

Mrs. Murphy Explains

New Orleans Picayune: The office floor had not been scrubbed for some days, and Mrs. Murphy, one of the cleaners of the building, was sought for an explanation. She was found in an adjoining office—a large, motherly looking Irish woman, with an expansive smile and a kindly glint in her eye that not even family cares and the necessity of contributing to the support of children she had brought into the world, not to mention 'buryin' wan eleven months old just afore I tuk th' work here,' could materially lessen.

Her bright, alert look and smile caused the righteous indignation of the tenant to dwindle to a feeble protest. She listened, then became voluble and apologetic:

"Is that so? Shure I was away on account o' me sister's death, an' I got a livin' out girrl to help me in th' buildin' for a few days, an' she didn't understand th' work. But it'll be all right now, for I'll do it meself," and straightway she followed to look at the neglected floor.

Her look had grown a shade less cheerful at the mention of the sister, and the complaint became a murmur of sympathy.

The explanation having been made Mrs. Murphy leaned upon her broom and continued:

"Yes, an' I had to bury her. Shure, she an' me was th' last that was left of th' family. I brought her an' another sister to this country, an' I buried th' other; an' now this wan is gone too, an' I'm th' only wan that's left.

"She died in th' hospital, an' I was runnin' there for two days afore she wint. As soon as I finished me work here I'd be there, an' whin I come home I had to do a big wash that was in th' tubs.

"I was nigh dead wid it all, but, thank God, I stayed wid me sister until th' last. An' I brought her out of it, too, widout thim ever touchin' her, an' gev her a dacint burial.

"But, shure, I had a harrd time to do it, an' only that I was that determined they'd ha' got th' best of me in th' ind. Ye see, it was this way:

"Th' day she died they sent me word that she could't live th' day out, an' I wint up there an' I seen her, but I could't stay wid her, for I had th' work to do. So in th' evenin' I wint up there agin, an' th' man at th' dure told me it was agin th' rules to let anywan in at that time.

"But, I sez to him, 'me sister is dyin' an' I want to go in an' see her.' "Shure, wasn't ye here today, sez he, 'an' ain't that enough for ye?" "Well, sez I to meself, 'I'll see Bridget wance more—an' she an' me the last that's left o' us."

"So I wint to the priest of the parish, an' I told him that me sister was dyin' in th' hospital, an' would he come and prepare her. So he came along wid me, and whin they saw th' priest they daren't refuse to lave him in, an' I stuck tight to him; an' that's how I got to see her agen.

"Whin th' doctor an' th' attindint seen me they sez:

"Who let this woman in? an' they wanted to make me go out.

"But I sez to them: "Ye'll not put me out, for she's not long to live, an' I'll stay here and see th' last of her."

"Well, they said everythin' to me an' they did everythin' to me but bate me. If luks and worrds could kill, I'd never come out of th' place alive whin I told thim 'I'll not lave it shure, two officers'd be th' only thing that'd put me out o' this.'

"So at lahst they left me alone, an' I stayed there wid her, an' whin it was nearly 12 o'clock at night she tried to sit up in th' bed, an' sez she:

"Mary, I see me mother."

"No, ye do not, Bridget, sez I, 'but ye will see her afore long.'

"Oh, sez she, 'what'll become o' th' childer when I'm gone?"

"Ye see, she had two young wans, an' the husband was no good.

"Rest aisy, Bridget, sez I, 'for I'll take little Maggie wid me' an' I'll trate her like wan of me own, an' I'll bye I'll put down to Father Drumgoole's."

"Will ye, Mary?" says she.

"I will, with the help of God," sez I.

"Kiss me, Mary, sez she, an' I did, an' wid that she was gone.

"Thin I tuk two five-cent pieces out of me pocket-book an' I closed her eyes wid thim, an' I tied up her chin. Whin I had her fixed I wint downstairs an' told the attindint, an' I stayed down there an' waited. They wanted me to go home an' I wouldn't. Sez wan to me:

"Shure yer sister is gone now, an' ye can do no more good here."

"Is that so?" sez I. "Well, I'll stay wid me sister while ever she's in this

place, no matter where ye put her." "So in a little while down they brought poor Bridget on a stretcher an' tuk her to the deadhouse, an' me after thim, for, sez I to myself, 'they'll hould no eyetopsy on Bridget while I've a breath left in me body,' for I thought what they'd be up to.

"Well, as soon as they put her wan o' thim—a thing like a drawer that le'd pull out, ye know—they sez to me: "This is no place for you to be waitin'; ye'd better go home, an' they tried to argy wid me, but no— "I'll stay here," sez I.

"Ye must be tired out atther yer harrd day's work; ye'd better go," sez the watchman.

"I am, sez I, 'but I'm not that tired that ye'll get me out o' here."

