

Anticipate Early Action on Federal Reorganization

President Harding to Make Strong Effort Toward Reconciling Views of Cabinet.

Washington, May 9.—(Special Telegram).—Action is anticipated within the next fortnight on the proposed reorganization of the administrative branch of the government. The matter has been delayed for several months pending attempts to reconcile certain differences on the subject said to exist among members of the president's cabinet.

Representative Reavis, house chairman of the joint congressional committee in charge, has been at the White House repeatedly during the past two weeks with Senator Smoot, head of the committee in the upper house. It is understood that Mr. Harding will make a strong effort to get his chiefs together this week, and that, in any event, the uncontested portion of the tentative plan will be referred to the committee in the early part of next week.

Three Are Opposed.

As has been more or less publicly known for some time, the chief trouble lies among Secretaries Wallace, Fall and Hoover, and concerns the proposed transfer of the forestry service and road bureau from the Agricultural department to the Interior department; also, the suggested shift of at least a part of the functions of the bureau of markets from agriculture to commerce. The plan is to reorganize the Interior department, now a general miscellaneous of activities, so that it comprises exclusively public building and public domain functions.

The tentative plan before the cabinet is one that was worked out by Walter F. Brown of Toledo, the president's personal representative, at his request, and serving ex officio as its chairman. The details of the plan have been held confidential, but its general outlines are known. Exclusive of the important regrouping of activities in the Interior department, it is understood to comprise:

- A department of national defense, combining the present departments of army and navy, and excluding extraneous activities now contained in each.
- A department of education and welfare, in which the small bureau of education now in the Interior department is given an important place.
- A department of communications in place of the Postoffice department, including radio, telephone and telegraph functions.

Other Important Changes.

There are other important changes in fact, the plan calls for a comprehensive rearrangement of the whole administrative structure in an effort to eliminate the numerous and costly duplications that now exist. A similar effort was made during the administration of President Taft, and also during that of President Cleveland. Class and departmental interests, the former aroused through the latter, defeated both attempts.

Judge Cuts Divorced Man's Payments to His Children

Edward T. Morrissey, road contractor, formerly in Omaha, but now of Brandegee, Ill., obtained an order from District Judge Stauffer to have his divorce decree modified because, he stated, road grading has dropped from 42 to 19 cents a yard and he is unable to pay \$100 a month for the support of his three children.

His wife, Vermillery, who has been remarried, obtained her divorce in August, 1920. Judge Stauffer ordered Morrissey to pay \$75 a month.

SLEEPY-TIME TALES THE TALE OF NIMBLE DEER BY ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY

CHAPTER XXII. The New Hatrack.



"Good!" said Jimmy Rabbit.

The night of Jimmy Rabbit's party arrived at last. The time was an hour after sunset. The place was a clearing in the woods.

He had promised to help. So there was nothing to be done except to follow Jimmy Rabbit's orders. And at once Nimble could hear Jimmy Rabbit welcoming some early guests.

"Come this way and leave your hats and coats!" Jimmy Rabbit was saying. And soon he returned with Billy Woodchuck and Fatty Coon at his heels. Jimmy led them straight to the place where Nimble stood.

"Hang your things on my new hatrack!" Jimmy Rabbit told them as he waved a paw toward Nimble's antlers.

But Nimble's antlers were too high for them.

It was a bad moment for Jimmy Rabbit.

A Silly Song BY A CUCKOO BIRD

Some folks say that money will make you happy here and drive away your sorrow and dry away each tear. But money is not needed to be happy and content for Dopy Dugan's happy and he hasn't got a cent. And others say position and social prominence will make your life-time happy until you journey hence. They say if you are famous that happiness will come but Dopy Dugan's happy and he is just a common bum. And others say that knowledge is necessary quiet, to him who would be happy but I don't think they are right. I do not credit knowledge for the happiness man gains, 'cause Dopy Dugan's happy without an ounce of brains, and I've come to this conclusion, just be true yourself and me most any man is happy who makes up his mind to be.

My Marriage Problems

Adela Garrison's New Phase of "REVELATIONS OF A WIFE" (Copyright 1922)

The Effort Lillian and Madge Made to Catch the Intruder.

"What is it, Madge? Ah-h!" Lillian's quick brain did not need my gasp of fright in answer to her question. She had seen the look of terrified amazement on my face as I stared passed her toward the window, and even as she spoke she had whirled, leaped to the window and was pulling frantically at the adjustable screen.

