

"I know you wouldn't," I interrupted.

"Thank you," she said. "It is good to know you have that confidence in me."

"He came quite often to the office, and usually my employer was out, and, from just answering his questions, we began to hold conversations and finally I permitted him to call."

"I don't need to tell you about my caring for him, you know how people become very dear to you if they are kind and considerate and if they seem honorable, and I do—I did care very much."

"Wasn't it a great shock to you when you discovered that he was married?"

"Yes," she whispered. "But, oh, I am so sorry for his wife. How she must have suffered! I didn't mind what she said at all, because I knew her heart was breaking."

"But your own heart," I persisted. "Doesn't it hurt you, too?"

For a moment her pride tempted her to deny it, and then she looked at me wistfully.

"Yes, it does hurt, but it won't hurt always, and after a while I will forget all about it. But I am so sorry for his wife."

She was game.

—o—o— ALL THE BILL

"I have sent for you," said the man of the house, "because these pipes need looking after. There's a leak somewhere, and a lot of gas going to waste."

"No, sir," replied the gas company's inspector, meditatively; "maybe there's a leak, but there ain't any gas going to waste—you'll find it all in the bill."

—o—o—
There is a censor at the German court dances who watches the dancers. If he sees someone who does not dance well, he tells them that they must learn the steps before attending another dance.

TAXICAB RATE DEAL COMES UP IN COUNCIL TONIGHT

The Shaw taxicab monopoly has its graft well buttered in the report of the city council judiciary committee.

An ordinance which holds up the present high rate for taxi service is recommended for passage tonight.

Though Chicago has a more concentrated downtown district than New York, the public taxi rates here are nearly double those of New York.

Fifty cents for the first half mile or fraction thereof is the Chicago rate. Thirty cents is the New York rate for the same haul.

When the ordinance comes up tonight the vote of the aldermen, according to independent taxicab owners, will show whether the Shaw monopoly and Andrew M. Lawrence, an alleged stockholder, or 200 independent taxi owners have the most influence with the council.

The petition of the 200 independents sent to the judiciary committee recites "that the present high rate of charge for taxicab service on the short hauls done by the large taxicab companies is divided between the hotels, cafes and clubs, which extend special privileges to the large taxicab companies in return for the hotels, cafes and clubs receiving part of the fares. The only function of the present ordinance is to maintain this unholy alliance between said hotels, cafes and clubs and the large companies."

In 1911 the rate was 40 cents "at flagpole" for the first half mile. It was then raised to 50 cents. The ordinance that comes up tonight re-fixes the 1911 rate.

The 200 independents ask for a rate of 30 cents for the first half mile. More people would use taxis, they claim.

The only reason for a rate of 50 cents, they argue, is that the Shaw taxi trust wants to freeze out the little fellows and work in caboots with hotels like the LaSalle, Sherman, Blackstone and others to that end.