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Lost—A Lady's Pocketbook

By WALTER BROWNE

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"HA! HA! HA! The drinks are on you this time," roared Jack to his old friend and former college mate, Will Walton, as they stood at the bar of the club, just as I entered. Jack was in famous good humor, and laughed heartily as he called me over to tell me what he declared to be the best and most laughable thing he had ever heard in his whole life.

And Jack's life had been almost one round of good and laughable things. One surfeit of what the world, or at least that portion of the world to which Jack belongs, calls fun and pleasure. He had always been well supplied with wealth, which he had used prodigally in pursuit of what a young and hand-



"GREATEST JOKE IN THE WORLD," SAID HE.

some fellows regard as "a good time." Even though he had married the reigning beauty of a couple of seasons ago, on his return from a prolonged honeymoon, spent in Europe, he had plunged into much the same sort of life as had earned for him the nickname of "Jack the Lady Killer" in his bachelor days.

His bosom friend and constant companion, Will Walton, was of a much quieter disposition. Of late he had often remonstrated with Jack for his conduct, especially when he had such a sweet young wife awaiting him at home.

This time Jack had got back at Will. Caught the same red-handed, as he expressed it, and it was with much mirth that he related the cause of his companion's evident discomfort. "Greatest joke in the world, old man," said he to me. But I noticed that Will Walton did not seem to enjoy the situation at all. Indeed, he abruptly turned as if about to leave the bar, but Jack took him by the arm and made him listen while he told me the following story:

"I dropped in to see little Dolly Dimples, the pretty girl in the theater chorus, this afternoon," he said, "and I found her bubbling over with delight because she had just found on the sidewalk a well-filled pocketbook. There was just thirty-nine dollars and thirty-nine cents in it. Old sum, wasn't it? Maybe more than ample to pay Dolly's salary for two weeks at the theater. But that's not where the laugh comes in. The joke of the thing is that there was a lot of scraps of paper in the purse, such as a woman loves to carry about with her; and Dolly and I amused ourselves by reading these over:

"Hold on there, Will. You don't

escape until I've fully unmasked your villainy," said Jack, as his friend again unceasingly endeavored to break away.

"What do you think of this saint, this Joseph," he continued. "Look at him. The preacher of morality, the man who lectures me because I'm on speaking terms with two or three flighty fairies!"

"Among those scraps of paper was a love letter from him to some unknown charmer. To the owner of the lost pocketbook. It was one of the most sugary things you ever read, my boy. It began, 'My own sweet love. My Queen among women.' Ha! ha! Look at him! Why, he's positively blushing!"

This was true. I never saw a man look more embarrassed at a joke against himself than Will Walton did at that moment. With a sickly smile he endeavored to break away, but there was no escaping from Jack who seemed determined to have the full amount of fun to be derived from his friend's evident agony.

"In this note the sly young rascal made an appointment to meet his 'poor, neglected darling,' as he incidentally called the fair unknown, 'at the same old place,'" roared Jack, digging his victim in the ribs, and laughing boisterously.

"And what do you think he signed himself?" "Ever yours in the links of love and by the law of hearts, Will Walton." There's poetry for you! By Jove, Will," he said, "you can't deny that the drinks are on you this time. 'Ha! ha! ha!'"

The drinks were brought. Will slipped away after paying, leaving his drink untouched.

I was going into the newspaper office where, for my sins, I am compelled to work, an hour later, when a young and lovely woman stepped out of a cab. As I stood aside for her to pass I recognized her. She was Mrs. Jack Rollins. Seeing me, she bowed and stopped, as it seemed, in some embarrassment. Then, approaching, after a timid greeting, during which I found myself wondering how a man with so fair a wife could waste his time with such a Dolly Dimples, she flatteringly said: "Would it be too great a favor to ask you to render me a little assistance? I want to put an advertisement in the paper, and I don't quite know how to word it."

