Recruiting Men in Omaha for Service in Uncle Sam's Navy



CAPTAIN WILLARD ADMINISTERING THE OATH-Photo by a Staff Artist.

Army Recruiting Service. Wanted for the men. That this idea is entertained by governing in their United States army, able-bodied men of men, some of them in high positions, the good character, between the ages of 21 and following example can be given to prove. 25." Probably there are many people who pause and read that poster, who have little or no conception of the me hod of applying and enlisting in the service of Uncle Sam, and whose idea of the requirements ex- corrigible youth, a fit subject for a reform acted is of the vaguest kind. That they school, stated that he would withhold senmay have a clearer understanding of this tence and release the fellow, provided he subject is the object of the present article, were to enlist in the navy, where he

Succession of Recruiting Officers. The local recruiting station in operation known by the man applying for enlistment, now was established at Sixteenth and that he was rejected without ceremony. tain H. N. Royden, Twenty-sixth United that is received in the service renders it E. A. Reichart, cavalry, G. R. S.; Corporal undestrable men. Private A. Albers, field artillery, G. R. S. debauchery and vagrancy is in the matory covered by this office extends over delibly marked upon the features and the state of Nebraska and part of the person that little or no trouble is expestate of Iowa, but at present the only rienced in arriving at the true estimate stations maintained are at Lincoln, Neb., of the character of such an aplicant. and Bloux City, Ia., at each of which sta- and rejecting him, as is invariably done, tions there is a recruiting party of one and should there be any doubt as to the sergeant and a corporal, the physical ex- character or adaptability of an applicant, amination being conducted by a a civilian the only proper course is to give the physician, especially employed for the duty government the benefit of the doubt by may require. The location of the rejection of the man. the Omaha office was changed in June of

has more than justified the change. Out ha Stands Pretty Well. to be success met with in securing ft would be well to quote the latest official record for the quarter ending September 30, 1904. This report shows that the Gmaha station stood twenty-second in the number of recruits obtained out of a total of sixty main stations in operation in the United States, having secured more cities az Cincinnati, Denver, Savannah and Atlanta, Ga., Baltimore, Cleveland, Day-

enport, 10., Harrisburg, Pa., Memphis, Evansville, Ind., Nashville, Tenn., Syraand Chicago, besides a number of other cities not mentioned.

The success attained and verified by the report quoted is quite flattering to the number of cases of having a much larger in the best of health a variation will be population to draw from than is the case allowed of a fraction of an inch in maxiin this city and those tributary thereto, mum height for cavalry and field artillery and justifies the conclusion that there are service. few If any cities of the same population in the country that affords more splendid opportunities for recruiting the ranks of A word here concerning some of the the army than Omaha, the material ob- foregoing qualifications. It is noticed that opportunities for recruiting the ranks of tained is nowhere better, in nearly every the enlistment of applicants is restricted instance the applicants obtained being to male citizens of the United States, or sturdy and excellent young Americans. who will be a credit to the service and an become citizens; this also includes citizens henor to the state and location whence of Porto Rico. The only enlistment of people have is that no difficulty is encoun- and these are enlisted by and exclusively

LACARDED in many places on the tered in any man being accepted for servbill boards of this and other ice in the army or navy, in fact many becities can be seen a poster bear- lieve that the services afford excellent under the control of ing at the top the coat of arms opportunities for reforming and redceming the surgeon general of the United States, and, in hard or unruly characters, and that the of the army, accordtype, the words: "United States service is the proper place for all such ing to instructions

Discipline of the Service. A judge in one of the eastern cities, having before him for trial an especially in- able to speak, read could be subjected to discipline; sufficient to state that when the facts became Dodge streets on January 28, 1901, by Brig- and he was informed that the navy (and cants, especially in adfer General William F. Spurgin, since the army as well) was no reform institu- that he must be con-deceased, at the time lieutenant colonel of tion, and that such characters were not vinced beyond any the Sixteenth United States infantry. This desired for the service. There can be no doubt that the apofficer was successively succeeded by Cap- doubt but that the discipline and training plicant is of the age States infantry, since retired; Lieutenant peculiarly successful in dealing effectively formerly the custom B. H. Kerfoot, Artillery corps, and Lieu- with all classes of men, but this is re- to enlist boys betenant A. M. Mason, Artillery corps. The sorted to only through necessity, and it tween the ages of 18 regruiting party since November, 1903, has is not the desire nor the intention of the and 21 with the writconsisted of Captain H. O. Williard, Fifth government to convert either service, army ten consent of par-United States cavalry, officer in charge; or navy, into an asylum, reform school ents or guardians, W. H. Ramsey, contract surgeon, United or correctional institution for criminals, but this is no longer States army, examining surgeon; Sergeant chronic drunkards or any other class of permitted, dwing to