"An sure enough, while I was waitin', down came the doctors and attindants wid a stretcher to take me poor sister's body away to cut up, an' whin one o' the doctors seen me he sez to the watchman:

"What's this woman doin' here?" "I'm here," sez I, 'to take care of me sister's dead body an' see that ye make none o' yer eyetopsies on her.'

"Wid that the doctor commenced to talk to me. Sez he:

"Why, sez he, 'that body is no more nor a house that ye'd be put out of."

"Well, sez I, 'I never was put out of a house yet, thank God, an' no more will me sister be tuk out of this by yees.'

"But, sez he, 'ye know 'tis a rule of the place that we must do this; yer sister had a lump under her heart an' we want to find out what it was.'

"She did not," sez I; 'she died of consumption, that's what she did, an' I don't care what's yer rules; ye'll make no eyetopsy on her.'

"Well, at long last, whin they seen they couldn't move me they wint off. An' thin who should come to the place but Murphy. Glory be to God, but I was glad to see 'im!

"Ye see, whin I didn't come home he thought I'd be wid me sister, an' so he came to luk for me, an' wint to the dure of the hospital an' axed was I there, an' they told him me sister was in the deadhouse. So, sez he, that's where Mary'll be.

"The minute I seen him I sez:

"Murphy, for God's sake, go for the undertaker, an' tell him to come quick!"

"An' in less than an hour he was there wid his wagon an' I had poor Bridget in me own rooms.

"An' thin I had to bury her, an' that'll cost me a good sum. But it'll not be so bad, perhaps, for I'm going to have a raffle of a silver watch that she left, an' maybe some wan'll take tickets enough to help me out. Shure I don't know what I'd do at all if it wasn't for Mr. Casey, the dacint undertaker that he is, for sez he to me:

"Mrs. Murphy," sez he, 'I'll trust ye an' ye can pay me whin ye're able; shure I'd take it from ye in quarters if ye could do no bether.'

When the tale was finished Mrs. Murphy dried her moist eyes on the corner of her apron, apparently unconscious of having performed an unusual act. An offer to take some of the raffle tickets elicited a look of gratitude that was more than her "Oh, thank ye" and "May ye never know such trouble"—and she was off to her duty, for there was much to do before she could go home to her children and the extra one she had promised to treat as "wan of me own."

IN NEW YORK.

New York Post: A thrifty woman tenant in an uptown apartment hotel tried to make a deal which staggered the clerk the other day. The tenant had ordered a bottle of milk to be sent to her room one morning. The next day she appeared with the bottle and asked the clerk to change it for a fresh bottle, as the other had not been used.

"Some people who send telegrams have queer notions," said the man in a telegraph office. "For one thing they are not in any particular hurry. Every little while we receive through the mail copy of a telegram which somebody would like sent. In that case the message is clearly written out, and money covering full charges enclosed. To be sure, transmission in that way requires only a few hours longer, but it does seem that when a matter is sufficiently important to require a telegram the person interested would either come to the office, or telephone, or call up a boy instead of communicating with us by means of a letter."

"The other morning," remarked the Harlem flat dweller, "the hot water boiler on our floor was apparently

leaking. I called the janitor, who observing water actually dripping from the base, telephoned for a plumber. The plumber came, but then not a drop of water was visible. After searching for a possible leak he left. The next morning the maid called for me, shouting that the boiler was leaking again. A glance this time told the story. Over the coal range a three-hole gas stove rested. The girl had placed a kettle of water on the hole nearest the boiler, and the steam from the spout striking the boiler, caused the drip at the base. I expect the plumber's bill on the first of March."

Two men stood watching a third who had just left them. "How long has he lived in New York?" asked one.

"I don't know exactly," replied the other, "but he has been here long enough to get cured of the badge and button habit. He used to wear three or four society pins of one kind or another. Half the men who come here from small towns and villages have the habit of decorating their lapels with the insignia of some social or political organization of their native place. Membership in that order showed that they were of importance in the community and they fancy it will carry the same weight here. They soon find, however, that local societies of that kind are not considered in metropolitan affairs, and the badges and buttons are finally discarded."

"Many persons who expect to cross the ocean but once or twice in a lifetime take care that they shall travel in good company when they do cross," remarked the clerk in the steamship office. "Every day we receive letters from prospective voyagers asking for a list of persons already booked for a certain steamer. If the list contains a number of names of international repute, the small fry engage passage on that boat. If not, they choose one where the company is more select. Somehow they fancy it will add interest to the account of their travels if they are able to say that they crossed the Atlantic on the steamer with Prince This, or Count That and whenever possible they make a point of securing passage on a boat which carries a lot of prominent persons."

A woman recently applied to a sewing machine company for a machine to be used on trial. The agent set her down as one who had no intention of really buying, so he sent her a second-hand machine, made by another company, that they had somehow managed to secure in trade.

"That," said he, "will be good enough for her to do her spring sewing on, and that is all she wants it for."

At the end of two weeks the woman called at the office.

