currency that we want to see inflated.

Explanatory

"My goodness, man; what did you mean by attacking the fame of that old hero? The people worship his memory."

"O, that's all right," said the candidate. "I was just merely giving them a chance to learn how much bigger he is than they thought he was."

Careful

"I have ordered my chauffeur to be very careful and not speed up too high," said Otto Mabeel.

"That is good," I said. "I am glad to see you are so considerate of the rights of pedestrians."

"I ain't worrying about them, but every time I hit one it either costs me the price of a new lamp or I've got to pay for having the machine cleaned off."

Safe

The trust managers were in session, discussing the political situation.

"Guess that Chicago platform is all right, isn't it?" queried one.

"Safe!" ejaculated another. "Didn't we see to it that it was properly vestibuled?"

There being no further business before the meeting—the date for the "frying" not having been set, adjournment was taken.

Parenthetically it might be stated that adjournment is about all that is left for the trusts to take.

Not Guilty

A good friend—unknown and unseen, but yet a friend—writes from Georgia, to ask if one of the two faces seen in the heading of this department is not meant for that of the architect who fills the space below it.

Not guilty! When the portrait of the architect at work is presented it will show a rather fat man seated in front of a typewriter machine, beads of perspiration dropping from his fevered brow, a small girl on one side reaching for his lead pencil, a small boy on the other side insisting on manipulating the keys of the machine, and a somewhat larger girl seated near by and insisting on being told how

to spell divers and sundry words that come to her mind. A somewhat fragrant old pipe, the companion of many a long work day, must appear somewhere in the picture if it is at all complete.

But as for looking like either of the gentlemen appearing above—not guilty!

After the Marriage

Remember the first time you forgot to kiss her until after you got on the car, then jumped off at the next crossing and went back, to find her in tears. Glad then you had forgotten, eh!

And of course you remember the first bread she baked. What a liar you were when she asked you about it!

Say, remember the first time her father and mother visited you after you had the little cottage all fitted up and the duplicates scattered in different rooms. Busted all the buttons off your vest when you swelled up, eh?

But—remember the day you got home a little earlier than usual and before she could hide em' you saw some little white—huh! What's the use. There hasn't been a day like it since, eh?

Different

"No, sir!" exclaimed the high-browed judge, "I will not modify the injunction which I have prepared at the request of the Consolidated Rigamajig company. They are already paying the best wages they can—a wage that is eminently fair—and I insist that you shall not interfere with their business by striking for higher wage. Property must be protected."

"But, your honor," said the legal representative of the workingmen, "we want an injunction restraining the Consolidated Rigamajig company from lowering our wages."

"Impossible!" thundered the judge. "Under present industrial conditions it is impossible to maintain the high standard heretofore prevailing."

Whereupon labor withdrew, having found both ends of the injunction poker properly heated for its grasping.

Cruel

Ever go back to the old home of your beyhood, swelled up with the idea that you were some pumpkins and that the villagers were just tickled to death to have such a distinguished visitor among them?

And did you ever stand around talking to the admiring throng and impressing them with your wisdom, and have some fellow butt in and say:

"Ha, ha, Bill! Remember th' time you went out after watermelons an' got hold o' that one that was chuck full er tartar emetic?"

There's always somebody ready to step forward and take the wind out of a fellow's sails.

Brain Leaks

Idleness is never a vacation.

Satiety is not always satisfaction. Also, there is government by conjunction.

Discontent with work is the worst kind of servitude.

Inspiration that comes in bottles is tintured with regrets.

The love of work is the joy of living—if it is well requited.

The harder you lift for your fellows the less danger of their pulling you down.

We've noticed that a whole lot of people who are so much in favor of "teaching the children to work" are the people who are much more interested in the profits they can make

from child labor than they are in the welfare of the children.

The worst thing about the "end seat hog" is that he won't shove over and give you his choice place.

We'd walk several blocks out of our way for a sight of a sweet-faced old woman knitting a pair of woolen socks.

Ever notice what a "big lonesome" accumulates in a small cottage when the wife and babies are away?

Chicago is known as the "Windy City," which may explain the adoption of a pneumatic platform a few days ago.

When the average man makes up his mind to take a vacation he begins making preparations to go out and kill something.

The man who courts temptation for the purpose of displaying his strength usually ends up by advertising his weakness.

This is the time of year when a city man dreams of the agricultural life and has a nightmare every time he thinks of having to mow the lawn.

SUPERIOR

"Pa," said little Tommy, getting a bright idea, "I can do something you can't."

"What?" demanded his father. "Grow!" replied the youngster.—Philadelphia Press.

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