E. Fately, infantry, G. R. S., and Fortunately the evidence of a life of In addition to the local field, the terri- jority of cases so noticeable and so in-

Qualifications for Enlistment.

the present year from Sixteenth and Dodge streets to the present location at The qualifications for original enlistment the age of 21 or more, and in case that he the southwest corner of Thirteenth and in the army are as follows: The applicant cannot obtain this statement, then his Douglas streets, and the increase in the must be a male citizen of the United own declaration in the ferm of an affidavit, States, or have legally declared his intentemperate in habits, able-bodied, free from disease, and must be able to read, write and speak the English language. Minors will not be enlisted. Married men will be enlisted only upon the approval of the regimental commander, or other proper commanding officer, should there be no regimental organization, and then only when it can be plainly shown that the enlistment of such married man will be for the best interests of the public service. As a rule, it may be stated that the en-Tenn., Columbus, O., Milwaukee, Scran- listment of married men is discouraged. ton, Bacramento, Cal., Newark, N. J., All applicants are required to furnish evidence concerning age and character, if cuss. N. Y., Richmond, Va., New Orleans, deemed necessary by the recruiting officer. Springfield, Ill., Springfield, Mass., Port- Certain limits are prescribed relative to land, Ore., Albany, N. Y., Des Moines, height and weight of applicants; for inand two stations, one in New York City fantry, coast artillery and engineers, the height must be not less than 5 feet 4 inches and weight not more than 196 pounds; for cavalry and field artillery, the height must not be less than five feet four Omaha office, when it is considered that inches, and not more than five feet ten many of the larger cities of the union have inches, and the weight must not be in failed to equal the Omaha record for the excess of 165 pounds. For all arms of the period stated, and in view of the unques- service the minimum in weight is placed tioned advantage that they possess in a at 128 pounds. Should an applicant be

Must Be American Citizen. those who have declared their intention to come. The prevalent idea that many females known is that of army nurses,



Top row, standing: A. H. Albers, Corporal O. E. Fately, the recruit. Sitting: Dr. W. H. Ramsey, Captain H. O. Willard, Sergeant E. A. Richardt. PERSONNEL OF THE OMAHA RECRUITING CORPS, UNITED STATES ARMY-Photo by a Staff Artist.

cases. The applicant must be between 21 and 35 years of age. of good character, temperate in habits, and write the English language. Recruiting officers are directed and encareful in the enlistment of appliof 21 or more; it was the fact that the supreme court has decided that minors cannot be enlisted and held to their

Where there is any doubt in the mind of the recruiting officer as to the age of an applicant the latter is required to furnish before he will be accepted. This he usually does by submitting an acknowledgment from his parents or other relatives cognizant of his age to the effect that he is of upported by the affidavit of

or guardian.

tion to become such; he must be of good known to be reputable. Should he be uncharacter, between the ages of 21 and 25, able to obtain this testimony the e 1s no he is required to answer a number of quesco .. e op a but to decline to accept him, for any recruting officer that accepts an applicant, and it afterward transpires that the recruit was a minor, or otherwise unfitted for the service, will be held to a strict accountability for the enlistment and all of the expenses incurred in consequence of the man's acceptance will be charged, against the officer who enlisted him; this fact that the age must be proved leads in a number of cases to rejection of men, even when it is established that the applicants are physically acceptable. No Drunkards Need Apply

In exacting that applicants be temperate in habits, the government requires nothing more than is now demanded by all large corporations of their employes; no drunkard or dissipated man can at the present day expect to hold a position or secure employment from any great corporation; and a man whose constitution has been weakened by excesses will sooner or later succumb to the rigorous training, and to the strain upon his energy that is exacted nowadays in the service. Years ago men were often enlisted who were unable to read or write, but that day has now passed, but in this time of excellent public schools and universal education, it is expected and required that every aspirant for the service must not only speak the English language, but read and write it as well.