"The fact is, I lost my pocketbook

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young herons, after having called their parents in vain, at last die of inanition. "Let us hope that women may be horror-stricken at the thought that an abominable fashion threatens the total destruction of the immense mass of charming little winged creatures which constitute the most brilliant and the most delightful adornment of nature in the two worlds."

A PESSIMISTIC BOY.

I don't kick and romp with glee. 'Cause the summer days are here, I'm not filled with joy to see scented flowers all appear.

At the dainty atmosphere. Doesn't make me hep with vim. What's the use? Ma jest said: "Don't you dare go down to swim."

Merry thoughts don't rise in me. As the daisies they come out. I'm not filled with ecstasy. As the bees they buzz about. I'm not filled up to the spout.

With a lot of lazy wistful. What's the use? Ma jest said: "Don't you dare to get off fishin'."

I don't dream the livelong day. Underneath a shady tree. And if winter'd cared to stay. 'Twould have been the same to me; Summer don't fill me with glee. And I wish that it would pass. What's the use? Ma jest said: "Don't you lie on that damp grass."

—P. P. Fitzer, in N. Y. Sun.

Cheap Gas for Balloons. The gas works at Rueil, France, have made an arrangement by which aerostats can be supplied with coal gas cheaply. Three balloons took advantage of this arrangement on a recent Sunday. This is the record from one gas works in one afternoon. The gas supplied at Rueil is specifically manufactured for balloons, which are now filled so cheaply that ascents will be numerous from Rueil this season.

Unskilful a Woman. "Yes," said "enpeck," the thing that impressed me most in Egypt was the mummy of one of the ancient queens.

"What was remarkable about it?" "The fact that they could make her dry up and stay that way."—Philadelphia Press.

The Cranberry Country. The bulk of the cranberries of this country come from the part of eastern Massachusetts, which lies near Cape Cod.

Canada's export trade per capita is just 2 1/2 times as much as ours.

LESSON IN AMERICAN HISTORY IN PUZZLE



BATTLE OF THE CRATER AT PETERSBURG. Find Lieut. Col. Pleasant, Constructor of the Mine.

The mine at Petersburg which played such a prominent part in the decision of that fiercely contested battle was the plan of Lieut. Col. Henry Pleasant, of the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania, and was constructed under his direction. It was begun on June 25, 1864, and was completed on July 23, the length of the main shaft being 510 feet. The mine was exploded on the morning of July 30, and Gen. Lee's division immediately charged the confederate position. The utmost confusion reigned, and it was impossible for the federal forces to carry out the original programme of Gen. Burnside. Disaster followed and many of the men who had reached the crater were either killed or captured there.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

As compensation for the loss of an eye while at work, a Derby miner has been awarded two cents a week.

In Vienna a poverty-stricken musician, aged 63, has made 40 attempts to commit suicide.

Representative Cyrus Sulloway, of New Hampshire, the giant of congress, insists that he is still growing. According to his latest figures he measures six feet seven and one-half inches in height, and weighs 276 pounds.

The marquis of Anglesy was visiting an orphan home in Sweden a few months ago, when suddenly a little girl laid hold upon him and addressed him as "daddy." Without hesitation he accepted the situation invented by the infant, prevailed upon the authorities to let him adopt her—and there she is at Anglesy castle.

Here is the extremely delicate way in which a Kansas states his chief reason for asking that he be freed from matrimonial bonds which galls: "The defendant has acted in such a way that the said husband has had difficulty in distinguishing her treatment of him as a husband from her treatment of others who bore no such relation to her."

Gov. Bailey, of Kansas, takes the stand that as a rule one ought not to aspire to office until he has made some headway in the world's material prosperity and has something laid away for a rainy day. He points to the impossibility of one's saving money when holding office, and pictures the hardships that fall upon a multitude who must inevitably yield their places in the public service to somebody else.

President Jacob Gould Schurman, of Cornell university, was born in Nova Scotia. Last Fourth of July his son used up all his firecrackers before dusk and begged his father for some more money. "I'll give you some more, my boy," said the professor, "if you will tell me what you are celebrating." "That's easy, dad," said the lad, who was born in New York state. "This is the anniversary of the day when we licked you fellows." An extra and unexpectedly large supply of cash was forthcoming on the spot.

