

DODGES HIS DOVE

PEULIAR ACTION OF A YOUNG MAN WHO IS ENGAGED.

Nancy Yanks Says it is Not Unusual for Prospective Bridegrooms to Act in This Way, and She Cannot Understand or Find Reason in It.

When you see a young man dodging his sweetheart, you may know they are on the eve of marriage. After the ceremony the dodging commences in earnest, and continues until the end of time. I happened to witness a rather unique and interesting instance of dodging recently in a shop down town. The couple in question have been engaged some time; at least, the bridegroom claims that to effect before it shrunk into the dimensions of a pocket mirror. She passed first, with a crowd of girls, laughing and talking and chewing gum. Then he passed, turned again, and approached to the right and left and then darted into the shop where I happened to be. He asked for a cigar that he knew they didn't keep and never did keep; and wouldn't he smoked if they had kept it; and peeping out the door in a nervous fashion, suddenly opened it wide, darted out of it again and fled. He had all the appearance of a man who had committed a petty theft, and feared discovery, when the truth was that he was merely stealing time that should have been spent with his betrothed, for what he and his sister enjoyed to do together, unknown to his, is unknown to me, somebody will know it—nothing ever happens in this bustling, bustling, hurrying world that somebody doesn't find it out. He had hardly disappeared when his sweetheart returned alone; she must have had eyes in the back of her head, or some sort of subtle instinct which told her of his presence in her vicinity, all of which bodies ill for his married happiness for a truly model wife must be blind and dumb and the possessor of as few intuitions as possible. She opened the door and stood on the threshold, keeping her eyes on customers who might have bought something. "Is Mr. — in here?" she asked in the deep tones that are peculiar to her. "No, he is not," answered the clerk. She gave him a searching look, as if to read the inmost workings of his brain; but, as he hadn't any brains, the scheme did not work. "Has he been here?" she asked in an almost matrimonial tone, a cloud spreading over her usually serene and classic brow. The clerk, who was a young fellow, common with men, he endeavored to screen his fellow man. "No, he has not," he answered, telling a deliberate falsehood, which, however, seems to come easier to most men than telling the truth. Long practice possibly has something to do with it. She was very tall, so that was a simple and easy thing for her to crane her neck and look behind all the counters, which she did. Her prospective bridegroom was not behind them nor under them, though he could easily have crept into an empty cigar box if he had only thought of it; and with a sigh of disappointment at not being able to lead him out by the ear, she turned away with a frown and a word we couldn't catch, though there seemed something familiar about it, and left the door open behind her of course, and went home. Moral—If you find it absolutely necessary to dodge before marriage, back out while there is yet time. NANCY YANKS.

NO END OF PARTIES.

Entertainers in Wichita make a lively week of it.

Hypatia gives an open meeting tomorrow.

Maurice Vele is in North Adams Massachusetts.

Mrs. Franklin Coen gave a party Friday afternoon.

Mrs. J. W. Walters entertained Saturday evening.

Miss Inez Creditor gave a dancing party Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. E. Taylor entertained at the Metropolitan Monday evening.

Mrs. George Strong entertained at high five Tuesday evening.

The Young Married People club give a party, Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smyth, Jr., entertained at cards, Thursday evening.

Mrs. Nereus Baldwin gave a tea for her daughter, Mrs. Coffman, Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Smith entertained the Duplicate Whist club tomorrow evening.

Mrs. W. W. Pearce entertained the Cold Water Whist club Friday evening.

Mrs. J. C. Casey and J. L. Dyer won the prize.

Miss Minnie Woodcock and Miss Mabel Lawson are visiting friends in Wellington for a few days.

Mrs. J. E. Oldham entertained the Tuesday afternoon card club. Mrs. Will Nash won the prize.

Lent is not generally observed in Wichita, but it will be more generally observed this year than ever before.

Mrs. E. E. Bieckly entertained the Duplicate whist club Monday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Walter carried off the honors.

Mrs. Aikin entertained the Warsaw avenue whist club Thursday evening. The prizes were won by Mrs. Luling and Walter Dyer.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Oliver entertained at dinner, Thursday evening. The guests were Messrs. and Mesdames A. W. Oliver, William Lyons, E. H. Imboden, George Kaiser.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. L. Langdon late of St. Louis, Mo. after a visit to the city, returned to their home in Dallas, Texas, last Tuesday morning for Dallas, Texas, their future home.

Miss Gertrude Cullough entertained at a tea Wednesday evening. Her guests were Misses Mollie Ross, Mary McCullough and Chappell and Messrs. Frank Dunn, George Ross and Leck. The prizes were won by Mrs. J. C. Casey and J. L. Dyer.