At first glance it might seem a hardship that married men are not, as a rule, accepted for enlistment; this, on the contrary, will generally be found to be a blessing in disguise, for while the pay and allowances of a soldier is ample for all his own needs, and by due care and economy, a soldier can save a considerable sum of money, still it is not sufficient to qualify him for service, these questions

SERGEANT REICHARDT QUESTIONS THE RECRUIT-Photo by a Staff Artist.

oath, even with the consent of parents support a wife, unless there are other false answers? Such, no doubt, would sources of income; again, the government be the case were there no law in makes no provision for quarters for en- operation to comple truthfulness, and to listed men, except in rare cases; men are provide a penalty for violations, but such required to live in the barracks provided a law is in force, though not commonly the most conclusive proof as to his egs for them, and a soldier's wife must gen- known. But any man who makes a miserally secure employment in some officer's representation, gives a false answer to a family, or live on the outside, at the ex-recruiting officer, or in manner, shape or

ination. Preliminary to this examination, tions on a form called "the physical examina ion of a recruit" and having answered these questions, to sign the statement, which is attested by the recruiting officer. These questions embody a concise and com plete history of the applicant; they relate to his name, age and birth, birthplace, occupation residence; disclose the fact whether he is a citizen of the United States, or if not, whether he has ever declared his intention to become such, and if so, in what court, what service, foreign or United States, applicant has had, when, and where he was enlisted; whether he is a member of the National Guard or militia of any state or territory (if so, he must first secure a discharge from competent authority, before being accepted in the United States service), whether he has ever before applied for enlistment, if so, where, and if rejected, for what cause; whether applicant has ever had any sickness, and at what age; the nationality, residence and occupation of father must be stated, as also whether there are any objections on the part of his parents or other relatives to applicant's enlistment (should there be valid objection, the applicant cannot be accepted); if either parent has died, the cause must be stated, and if it appear that applicant comes from a family subject to any hereditary disease, he must be re-

References Are Required. The name and address of employer, together with date of employment must be given, for purposes of reference, if deamed essential; the applicant is then carefully questioned as to the presence of any func-

are searching and must give the names and addresses of all people dependent port, and should it appear that his discharge may subsequently be asked for on these grounds, he will not be taken; should his answer disclose that he has ever been an inmate of a jail or peniten- service.

the questions put to him, for did he desire to enlist, it might seem that he would endeavor to conceal any possible defects and give

family, or live on the outside, at the expense of her husband, pense of her husband.

Physical Examination First.

To determine that an applicant is ablebodied and free from disease, he is required to undergo a rigid physical examulation of the control of the c mum punishment upon conviction thereof being fixed at dishonorable discharge from the army of the United States, with forfeiture of all pay allowances and confinement in a military prison at hard labor for the period of one year; this act of congress, and the penalty for violation of the same is thoroughly explained to the applicant and is embodied in the statement mentioned above, and his signature thereto is taken as conclusive proof that he fully understands and realizes the crime that he commits, should he violate the same. Under the circumstances it can be plainly seen that no applicant would care to run the risk of making any material misrepresentation or false statement about himself or previous history, that would sub- latter likewise standing, and holding up his sequently be discovered and lead to his conviction for fraudulent enlistment.

The Finishing Touches.

Should the answers given by the applicant previously described prove satisfactory to the recruiting officer it now remains to prove that the man is able bodied and free from disease, and, as stated before, this is effected by subjecting the applicant to a rigid physical examination by a competent medical examiner in the presence of the recruiting officer. For this surpose the applicant is taken to a well lighted room, required to strip himself of all clothing and undergo the examination, and unless physically perfect he will be rejected. In order that his person may be thoroughly clean, he is obliged to take a both. Should be present himself in unclean condition even though well dressed and physically sound, he will be rejected. as no one is desired who is not cleanly and respectable. The applicant having stripped, is minutely examined as to his tional disease or disorder that would dis- general physique, skin, scalp and head, vided with lodging and subsistence at the world, and is rewarded by having the his hearing and sight are tested, each expense of the government, until such time finest soldiers the world can produce.