Lord Wemyss has the unique distinction of being the only man who ever struck the present king of England. It happened during a debate in the house of lords, when the king, then prince of Wales, occupied a seat in front of Lord Wemyss, who was speaking with a great deal of animation. While emphasizing a point, he brought his fist down on top of the prince's silk hat with such force that the hat was smashed in and pulled down over the eyes of the royal listener. Apologies followed. The prince remarked that he appreciated the force of Lord Wemyss' remarks and then moved out of range of the lord's energetic arm.

Christening a Railway. Engineers, as a rule, sternly utilitarian, but there are occasions on which they indulge in sentimental practices. One of these occurred the other day on the completion of the first transcontinental railway in Africa.

When the plate-laying gangs from Bulawayo and Salisbury, respectively, came within 50 chains of each other a telegram was sent to the contractors and engineers, who at once arrived on the scene. The rails were joined and two engines proceeded slowly toward each other from each side. Attached to the drawhead of the engine from Salisbury was a bottle of champagne and as the two engines met it was broken and the new railway was named in the orthodox manner.—London Telegraph.

He Uses a Tuck. As the story goes, an Irish undertaker was laying out the deceased husband of a weeping Hibernian widow. The corpse wore a wig and it was very difficult to induce it to stay on straight, as wigs ought always to do, even if they don't. The bereaved widow was called in to assist. "Go an' git me a pot of glue, Mrs. McGovern," said the undertaker, "so that I may keep his wig where it belongs."

Mrs. McGovern set out after the sticking material, and after a time she returned. "Here is the glue for ye," she said with a sigh. "Mrs. McGovern, you kin take back the maulage," said the undertaker, "the difficulty is fixed. I used a tack."—Buffalo Times.

Wealth. Wealth is something that enables a millionaire to stand up in meeting and say it is no disgrace to be poor.—Chicago Daily News.

SAILORS ARE WELL PAID.

Those Employed on the Great Lakes Have Little Ground for Complaint on This Score.

The great lakes lead the world in the amount of money paid to the men on shipboard and for all kinds of marine work.

For years it has been known that in many things pertaining to the marine industry the great lakes have no parallel, but this one is the latest development. For instance, Cleveland, Ashtabula and Conneaut have for years been handling cargoes of iron ore into and out of the holds of vessels faster than any place else in the world. Other cargoes have been handled with equal speed, says the Cleveland Leader.

Vessel property on the lakes has paid better than on any other water and now it comes out that the wages of the men on shipboard and those on the docks are better than those paid elsewhere. This statement came out from the simultaneous publication of the new wage scales of the great lakes for the coming season and the wages which are paid by two of the prominent nations of the world. For instance, the chief officers of the leading boats of the Hamburg-American line and of the North German Lloyds line receive respectively \$120 and \$65.64 per month. These officers have duties far more onerous than those of the masters of the biggest lake ships. Lake masters receive between \$2,000 and \$2,400 for a season of eight months.

On the ocean the American line boats, which are compelled to have at least half of their crews composed of the American sailors, pay for able-bodied seamen \$25 a month, while the German line boats pay \$14.75. These men are, of course, boarded. On the lakes by the recent agreement men having similar positions receive \$45 a month up to October 1 and \$65 a month thereafter.

On the ocean freemen are paid \$40 a month by the American line and from \$16.66 to \$21.42 by the German lines. On the lakes last season the freemen received \$30 a month for the first half of the season and \$60 a month after October 1. These statements are rather astounding as showing the manner in which the workers fare on the lakes.

The wages paid on the lakes are beginning to be concluded for this season. The advances given the lake seamen have been the greatest in the history of the seafaring business of this region. Incidentally the vessel owners have put themselves in a peculiar plight. They had expected a late opening of the season of navigation and consequently a shorter year. The lessened time of running the boats would naturally give them better chances for getting higher rates. The vesselmen, however, had little choice in the matter of wages.