The tourist club of Hypatia took a trip from New Orleans to San Francisco, Monday afternoon. Mesdames R. E. Guthrie, George Strong, Young and Mrs. C. W. Jackson recounted their experiences in both cities.

Ross Lee Corbett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Corbett, was married to Miss Lena Winn Foster at the residence of the bride's aunt, Mrs. W. E. Hassett in St. Louis, Wednesday afternoon. Rev. J. R. Corbett officiated, and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Corbett attended.

Dr. and Mrs. Terrill entertained Thursday evening. The guests were Messrs and Mesdames J. W. Adams, Edwards, Chester Firebaugh, W. H. Halliday, W. W. Pearce and Mesdames C. A. Van Ness, A. Russell, Graham, Frank Coen and M. C. Campbell, Miss Jetta Campbell and E. A. Russell and Mrs. H. Bieckly.

Mrs. J. E. Hume entertained Thursday afternoon in honor of Mrs. Wise of Cincinnati. The guests were Mesdames George L. Pratt, W. R. Dulancy, George Ross, Jr., C. H. Smyth, Ed. Wall, M. W. Levy, T. J. Rogers, W. E. Stanley, Finlay Ross, C. C. Pintard, J. B. Bleakmore, W. W. Johnson, Mrs. Levy won the prize at whist.

Harry Hunt entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mann, Wednesday evening. The guests were Messrs. Hattie King, Ed. Abel, Minnie Lane and Mesdames O. A. Boyle, H. L. Ford, Mortimer, McCausland, Moore, Reynolds, Marsh, Barton of Milwaukee, Bailey.

A pleasant surprise party was given on Miss Myrtle Little Friday evening. The guests were: Stella Snyder, Eva Baker, Nettie Hawk, Bessie Phillips, Flora Rob-

THEY ARE ONLY TALKING.

Slaps and Slams at the Res. City in the South-west.

From the Kansas City Star. The Wichita man who wants to fight Corbett will have no trouble with his word.

From the Wellington Mail. Topeka, not to be outdone by Wichita, has discovered an energetic ghost which the regulation unearthly appendage.

From the Topeka Journal. A young man in Wichita recently served a grand altar dramatic aggregation of talent by being killed six times—once as the decrepit father; once as a railroad engineer; twice as a convict; once as a hero; and another time as a faithful watchdog. He earned his \$6 a week.

From the Topeka Journal. Clyde Mattox is to be hung within the walls of the Wichita jail, and the superstitious prisoners are getting very nervous over the matter as they fear that Clyde's spirit will go marching through the jail walls after death.

From the Topeka Journal. A Wichita barber has courageously flung to the breeze a banner with this inscription: "No hair-cutting on a Saturday."

From the Topeka Journal. Residents of Wichita who live in the vicinity of the jail are horror-struck at the prospect of having their children hung in the prison yard. They would be pleased to give Topeka the notoriety of inflicting punishment upon the murderer.

From the Topeka Journal. All the members of the Coronado club full dress reception at Wichita the other evening were made up except three.

From the Topeka Journal. A few weeks ago one of them took first prize among 600 from all over the United States in a competition arranged by an eastern firm.

From the Topeka Journal. Wichita has a pugilist who wants to fight Corbett.

From the Lawrence Gazette. George Martin and Mayor Barnes are going to adopt the Sedgewick county system to settle their gubernatorial difficulty in their own way.

From the Lawrence Gazette. It is understood generally that Mrs. Lesse and Governor Lewelling use the same climate, under protest—Wichita is the place where they are protesting because Mary makes it so hot.

From the Topeka Journal. The "Barrister's club" has dissolved at Wichita. Three of the leading members went to business and kept them busy looking up the law for real law suits instead of imaginary ones.

From the Topeka Journal. Wichita is indeed metropolitan—it has a free school.

From the Topeka Journal. The gaunt face of poverty winked the "nitch eye" in the door of a Wichita woman who wanted to marry a young man for his money and could not pay for the license or put up a bond for costs in the divorce from her present husband.

From the Topeka Journal. In Abilene she is "this solid girl," in Atchison she is his "steady company," in Eldorado she is his "people," in Wichita she is his "Sunday night," in Topeka she is his "lady," in Lawrence she is his "Garden City" she is his "Juliana," and in Leavenworth she is "lulu girl."

From the Topeka Journal. A good story is told on a Wichita merchant who had a customer who had not quite up to the standard as a salesman. After giving him a big lecture on how to sell goods he wanted him to pay close attention while he pointed out a cabinet which was just entering the store. The lady wanted to buy some silk. The knowing merchant pointed to a cabinet which had all the silk worms in China were dead and that they were forced to raise the price. He made the sale and his clerk stood an interested spectator. He had at last learned a lesson, and braced up for the next customer, determined to make a sale or die in the attempt. This lady happened to want a few yards of tape which he priced her at 15 cents. She objected. The clerk scratched his head a moment then looking up politely he said: "I am sorry to hear that the crop of tape worms was exceedingly short and that they were compelled to advance the price. He had proven an apt scholar.

