AGED SINGER'S LOT IS LACKING IN JOY

Flathead Denies Even Pauper's Shelter to Venerable Man, Whose Song in Honor of Missoula Finds Favor With Chamber of Commerce.

It's an ill wind that blows no one good, and the refusal of Flathead county officials to give shelter in the poorhouse to John J. Kearney, "Rocky Mountain Jack," has given Missoula an official song that should be genuinely successful.

Kearney, who is an old-timer in the state, sent his song to the chamber of commerce yesterday, saying that Flathead county had refused him refuge from the cold and had turned down his ballad. Winter is coming, he wrote, and only a bit of music stands between the weary veteran and the cold. "Happy Missoula" is Rocky Mountain Jack's only anchor to windward, though the coming storm will be violent and the craft is getting old.

"Happy Missoula" is not a Leahy song; it has genuine melody and the words are sensible. Secretary Ferguson tried out the tune yesterday and it has a simple, catchy refrain that is certain to be popular. The swing of the music is ideal for such a song.

Kalispell Turns It Down.

The ballad for which the music was originally written was entitled "Beautiful Flathead," but the people of Kalispell were lacking in appreciation and refused to listen. In desperation the old man conceived the idea of writing new words to his song. He had known Missoula and Missoula people for years and the new song was dedicated to the Garden city.

"Happy Missoula" is under consideration now and if it impresses President Coffee and the board of directors as favorably as it did Secretary Ferguson a check probably will be sent to John Kearney.

In his letter to Mr. Ferguson the old pioneer tells in simple fashion the predicament in which old age has found him. The letter follows:

"I am a resident of this state for the past 44 years, and have been in your city many a time in days gone by, when Montana was in its infancy; but unfortunately through the vicissitudes of life I have been compelled to seek aid from the county commissioners here—aid which was denied to me; yes, even shelter beneath the roof of a pauper's home.

"In pondering o'er my sad plight, a thought suggested itself to my mind that if I transposed a song composed many years ago it might meet with more favor amongst men of more business tact than 'Beautiful Flathead' did amongst the Flatheaders, and perhaps net me a few pennies—it matters not the amount—so as to pull through the cold winter and keep the 'grim wolf' from my door.

"My brothers—the Kearney Brothers—were well known for their musical abilities in your city in days gone by, when they played for Mitchell their rare music on the Irish piano—the dulcimer.

"Let the band play the song or have it sung by some good singer and it will speak for itself. There may be a few errors, owing to my transposing without music, which can be easily remedied by any musician.

"Hoping that it will meet with your favor, and anything you gentlemen care to donate will be thankfully received by

"JOHN J. KEARNEY."

The chamber of commerce will consider the song for a day or two and may then buy it from the composer. "Happy Missoula" would be a ballad worthy of the Garden city and its acceptance is probable. —G. P. S.

FLOOD DEVASTATION WILL BE SHOWN IN MOVIES

NOVEL METHOD WILL BE FOLLOWED TO GET APPROPRIATION FROM CONGRESS.

Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 22.—Showing the Mississippi flood devastation, its magnitude and the means of controlling the stream and preventing floods, one of the most remarkable moving-picture films ever exhibited in Memphis was shown yesterday morning. It will be exhibited before members of the house in Washington next week. John A. Fox, secretary-manager of the Mississippi River Levee association, will use it as an argument in favor of the Ransdell-Humphreys bill, the $60,000,000 flood measure now before congress.

One of the pictures shows 400 feet of earth gradually slipping into the Mississippi river opposite Helena, Ark. Another shows the water beating the levees from the tops of trees as it rushed through the crevasse at Beulah, Miss.; another gives a view of a big force of men at work near Helena, Ark., sinking mattresses to prevent further caving. The manner in which the big net works are sunk near the levees and on the banks of the river are shown most clearly.

FINDS HUSBAND IN MORGUE.

St. Paul, Jan. 22.—After an anxious vigil all night in their little home, members of the family of John Horwath, 55, learned that the missing husband and father was killed by a train in the Great Northern coach yards.

Howarth was recognized by Mrs. Howarth, who went to the morgue after reading that a man wearing clothes bearing her husband's laundry mark had been killed.

THE FROST.

(From Judge.)

Flora—I gave Jack the thirty-second degree last night.

Dora—Are you a Mason?

Flora—No; but that's the freezing point, isn't it?

TO LAUGH AT.

(From Judge.)

"Why do they print jokes in the program of a musical comedy"

"So the audience will have something to laugh at."

The Week in Picture Form

Recent occurrences in the world of sport are herewith pictorially presented for the delectation of the sport lover. A glance at the accompanying wood cut shows better than words can tell the current events of sportiana. The little boat bouncing gaily over the bounding main contains the world-touring giants and White Sox and the expressions cleverly indicated on their faces show clearly that they are nearing Ceylon. Another humorous sketch shows Tommy Murphy belabored over his head by an implacable and relentless jinx. See the large, handsome, though villainous, rascal with the atrocious demeanor menacing the lovely lady. Ain't he the mean one! Turning down to the picture on the right we have a bright conceit. The Federal league is shown lassoing Ty Cobb with a rope shaped to represent dollars. Edward Gunboat Smith has taken the count at the hands of a small, but hard-hitting, two-fisted adversary. The ball player is shown as we will see him shortly refusing to sign his contract for the coming season. But just wait until along late in March.