The lake forces are organized more strongly than ever in their history and the wages paid were practically compulsory. The advances which have been paid to the men on shipboard and those which will be paid to the longshoremen when the conference now pending has been concluded will amount to the equivalent of seven cents a ton on all of the ore that is handled. If this is figured on the same amount of ore that was brought down the lakes last year, 27,000,000 tons, it means that the vesselmen are paying in round numbers about \$2,000,000 more for their services on shipboard than they ever paid before.

The predicament in which the vessel owners find themselves is peculiar. Navigation promises to open about a month earlier than the owners had looked for. The possibility of getting good rates is, therefore, reduced by that much. Last year the smaller boats—those carrying 3,000 tons or less—barely made a living. This year the new wages will make that impossible without higher rates. The season being long seems to suggest the possibility of naturally no greater rates. The vessel interests, however, are banding together to fight for higher rates and the shippers are disposed to grant them. The situation all the way through is almost unique.

What We Are Worth. If Pierpont Morgan owned the world, instead of only a part of it, he would be worth about \$400,000,000,000. If he owned the United States, his wealth would amount to about \$94,300,000,000. The United States has the greatest total wealth and the smallest debt of any of the world's great powers, but on a per capita basis Great Britain is the richest. While the property and money of that mighty nation amount to only \$50,000,000,000, as against our \$144,300,000,000, its wealth amounts to \$9,300 per person, while in the United States the wealth amounts to only \$1,235 per capita. The second richest nation in Europe is France, which has wealth aggregating \$48,000,000,000 invested abroad. Russia, with wealth totaling \$40,000,000,000 or \$709 per capita. In addition, she has \$800,000,000 invested abroad. Russia, with its immense territory and population, has wealth amounting to only \$32,000,000,000.—Nashville American.

Ugly for Sure. In a mining town in the mountains of Virginia lived two little chaps aged eight and nine years, neighbors and good friends, who passed most of their leisure time together in boyish sports, but like all healthy boys, they sometimes "scrapped."

On one of these occasions the younger one, who was built on the lines of the proverbial man who could not stop a pig in an alley, was being twitted by his companion on his bowlegs. He stood it manfully for awhile, but finally losing patience he blurted out: "Well, I may be bowlegged, but when the Lord made you, He made you as ugly as He could, and then bit you in the face."—Lippincott's Magazine.

No Excuse for the Man. She (who arrived an hour late at a rendezvous)—Excuse me for coming so late. You must have had a long wait? He—Oh, no! I have just come myself.

What, you would have had the impudence to make me wait if I had been punctual?—Fliegende Blaetter.

Not Much of a Dresser. Moses Ashby, a Pocono (Conn.) wood-chopper, celebrated the seventy-eighth anniversary of his birth recently by buying a hat for the first time in 25 years, and a suit of clothes for the first time in 40 years.—N. Y. Sun.

EXPLORING A NEW RIVER.

Another White Space on the Congo Map Being Filled with Geographic Detail.

More than 20 years ago Savorgnan de Brazza carried a little steam launch overland between the headwaters of the large Ogowe river and the upper part of a river on the other side of the divide, a few miles away. The natives called this stream the Alima, and De Brazza believed it was a tributary of the Congo and that he might steam down the Alima to the upper Congo far above Stanley Pool.

His experiment was a great success, says the New York Sun. He descended the Alima about 400 miles and finally entered the Congo where the great river is several miles in width. Then he floated down that river to Stanley Pool.

Meanwhile Stanley had been laboriously ascending the Congo, dragging his supplies around 235 miles of rapids; and when he reached Stanley Pool he was much surprised to find the French flag floating on its northern bank. De Brazza had arrived before him and was founding the station of Brazzaville.

Ever since that day a large white space has existed on the map between the Alima and the Congo. Explorers were too busy elsewhere to trace the rivers in that region. At last the Pama river, supposed to be the largest tributary of the Alima, has been partly explored, and a portion of the blank space on the map has been filled.