"That machine," she said, "is a treasure. It runs easily, and the tucking, shirring and hemstitching are perfectly beautiful. All the women in our building say they never saw anything so nice. They are going to sell their old machines and buy new ones like it. I am going to get a new one, too. There are eleven of us who want to buy. Since that is quite a large order we thought you might be able to get the machines for us at a discount."

The agent nearly collapsed. He tried to induce the woman to look with favor upon the machines made by his own firm, but her affections were fastened upon the sample that he had so fatuously provided. So in order to secure any commission for himself he had to fill an order of eleven machines made by a rival concern.

SHOWERS OF GREENBACKS.

While Policeman Fitzgerald of the Williamsburg Bridge station was on duty at the bridge early yesterday morning he saw greenbacks flying around and began to pick them up. The first was a ten dollar bill and then two fives. He kept chasing them until he had \$102. He also picked up checks aggregating \$54. He looked around but failed to find anyone who had lost the cash and checks. He took his find to the police station and turned it over to Sergt. Nichols.

While the latter was counting the cash Samuel Pfeiffer, of 1623 Eastern parkway, entered the station and said he had lost \$177 somewhere on the bridge and \$54 in checks. He described his loss so accurately that the police were convinced that he owned the money and checks found by Fitzgerald. Pfeiffer insisted that \$75 was missing and policemen were sent to the Manhattan terminal. They found remnants of greenbacks clinging to the car tracks. Some of the greenbacks had been run over by the cars and ground to pulp. Other bills probably had been blown off the bridge. Pfeiffer told the police he had lost the money and checks while running for a car.—New York Sun.

Hatch Chickens by Steam with the EXCELSIOR INCUBATOR Or WOODEN HEN. Simple, perfect, self-regulating. Hatch every fertile egg. Lowest priced first-class hatchery made. W. B. STARK, Quincy, Ill.

Talk about good roads always seems more popular in the winter time when the ground is frozen.

Estate No. 212 of Ida A. Beck, deceased, in county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

The state of Nebraska, ss.: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is October 15, 1907, and for payment of debts is May 15, 1908; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on July 15, 1907, at 2 p. m., and on October 15, 1907, at 2 p. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed. Dated March 11, 1907.

FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge. (Seal) By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk.

Notice to Creditors.

Estate No. 2205 of Libbie M. Searles, deceased, in county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

The state of Nebraska, ss.: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is October 15, 1907, and for payment of debts is May 15, 1908; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on July 15, 1907, at 2 p. m., and on October 15, 1907, at 2 p. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed. Dated March 2, 1907.

FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge. (Seal) By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk.

Notice of Probate.

Estate No. 2306 of August Lange, deceased, in county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

The state of Nebraska, s.: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is October 1, 1907, and for payment of debts is May 1, 1908; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on July 1, 1907, at 2 p. m., and on October 1, 1907, at 2 p. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed. Dated February 20, 1907.

FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge. (Seal) By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk.

Notice of Probate.

Estate No. 2318 of John E. Pierce, deceased, in county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

The state of Nebraska, s.: To all persons interested in said estate, take notice, that a petition has been filed for the appointment of John Hammer as administrator of said estate, which has been set for hearing herein, on March 19, 1907, at 9 o'clock a. m.

Dated February 19, 1907. FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge. (Seal) By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk.

Notice is hereby given that the Lincoln Woman's Club has been duly incorporated. The name of the corporation is "The Lincoln Woman's Club." The principal place of transacting its business is the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska. The general nature of the business of said corporation is to study and work for the advancement of all interests common to humanity. The time of the commencement of this corporation was the 19th day of November, 1906. The affairs of the corporation shall be conducted by a board of directors, selected according to the by-laws The Lincoln Woman's Club.

Notice to Creditors.

Estate No. 2207 of John Forrest, deceased, in county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska, ss.: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is October 1, 1907, and for payment of debts is May 1, 1908; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on July 1, 1908, at 2 p. m., and on October 1, 1907, at 2 p. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow or adjust all claims and objections duly filed. Dated February 20, 1907.

FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge. (Seal) By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk.

Certificate of Publication.

State of Nebraska, Office of Auditor of Public Accounts:

LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1907.—It is hereby certified, that the Continental Casualty company of Hammond in the state of Indiana, has complied with the insurance law of this state, applicable to such companies, and is therefore authorized to continue the business of accident and health insurance in this state for the current year ending January 31, 1908.

Summary of report filed for the year ending December 31, 1906.

Table with columns for Premiums, All other sources, Total, Disbursements, Paid policyholders, All other payments, Total, Admitted assets, Liabilities, Unpaid claims and expenses, Unearned premiums, All other liabilities, Capital stock paid up, Surplus beyond capital stock and other liabilities, Total.

Total \$1,664,609.07. Witness my hand and the seal of the auditor of public accounts, the day and year first above written. (Seal) E. M. SEARLES, JR., Auditor of Public Accounts. JOHN L. FRENCH, Deputy.