DR. RAMSEY TESTING THE SIGHT-Photo by a Staff Artist.

feet and all other important organs are designated from the War department. closely examined and the presence of disease in any of them or weakness in any part is a cause for rejection.

corps of the army are thoroughly tested Stevens, Ore., for coast artillery, Fort for color blindness, this requirement not Douglas, Utah, for field or light artillery; being exacted for other branches of the Jefferson Barracks, Mo., for cavalry, and

tiary, or has ever Should the applicant, successfully have land, Cal., for infantry; from the latter been convicted of passed the physical examination outlined point men are sent to the Philippine isfelony, he will be above, his body is then carefully searched lands, Hawaii and the legation guard at rejected, as the en- for moles, birth stairs, scars, tatto marks Peking, China, where there is a company listment of such per- or any other permanent marking, and the of United States infantry. sons is prohibited by location and description of these, together Men with previous service in the army law. with their measurements is recorded, front and with excellent discharges are gener-It may be perti- and back, on a figure card, this being a ally allowed to enlist for any company and nently asked at this paper bearing the figure of a nude man, on regiment that they may wish, provided point. What assur- which these markings and their location is that there is a vacancy; as a rule appliance has any officer shown. This serves as a means of personal cants for original enlistments can choose that the applicant identification, and by this means many determine the branch of the service they desire. truthfully answers serters and fraudulently enlisted men are such as cavalry, infantry, artillery, etc., annually detected and brought to trial. The but at the present time no original enmarkings are also recorded on what is listments are being made for either incalled the soldiers' descriptive card, which fantry or cavalry-only men with previous card is forwarded to the War department service being accepted, and such recruits after the enlistment; this card also con- as are obtained are sent either to the light tains all the recruit's measurements, the or heavy artillery.

color of his hair, eyes and complexion, age Such of the articles of war as directly and occupation, place of birth, and, in fact, relate to enlisted men are read to all apall other information that is necessary con- plicants before enlistment and carefully cerning him-a concise history and descrip- explained to them, as being the law under tion for future use. Having dressed and which they will be governed and within his papers having now been prepared the six days after enlistment, all of the artiapplicant is now ready for the last step, cles of war, 128 in number, are read to prepared to be sworn into the service of the the recruit.

papers, this declaration being as follows:

I, John Doe, desiring to enlist in the army of the United States for the term of three years, do declare that I have neither wife nor child; that I am of legal age to enlist and believe myself to be physically qualified to perform the duties of an ablebodied soldier; and I do further declare that I am of good habits and character in all respects and have never been discharged from the United States service (army or navy) or any other service on account of disability, or through sentence of either civil or military court, nor discharged from any service, civil or military, except with good character and for the reasons given by me to the recruiting officer prior to this enlistment; and that I am a citizen of the United States (or have made legal declaration of my intention to become such).

The recruiting officer, standing now, ad-

The recruiting officer, standing now, administers the oath to the applicant, the right hand. This oath is:

right hand. This oath is:

State of Nebraska, City or Town of Omaha, ss.-I, John Doe, born in New York, in the state of New York aged 23 years and 4 months, and by occupation a laborer, do hereby acknowledge to have voluntarily enlisted this 21st day of October, 1994, as a soldier in the army of the United States of America, for the period of three years, unless sooner discharged by proper authority; and do also agree to accept from the United States such bounty, pay, rations and clothing as are or may be established by law. And I do solemnly awear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America; that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies whomsover, and that I will obey the orders of the president of the Inited States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to the rules and articles of war. according to the rules and articles of war.

Connecting with the Commissory. The foregoing oath is subscribed and duly sworn to in the presence of the recruiting officer and properly attested by him; any commissioned officer of the army may administer this oath, and it will be binding.

ear and eye separately, his nose, mouth as he may be forwarded to his station. It and teeth, face, chest and neck, back is found best to send men in parties of and abdomen are carefully examined; his two or more, under the charge of the most embrace every im- heart and lungs thoroughly tested, the experienced man, and where very large portant organ. He flexibility of all joints determined; the ex- parties of recruits are sent to stations, it is pansion and contraction of his chest is quite common to send one or more commisobtained and these must correspond to sloned officers in charge of the party. Rea fixed table, together with his height cruits are provided with transportation. and weight, but slight variations being berth in tourist sleeper and meal tickets allowable; the presence of any rupture or for the time that they will be enroute, and chronic disease is ascertained, the limbs, are assigned and sent to stations that are

> Location of Recruiting Stations. At present recruits are forwarded from In addition, applicants for the signal Omaha to the following stations: Fort Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and Angel Is-

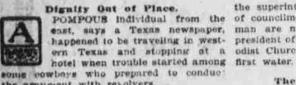
receiving during this time, in addition to his pay, clothing, rations, bedding, medicines and medical attention; his pay varies from \$13 per month for a private to the highest pay paid any enlisted man, viz. a master electrician, \$75 per month-this being the pay while in the United States, while serving in the Philippine islands, the island of Guam, Alaska, China and Panama the pay of the soldier is increased 20 per cent.