Capt. Scheerlinck, agent of the Commercial and Agricultural Society of the Alima, has ascended its Pama tributary for a distance of about 60 miles. The upper part of the river has also been explored, but no one has visited the middle portion.

The river is about 200 miles in length, and Capt. Scheerlinck found that for a part of the way it flows through a wooded region in which are numerous herds of elephants and buffaloes. The country is not densely populated, but there are a number of large settlements on its banks, where white trading stations have been established.

It was near the place where the Pama joins the Alima that De Brazza found a native chief, whom he attempted to use to further his political schemes in behalf of France. The story is a good illustration of the tricks to which explorers sometimes resort when they are scrambling for all the territory they can seize.

De Brazza announced that on the Alima was the capital of the great King Makoko, a direct descendant of the ancient kings of the large native state of Congo, south of the river of that name, and in Portuguese territory. This sovereign, he declared, was the ruler of all the country between the Alima and the Congo and of both banks of the Congo between Stanley Pool and the mouth of the Alima.

He signed a treaty with this great king, who placed his entire territory under the sovereignty of France. The treaty was seriously discussed and approved in the French chamber of deputies; but, after all, France never came into possession of both banks of the upper Congo.

It was conclusively shown in a few months that the "great King Makoko" was nothing but a poor little Bateke chief, with only a few hundred followers and a very small territory. He had no influence whatever outside his small domain. What the real facts were made known, nothing more was said about the famous Makoko, and the French gave up all claim to the territory on the left bank of the Congo.

ILLITERACY AND THEATERS.

Number of Playhouses Highest in States Where Education is Most Prevalent.

Since the United States imposed an internal revenue tax on theaters there has been no great difficulty in ascertaining their precise number, which is now 2,900, and a comparison of the number of theaters in each state with the rate of illiteracy establishes a curious connection between the two.

Whether the theater is an agent of education or not—a long disputed point—is a fact that where the rate of illiteracy is high theaters are few, and where the number of theaters is large the ratio of illiteracy is small, says the New York Sun.

New York, with an illiterate population of those over 10 years of age of 3 1/2 per cent, has 230 theaters; South Carolina, with an illiterate population of 36 per cent, has 24 theaters. North Carolina, with a total population of 1,900,000, has 24 theaters only and nearly 30 per cent of illiterates. Massachusetts, with a population of 2,900,000, has 82 theaters and less than 6 per cent of illiterates.

There is no state in the country which has not at least one theater. Nevada, which has the smallest number, has 4. Next to New York, Pennsylvania has the largest number, 162.

There are fewer theaters in Alabama, a state having 1,500,000 population, than in New Hampshire, a state of 400,000 only. The rate of illiteracy in Alabama is 34 per cent; in New Hampshire it is 6 per cent.

Kansas and Nebraska have a very low rate of illiteracy, 2.9 in the former and 2.3 in the latter. There are 127 theaters in these two states, one less than in the three states of Texas, Arkansas and Mississippi, which, with a very much larger population, have 15, 20 and 33 per cent of illiterates respectively.

There are only 31 theaters in Georgia, which is 20 less than in New Jersey, and only 15 in Florida, which has twice the population of Utah, with 16 theaters. All through the country the number of theaters corresponds very closely with the ratio of illiteracy.

Strictly Business. "So you think you will have a titled son-in-law?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox; "mother and the girls think we had better take another partner into the concern. My name is all right on a check, but it doesn't carry any weight worth mentioning on a visiting card."

—Stray Stories.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE SOUTH

Will Open June 23 at the University of Tennessee.

The Summer School of the South, to be held at the University of Tennessee, June 23 to July 31, 1903, will offer more advantages and attractions than any other summer school to be held in the South this year.

One hundred and fifty comprehensive courses of study, given by a faculty of ninety eminent specialists and educational experts, representing such universities and colleges as the Universities of Michigan, of North Carolina, of Tennessee, of Georgia, of Mississippi, of Alabama, of Louisiana, of Illinois, of Wisconsin, and others, will be attractive, indeed, to the Southern teachers who have heretofore been unable to obtain equal advantages except at great expense, both of time and money.