"Quick, Madge," she commanded, and putting down my terror with an iron hand, I rushed to her side just as she tore the screen from its place, threw it out of the window, grasped with both hands at a queer-looking contrivance of knotted rope which hung taut just outside the window. I noticed that as she did so she sank to her knees inside the window.

"Your knees. Grab it with me," she commanded, and I obeyed her, feeling my arms almost drawn out of my sockets as I did so, with the unseen weight which depended from the rope.

"Shake it—hard. That's right. Can you keep it up if I take off one hand?"

"I—yes," I said determinedly between my set teeth.

I had not the slightest idea of her reason for the request, but I realized that upon that rope beneath me there was something human, evil, which Lillian wished to capture if possible.

She withdrew her hand, gradually, so that there should be no sudden strain on mine, fumbled in her blouse, a gesture which chilled me. I knew, of course, that Lillian, in time of stress, is never without a tiny revolver, but the prospect of her using it was terrifying.

"It isn't Smith," I gasped hastily.

"The face looked like a boy."

"I'm not going to shoot him," she said impatiently, then she thrust the

mingled with peremptory cries from my mother-in-law, shrill little cries from Junior and one scream, short, quickly cut off, from Marion.

"Nobdy's hurt."

It was not necessary for me to see them to know that Katie was hysterical with fright, Mother Graham, more angry than alarmed, that Junior was crying because he had been suddenly awakened, and that Marion—true daughter of her mother—had choked back her own terror and would remain quiet until some one came.

"Go to them, quickly," Lillian said. "I'll manage this. Tell them we thought we heard somebody trying to steal the chickens, and that I fired the revolver to frighten off the thieves."

I departed, not without a qualm of misgiving at leaving Lillian. I said to myself grimly that she was perfectly capable of leaving the window by the rope ladder and pursuing the fugitive single-handed should the thought occur to her. But there was no alternative for me, and I hurried to the other part of the house, my pace accelerated by Katie's crescendo of sound.

I went to her door first, for I feared that she would have it down with her frantic knocking and kick-

ing. I unlocked the door, calling reassuredly to her as I did so. As I opened the door she fell against me, half-swooning, clutching at my dress frantically.

"Oh, vot ess it, Misses Graham, you called, ess dot babee levelled?"

"Margaret! My mother-in-law's voice warned me that I must not delay in releasing her."

"Nobdy's hurt, Katie," I said, grasping her arm firmly. "Stop that noise and come with me while I unlock Mother Graham's door."

I fairly carried her down the corridor—so helpless from fright was she—and unlocked my mother-in-law's door to confront that lady, terrible in her offended majesty.

"I want an explanation of this proceeding at once, Margaret," she said. "And be assured I shall wire Richard to come home immediately. To think I have lived to my age to be locked in my room by my own son's wife!"

Swat That Fly

"Now is the time to swat the fly," said Dr. A. S. Pisto, health commissioner.

"Remember that every fly killed now will mean thousands less to kill during June," he added.

Going That Way.

There was a violent shaking of the rope, which did not come from our muscles, then a thud upon the earth below, followed by an involuntary groan, quickly smothered.

"Put out the light!" Lillian whispered the words close to my ear, and I hastened to obey her, noticing that she drew back to the side of the window as she spoke.

"Keep back there," she commanded, still in a whisper, as I started to ward her. "He may take a notion to answer that last message of mine, and there's no need of giving him a target."

For answer I dropped to my hands and knees and crawled to her.

"When you leave the window, I shall," I said firmly.

"I'm not quite an idiot," she retorted. "I'm not exposed to his fire. But you can help at that. Get up the other side of the window, so you can watch that direction. He'll have to crawl across one of our lines of vision, or else he'll be going toward the open road."

I imitated her strategy, shielded myself at the side of the window and peered out into the darkness.

There was a hasty scrambling motion on the ground beneath the window, then a rustling movement in the grass. I strained my eyes, of course, unable to distinguish form or color, saw a grayish, formless shape moving swiftly along the ground, melting into the darkness.

"Going that way," I whispered, nudging Lillian.

"All right," she whispered back. "Now, let's pull up this contrivance. Police! I thought that would be the next thing."

From the other side of the house rose a sound as of kicking, and a long, hysterical wail, Katie's voice,

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