Chance to Save Money.

A soldier may, should be desire, deposit any savings (not less than \$5) with the government, and for any period of six months or longer will receive 4 per cent per annum This money must be withdrawn when he is discharged. When by expiration of service he is honorably discharged, the soldier is paid at the rate of 4 cents per mile for every mile from the place of discharge to place of enlistment, unless such place of discharge is without the United States, and in that event he is transported free to the nearest port of the United States, and then paid travel pay the same as above.

Soldiers with twenty years' faithful service are entitled to admission to the Soldiers' home in Washington, D. C., and for the purpose of supporting the home the sum of 1214 cents per month is deducted from each man's pay in the army. Having served thirty years or more, soldiers can then be retired, and receive when retired three-fourths their monthly pay allowed by law and \$9.50 per month additional for clothing and subsistence. Uncle Sam is exacting in his demands as to the kind of men that he wants in his army, but when once secured, he feeds and The man is now a soldier, and he is pro- pays him the best of any nation in the

Some Quaint Features of Current Life



the argument with revolvers. "Stranger," said a Texan to the pomp- Apropos of an explosion of a cartridge in

dirt on the floor. the Texan, as he prepared to recline, "but of the officer's room announces the arrival my opinion is that you had be ter loss of the head porter with a large book, in yer dignity fur the time bein' than to have which the officer signs his name, rank and

Slesta Broken.

A medical journal voucnes for the following story. "A woman who was seriously ill awore one night to find the nurse sitcigarette and reading a novel. Greatly startied, the patient raised herself up in her bed and cried out: "What in the world are you doing, nurse " To which the nurse replied: you were dead!"

Poker at Prayer Meeting.

the commune; the health officer is in it his old home. He was sent to the county the city engineer; the clerk, also, and hospital for treatment.

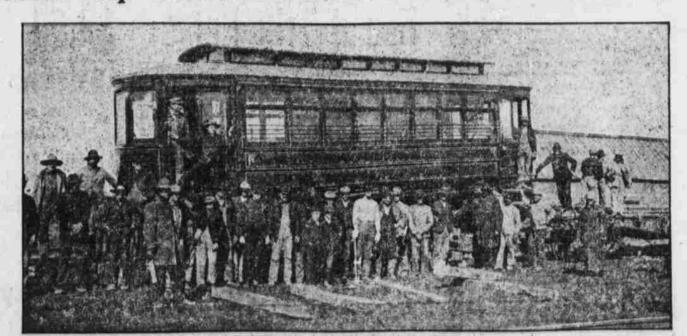
the superintendent of canals. The fingers POMPOUS individual from the of councilmen and candidates for councileast, says a Texas newspaper, man are numerous in the pie, and the happened to be traveling in west- president of the Men's Society of the Methern Texas and stopping at a odist Church shows up as a sport of the

The Officer's Perquisite.

"it would be a good idea fur you the Bank of Ireland, Dublin, the other day, to lay down on the floor till this dispute the Western Gazette asks: "How came cartridges on the premises?" And thus ex-"It does not compart with the dignity or plains: "The Bank of Ireland, like the Boston gentleman of my profession," said Bank of England, had a military guard the poingous gentleman, "to wallow in the which is relieved every twenty-four hours. Immediately after the mounting of the new You may be right, stranger," argwered guard every morning a knock at the door daylights let into your system by regiment, and on the departure of the porter with the book a half sovereign is found on the table. It is the officer's perquisite!"

Modern Rip Van Winkle. For twenty years Jacob Eitch has lived the life of a hormit among the timbered ting at the foot of her bed smoking a hills of southern Hilnels, having in all that time never once slept under a roof. At one time he was a fairly presperous farmer, but he was swindled out of everything he owned. A short time afterward "Good gracious! I thought his wife and two children died. Ritch then wandered into the woods, where he lived constantly until one evening last week, when he applied to the police of Belleville Ohlo wife has sued a large collection for food. He presented the appearance of the leading citizens of her home tows a veritable Rip Van Winkle, with his white to recover sums of money alleged to have hair and beard, his tattered clothes and been won by them from her husband at his bent form we is said he had been roam the game of poker. This sporting group ing all over southern illinois and, feel ng of high rollers includes most of the po- that his end was approaching, he yielded litionl and official and publican society of to an impulse to travel back to econes of

Trial Trip of Interurban Gasoline Motor Car



EXPERIMENTAL CAR PROPELLED BY GASOLINE MOTOR

H Homer & Southern Railway comested in the enterprise. The line will soon connect the Winnebago Indian reservation laying began at South Sloux City. Neb., caused a temporary break down on the work a revolution in interurban traffic.