This Summer School of the South was attended last summer by more than two thousand teachers from all parts of the United States. This large number of teachers taxed the accommodations of the University of Tennessee at that time. So many teachers were not expected the first year. This year no pains or expense have been spared to provide for all who may come. A large auditorium, seating three thousand persons, has been erected on University Hill. Four large lecture pavilions have also been erected, as well as two dining halls and a restaurant. It is confidently expected that all these additional buildings will be ample for the profit, pleasure and accommodation of the twenty-five hundred teachers who have already signified their intention to attend the coming session, as well as of others who may have concluded to come but who have not as yet signified their intentions.

The management have also provided an educational exhibit building of large dimensions. All the available space in that building has already been taken by the leading educational publishers and manufacturers of school appliances. It will be possible for those attending the school to see the very latest and most improved school appliances, as well as the textbooks of the leading educational publishers, at no additional cost or expense.

The courses of study this year embrace everything in the school curriculum, from the kindergarten through the university. Manual training, problems of supervision, primary methods, and the problems of the rural schools will be made especially prominent. Some of the best known State and county superintendents in the country will give the supervision courses. Several of these courses will be given by such eminent supervisors as State Superintendent W. W. Stetson, of Maine; ex-State Superintendent L. D. Harvey, of Wisconsin; State Superintendent J. Y. Joyner, of North Carolina; Superintendent J. M. Greenwood, of Kansas City, and Superintendent Lawton B. Evans, of Augusta.

An educational campaign workers' convention will be held on July 4. This convention will bring together such eminent educational leaders as Governor Charles B. Aycock, of North Carolina; Governor J. B. Frazier, of Tennessee; Mr. Edgar Gardner Murphy, of the Southern Education Board; State Superintendent Myers, of Tennessee; Dr. Charles D. McIver, of North Carolina; Dr. G. R. Glenn, of Georgia, and many others. It is hoped by this convention to unify and strengthen the educational campaign that is now being waged with more or less vigor throughout the South.

Mention has been made of the moderate expenses of this school. Perhaps some details will be worth mentioning. The railroads in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, and in the States south of the Ohio river have agreed to sell tickets on June 21, 22, 23; June 28, 29; July 5, 6; July 13 and July 20. These tickets will be good for fifteen days and will be sold at one regular fare for the round trip, plus twenty-five cents. However, any ticket may be extended to September 30 by depositing it with the local ticket agent at Knoxville, accompanied by a fee of fifty cents. There will be no charge for tuition, only the small registration fee of \$5. The cost of living has been reduced almost to the actual cost of food. Last summer the total expenses of the majority of those in attendance did not reach \$50, all told.

Such subjects as literature, history, philosophy, nature study, the physical sciences, manual training, drawing, and music have been made prominent in the courses of study, so that it will be possible for teachers to acquire that knowledge of those subjects which is now demanded by the most progressive schools of the South. The simple mention of all these attractive advantages is enough to guarantee that never before have the Southern teachers been able to obtain so much that will be helpful at so small an outlay.

On the Heaving Sea. "Won't you have another piece of cake, John? O! where is he?" exclaimed the bride, suddenly discovering that he was no longer at her side. "He's just gone up on deck, ma'am, to prove an old saying," said the passenger opposite. "To prove an old saying?" "Yes. You can't eat your cake and have it too."—Philadelphia Press.

Wisdom From Georgia. George—"Pa, what are the fattest letters in the alphabet?" "Give it up, George; what are they?" "O, B, C, T."—Yonges Statesman.

All the Same to Him. Dr. Kallowell—"I can cure at once by an operation, or in about six months by external applications and internal remedies." Patient—"Which would you advise, doctor?" Dr. Kallowell (making a mental calculation)—"Well, it's immaterial. The expense will be about the same in either case."—Chicago Tribune.

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