A Thing This Nation Needs

(From the North American.)

With the beginning of a new year, many good resolves are made.

Many of these will not be kept, but the fruitage of this custom will be worth the effort made. Especially will this be true in every case where the resolve has to do with "saving."

For, as a writer in a current magazine says: "We are the most extravagant nation on the face of the earth. Most of us indulge in luxuries unknown to nine-tenths of the people in other countries. Even those of us who are of the "working class" go in for far more costly and more numerous pleasures, clothes, eatables, vacations, etc., than the corresponding classes of any European land."

Then this financial authority gives figures to prove that only ten persons in every 100 of our population have deposits in savings banks, while in Switzerland one of every two of the inhabitants is a savings depositor, and in France, Holland, Germany and England, one in every three—in round figures.

As a matter of fact, this great nation, so wonderfully favored by nature, stands near the bottom of the list in this respect. Ahead of it, and far ahead, at that, are such countries as Australia, Tasmania, Japan, Italy, New Zealand, Belgium, Norway and Sweden.

And of the ten in each hundred in the United States who have formed the habit of saving, it is said by experts that nearly 50 per cent are aliens. That leaves us with a record which should breed some serious thought.

"The citizen who saves is a patriot," says B. C. Forbes, the financial writer. "The citizen who sinks into debt through extravagant, riotous living is a curse to his country."

Dire poverty is such a cringing, such a loathsome thing. It slays a man's manhood. It drives from him his self-respect. It robs him oftentimes of ambition. It snuffs out every spark of hope, every ray of sunshine. It disarms him in the battle for life. It makes of him, not a man, but something less than a mannikin.

"Gaze on that picture and on this: The man who has lived prudently, who has worked intelligently, who has saved rationally, who does not face immediate starvation or debt, in defense of his self-respect or for any other reason, he leaves one position before he knows for a certainty where he is to find another.

"Such a man can carry his head as high as any multimillionaire in the land. Such a man can take care not only of himself, but his family. He need not cringe dog-like to an overweening boss. Cherishing his own self-respect, he will scrupulously regard the self-respect of others, both above and below him on the social side. He need sneak around no corners when he sees his tailor his grocer or his butcher come along the street. He can look every man in the eye. And at night he can sleep."

The personal side of this matter is secondary, however, to its economic value. A nation of savers means a thrifty nation, and thrift is yet to determine the survival of nations.

Witness Germany rise in a few decades from a condition approaching bankruptcy to the very head of the advancing procession—and chiefly because her people are thrifty. In every thousand, 317 of them have savings bank accounts.

The saving habit is easy to form. It can be started on a sum so small that even those whose incomes are small can enlist.

The main thing is to save a regular sum regularly. And to begin now!

FITTING MODERN CONDITIONS.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

"We have a new dish at the Primperton dinner."

"What was that?"

"Onions without."

"Without what?"

"Beefsteak."

Captured But Happy

MRS. VILLA.

General "Pancho" Villa, the dreaded bandit who has become one of the heroes of the present Mexican revolution, believes in taking whatever he wants by force. So a few weeks ago while he was at Torreon, Mexico, seeing an American girl cashier in a Torreon store who was unusually attractive, he decided he would take her and make her his wife. He orders his troops to surround the store, captured the girl and carried her off in triumph. Those who are in a position to know say the bride is quite resigned to her position.

THAT

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"The Faith of Her Fathers"
The deep heart struggles of a beautiful girl, courted by a man not of her faith, tempted to be ashamed of her father's calling, placed in a false light by an innocently foolish act, but eventually taught a great lesson in a strange manner, is the foundation of this intensely strong heart appeal.
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A pleasing story with Riley Chamberlain appearing as an old man discharged unjustly. The Thanhauser Kidlet, daughter of his employer, is the means of restoring the old man to his place. A pretty story with a touch of real heart interest.
Watch for our Mutual Girl
SPECIAL—TOMORROW—SPECIAL
A Two-Reel Feature Comedy and a Keystone
"Zuzu the Band Leader"
Two thousand feet of side-splitting humor, featuring the inimitable and well-known Mabel Normand and Ford Sterling.
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CHAMPIONSHIP Contest
Danny Cummings vs. Yankee Allen
AT MISSOULA THEATER
Monday Evening Jan. 26
The winner of this bout will fight Johnny Dundee in Butte next month before the Copper City Athletic club.
8 Round Preliminary 8
The ladies are especially invited to see this contest.

MISSOULA THEATER
Saturday Night, January 24
The de Koven Opera Co.
Direction Daniel V. Arthur presents America's greatest lyric soprano
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In de Koven's masterpiece and the nation's greatest comic opera
Robin Hood
Supported by the finest light opera organization in the world, including
Company of 60; large and pretty chorus; augmented orchestra. Prices: $2.00, $1.50, $1.00, 75c and 50c. Seats on sale Friday. Seats ordered by mail will be assigned immediately after opening sale.

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Picturesque Dances Between Scenes.
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