ERE is a picture of a gasoline and has reached a point below Dakota trial trip. A new bolster was sent up motor car now in operation on City-truck-laying is in progress and will and the car is now in successful operation in Nebraska. Several Omaha men are inter- railroad company owns land and will erect haul a trailer and perhaps a loaded freight

a summer report in a large grove.

the tracks of the Sloux City, be pushed. In the spring a spur will be and is not only hauling passengers, but butit to Crystal lake, a fine body of water pushing material down to the track layers. pany, the pioneer interurban line just below South Sloux City, where the It is a very powerful engine and will readily car. It can be operated at a cost of 2 The gusoline car was manufactured at cents per mile. It is attracting wide- marriage license counter in the county with Sioux City, Ia., a distance of about Karsas City and shipped on a flat car. In spread attention. Many railroad men are clerk's office. Joe and his companion raise twenty-four miles. It is not the intention transit a cast steel bolster was broken, interested to know its ca, abilities. Its unof the projectors to build to Omaha. Track which put the front axle out of line and qualified success, if demonstrated, would repeated some words in a sciemn voice.

Curious and Romantic Capers of Cupid

speed record in acquaintance, at a dance, proposed then and there, was to marry her." accepted, and thirteen hours later the pair were married. So quick did events crowd formed he was not obliged to marry just upon him that the bridegroom was unable because a license had been issued. Felice to give the name of his wife when an acquaintance congratulated him.

A Matrimonial Ad.

Here is a matrimonial advertisement, Japanese style: "I am a very pretty girl. My hair is as wavy as a cloud. My complexion has the brilliancy and softness of a flower. My expression is as mobile as the leaf of a weeping willow. My brown May, a popular singer at one of the Phileyes are like two crescents of the moon. I have enough worldly goods to pass happily throug life with my husband, hand in the ceremony heard that the young man hand, gazing at the flowers by day and the moon by night. If this should meet the eye of a man who is intelligent, amiable and of good address, I will be his for life, and repose with him later in a tomb of red marble." There were \$16,000 marriages in Japan last year, but for all that advertisements as the above appear every day in the Japanese papers.

Girl Obtains the License.

When Joseph Felice, a Detroit shoemaker, goes down town after leather again, he will probably make the trip alone. The other day he permitted Miss Apollena Krantz to accompany him, and shortly afterward they haited before the the stump of her right arm while a clerk saw her hand the clerk a deliar and take

away a bit of paper, but claims he had no HICAGO has an unenviable reputa- idea she was obtaining a marriage ilcense,

tation for divorce and is now He appeared to be grievously put out when striving to supplement it with the informed later this was what she had done. "She told me she was going to pay the courtship and marriage, William tax," said he, dejectedly, through an in-Mitchell met Miss Becht, a North Side girl, terpreter. "I don't love her. I don't want

He breathed a sigh of relief when insays Miss Krantz has been coming to his shop a great deal of late to read the papers to him, particularly war news. Miss Krantz would not say much about the license, except she liked Joe and she thought Joe liked her. No date had been

Marriage Halls at the Altar.

The marriage of Lizzle Fey and Allen adelphia theaters, was halted at the altar. The priest who was about to perform had a wife living from whom he had been divorced, and refused to tie the knot, The young girl is decidedly pretty. She heard May sing several months ago and fell in love at first sight. The pair became acquainted shortly after and May's love became as ardent as the girl's. As a result they became engaged and the wedding day was not.

During the courtship the girl never knew that her lover was a divorced man. How the truth reached the priest's cars is not known. When the couple had not appeared by 4:15 the spectators began to think there was something wrong. This proved to be true, when a few minutes after Father Charles Cavanaugh made the announcement that there could be no marriage as May had a wife still living.

The guests slowly filed out of the church, many of them too stunned to speak. Miss Fey is said to be prostrated.