A PLEASANT SOCIAL.

Invited Leaf Chapter O. E. S. was royally entertained on Tuesday evening by Mr. and Mrs. Bristol at their elegant home on Park Place.

SUBJECTS OF THEIR SERMONS.

Following are the subjects of sermons to be preached in Wichita today:

"The End of a Matter Better than the Beginning." L. A. Hall.

"Paul's Praise of Love." J. Silverman.

"Way We Join the Church." W. Herrick.

"The Light of the Body is the Eye." J. F. Gross.

"Belief." J. F. Gross.

"Object sermon." David Wright.

"The Experience of Solomon." G. H. Sims.

"A Romantic Fate." Bruce Fridley.

"The Development of the Christian Religion." John R. Charlesworth.

Hon. T. B. Murdoch of El Dorado and his daughter, Miss Lena, are visiting over Sunday in the city.

A meeting of the Wichita Building and Loan association was held last night and quite a number of new members joined.

R. P. Harwell, a colored resident of Wichita, died Friday at his residence. Mr. Harwell was 38 years of age. He will be buried from the M. E. church on North Water street today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Woman's Mission circle of the First Baptist church will meet with Mrs. Frazier, 350 Waco avenue, Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Subject: "Papa."

John R. Charlesworth will lecture in the Board of Trade hall on Sunday evening, commencing promptly at 7:30 o'clock. Subject: "The Origin and Development of the Christian Religion."

Hypatia's executive committee will meet Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock sharp. The regular open meeting will begin promptly at 2:30 o'clock, subject: "A Day at the World's Fair." Mrs. M. Collins, leader. Miss L. W. Miller, Sec'y.

Caroline Harrison circle, No. 56, will meet in regular session, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7:30 o'clock. Let every member be present. Mrs. MILLIE G. O'NEILL, Secretary.

Since the department of the Wichita Musical club has been enlarged there are at present some vacancies. Any ladies belonging to the club who wish to enter this department may have their voices tested by Mrs. Garst Friday, Feb. 3, from 5:30 p. m. TINSIE CLEVELAND, Secretary.

WHITE SPOTLESS ARMS

Soft white hands, shapely nails, unblemished skin, and radiant hair are the result of the use of the "White Spotless Arms" when all other fail. In fact, it is the only preparation that cures all skin diseases and restores the softness and beauty of the skin and scalp, with loss of hair, even when complete baldness has set in. It is equally successful. Sold every where.

WORSTED THE CITY

JUSTICE KEENAN DROIDS AN IMPORTANT LAWSUIT.

He Holds That the City Must Pay Its Second-Class Firemen First-Class Rates—The Decision, if Upheld, Will Paralyze the Treasury.

Justice Keenan rendered a decision yesterday in the case that interests the city as well as all experienced firemen.

The case was brought by B. E. Fisher, a discharged fireman, against the city for \$195 a balance which he claimed to be due him for thirteen months' services as fireman.

In other words, it is the difference between \$45 per month and \$60 per month for the length of time.

It appeared on the evidence that the plaintiff offered the position of fireman for thirteen months upon the fire force of the city; that he was recommended to the position as a second-class fireman by the fire marshal; that the fire committee recommended his appointment pursuant to the ordinance; that the city council adopted the ordinance; that the city marshal and the report of the fire committee, which proceedings were approved by the mayor, that the salary of the plaintiff as fixed by the fire marshal was \$45 a month; that the plaintiff had been paid said sum of \$45 which was his salary.

The plaintiff contends: (1) That the position of a fireman is that of an officer and not that of an employee or servant, and that the city is not liable on account of its neglect to pay that an act to diminish this salary is void, being contrary to public policy, and the acceptance of a less amount than that fixed by law would not entitle the plaintiff to recovery.

2. Whether the position is one of officer or employee or servant, the rule would be that the ordinance fixing the salary, if the ordinance fixes the salary, a contract would be equally void to vary the compensation so fixed by law.

The ordinance provides that the mayor shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the city council, a sufficient number of firemen to man the city fire engines and to perform the duties of fire officers and servants, and there being nothing cited to the contrary the court is to presume that the ordinance of these states applies to the case.

It is contended on the part of the defendant: (1) That the plaintiff was not appointed by the mayor and council and that the proceedings of the council relied upon by him are insufficient to warrant a finding that he has been appointed.

(2) That the ordinance provides that only for the appointment of experienced firemen by the mayor and city council and that the plaintiff is not an experienced fireman and that he is not entitled to a lower salary.

And should the appointment of firemen be held to be void, the plaintiff is only entitled to what their services are reasonably worth and an acceptance of any amount as his salary would conclude him.

Third, That the appointment of the plaintiff as a second-class fireman is an evidence that he was not to be considered an officer or servant, but a man in the ordinary sense of the word.

"This," said Justice Keenan, "substantiates the defendant's contention that the plaintiff is not an officer or servant, but a man in the ordinary sense of the word. The evidence shows that the plaintiff had small experience when appointed to his place as fireman."

It is not contended by the defendant that a contract would have any validity to vary the salary of an officer nor would the city be liable to pay the salary of an officer if the contract did not entitle him to the salary.

The defendant's contention that the plaintiff is not an officer or servant, but a man in the ordinary sense of the word, is sustained by the evidence. The plaintiff had small experience when appointed to his place as fireman.

Let us dispose of the question of the appointment under the evidence and the ordinance. While the ordinance may not be strictly regular and while the mayor shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the city council, a sufficient number of firemen to man the city fire engines and to perform the duties of fire officers and servants, and there being nothing cited to the contrary the court is to presume that the ordinance of these states applies to the case.

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TO LEARN CHARITY

And a Woman's Way of Profiting by the Lesson.

Howard Fielding Describes a Domestic Incident Which Gave Maude a View of the Wrong Side of a Great Industrial Problem.

Howard Fielding, who has recently come a great light which illuminated one of the darkest mysteries of human existence. I will not name this mystery immediately. I do not dare to put the name of it on the first page of this "copy." It is such a fearful chestnut that I am constrained to conceal it for a time. When the person to whom I shall deliver this manuscript has written through three or four pages of it and has found out what it is about, I shall be far beyond pursuit.

Shortly after eight o'clock in the morning I entered the dining-room of our flat and discovered our girl. She was clothed in that becoming costume in which—so the janitor informs me—she was acknowledged to be the belle of the Fifth Grand Annual Function of the Spicers' association. Being naturally of a timid disposition, I hesitated over the proper formula in which to ask for a small quantity of oatmeal porridge. A fine instinct informed me that there was going to be a fuss, and I listened for my wife's footfalls with an eagerness of longing such as I have not known since the early days of our courtship, before her father lost his money. She is a good deal better fussed than I am, and I learned for her presence.

"Going to leave," said our girl whose command of English is limited to the words absolutely necessary in her profession. She speaks the above phrase clearly without accent, for she learned it on the steamer from a girl who had been to America before, and she has practiced its pronunciation diligently ever since.

"Why?" I inquired.

"Don't say."

"Oh, yes, you do."

"I argued that question modestly but with deep feeling. I stated the facts in regard to myself, and spoke of Maude in terms which moved our little dog to tears. But our girl said: "Month up to-day. Fourteen dollars."

I would like to see some of our silver-tongued orators stack up against that. There is something in this painful directness which disarms eloquence. Ten minutes later she was gone and I was doing her work, which consisted at that moment in hurling epithets down the dumbwaiter shaft at a butcher's boy who wished to deliver a C. O. D. a fragment of a woman's cow which had been ordered by the mistress of a boarding-house farther up the street.

"Of course, this would happen today," said Maude, "when the dressmaker is coming, and it is washing day, too. That's why she left. And such an easy place, too! There positively isn't a single thing to do. I just simply had to invent things for that girl to do, because she absolutely needed exercise. I'm sure she can't find a kinder-hearted woman than I am, and I hope her next place will be with a family where there are a dozen children and seven flights of stairs to go up and down every time the bell rings. Then she'll repent in sackcloth and ashes for having given up a nice, easy place like this."

Immediately after breakfast I retired to my den and gave orders not to be disturbed. I said that there was a great deal of work to be done. So

PERSONALS.

Amos Hall shipped a load of horses and cattle to Galveston, Texas, yesterday from the city stock yards.

E. S. Cooper left yesterday morning for Perry, Ok., on a business trip.

A. Morrison of Kansas City stopped at the Metropole last night.

Mrs. J. H. Franklin came from Pratt Friday to meet her husband, Dr. Franklin, at the Metropole.

C. M. Berry of Atlanta, Georgia, was in the city yesterday.

John R. Ellis stopped at the Metropole last night. Mr. Ellis registers from Muscatine, Indiana.

Mr. Prauz Vanarsdale came up from Stillwater, O. T., to attend the I. N. L. dance on last Friday evening.

D. E. Whelan of St. Louis registered at Hotel Carey yesterday.

D. N. Fitzgerald of Westmore was in the city yesterday.

J. E. Lambert of Emporia stopped at the Manhattan hotel last night.