

BOWSER, CYCLIST.

Our Hero Resolves to Become a Star Performer.

SETS OUT BRAVELY ENOUGH.

But In Spite of His Exhibition of Self Confidence Mrs. B. Has Misgivings. For She Realizes That Even Mr. B. Has His Limitations.

By M. QUAD.

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ALL through the dinner hour Mr. Bowser was very quiet, but his face wore that expression that comes to a man who has made up his mind to do or die.

"He's goin' to blow up the house," whispered the cook to herself.

"He always carries that look when he's after my scalp," thought the cat. "Aren't you well this evening?" asked Mrs. Bowser for the tenth time.

Mr. Bowser turned on her and said: "No, Mrs. Bowser, I am not well—far from it!"

"But what's the matter?"

"I am gradually being tied up in knots for lack of exercise."

"But presently there'll come a big fall of snow and you can use the snow shovel."

He regarded her for a moment with lofty contempt and then said:

"Mrs. Bowser, this is a winter month, but there is no snow on the ground. It is a calm night. It is a moonlight night. It is an ideal night."

"And we'll go to the theater."

"I shall take an hour's exercise on the bike I have borrowed for the occasion."

"But—but it's winter," she protested.

"It's better to ride in the winter. You thought I had given it up, but I was only waiting for bracing weather."

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out of the road—get inside the gate! You are hoping for me to keep on talking and perhaps break my neck, but you'll be disappointed. You keep inside the gate till you're called upon to interfere."

Then Mr. Bowser examined the wheels. He took a long look at the handle bar, but discovered nothing wrong with it. The pedals seemed to have been hung on at the right place, and he could find no fault with the saddle. Mrs. Bowser stood watching him over the gate, but he pretended to be oblivious of her presence and drew a long breath and made ready for another try at it. It suddenly occurred to him that he didn't get in hops enough, and so he started out on a new plan. With his foot on the step he began hopping and humping. His idea was to get a good headway and then rise like a bird, but at the fifth hop the machine took a shoot into the ditch, and there was another wrestling match, in which it came out on top.

The Last Straw.

"You see you can't do it," said Mrs. Bowser as she went out and pulled the wheel off him. "You don't seem to hold the wheel right, and you hop on the sole of your foot."

Mr. Bowser arose and pointed to the open gate, and so strong was his emotion that it was a full half minute before he could say:

"You will oblige me by going into the house, Mrs. Bowser. Should I require your presence or feel the need of any more sarcasm I'll send you a postal card!"

She went, and when she had disappeared Mr. Bowser led the machine up and down the road a few times, patting the saddle in a fatherly way and humming a tune. By and by, after a quick glance at the house to see if Mrs. Bowser was looking, he made a sudden dash for the saddle. He got there. Just how he did it he will never be able to make out, but to his utter surprise he found himself there and his feet clawing about for the pedals. His first impression was that he was at least twenty feet above the earth; his second that he was all of forty. He had a dim idea that he was speeding along like a race horse, but it didn't last long.

Mr. Bowser's Finish.

When Mrs. Bowser reached him he was on one side of the road and the wheel on the other. Mr. Bowser had struck on his head and was looking into vacancy and whispering to himself. It was like a dream—some one lifting his head—his body being rolled about—a wagon coming up and two men lugging him into the house. He meant to charge Mrs. Bowser with hitting him with a fence rail—with shoving a crowbar between the spokes to upset him—with maliciously planning his death—but the words refused to come, and while he was wondering what was the matter he heard one of the men say:

"He'll come to after awhile and be all right again in a few days. Better tell him to ride a rail. He's no bird for the bike!"

Wherein the Improvement Lies.

Mrs. Sauers—Among the barbarous people of the earth a man can have as many wives as he desires, while civilization limits each man to one. Now, you can't tell me but that civilization makes man better morally.

Mr. Sauers—Not necessarily. It merely gives him better sense.—Puck.

Juvenile Persuasion.

Small Boy (pleading for more time to stay out and play)—I'll come right in when the 12 o'clock whistle blows.

Mother—But I want you in the house at 2 o'clock.

Small Boy—Then I'll start in a little before the whistle blows.—New York Post.

Those Careless Men.

Salt—Yes, miss. We had an awful storm here last week. That light-house yonder was washed away except for a few blocks of stone.

Miss—Dear me! Whatever did they build it in such an exposed position for?—Saturday Journal.

A Clean Shave.

"How do you like your new patent razor?"

"It's too thorough. Not only does it shave, but it removes moles, freckles and anything else that happens to be in the way."—Washington Star.

Easily Accounted For.

Aunt—How's this, Bobby? I hear that the little boy next door gets promoted at school much oftener than you do.

Bobby—Well, his father's a promoter.—Boston Transcript.

An Impossible Person.

Muggins—She's such an old-fashioned girl. Buggins—How do you mean old-fashioned? Muggins—She is positively effeminate.—Philadelphia Record.

Two Games.

Golf and life, played game for game. You'll find are pretty much the same.

In both before attaining par it's better to be straight than far. In both we find that yawning traps wait eagerly for our mishaps. Where, cursing in the bunkered fen. We seek to reach the course again.

In both games one, to score at all. Must keep his eye upon the ball. Must watch the stroke and follow through. At what he may start out to do. And then in both the ruling cry Falls back upon an alibi.

Golf and life, played game for game. You'll find are pretty much the same.

—Chicago Evening Post.

Near Two Million on Highways

The different counties of Montana spent last year almost \$2,000,000 on roads and bridges. These figures have been compiled by George R. Metten, secretary of the state highway commission.

Missoula county takes first place in its road expenditures, which aggregated \$91,527 in 1913. Then came Dawson with expenditures of \$87,717. Custer with \$81,808, Park with \$50,528 and Gallatin with \$50,070.

Custer county spent on bridge more than twice as much as did any other county, its total bridge expenditures last year being \$83,015. Yellowstone was second with a total of \$40,871. Silver Bow third with expenditures of \$37,350, and Dawson fourth with \$36,214. Lewis and Clark county spent \$26,094 on bridges.

In addition to these expenditures Lewis and Clark county has a bonded bridge debt of \$105,000, made necessary by the floods of 1907.

Chouteau county expended \$35,461 on roads, and \$12,914 for bridges during the year. Blaine county, \$14,376 on roads, and \$4,401 on bridges. Hill county spent \$19,359 on roads, and \$6,503 on bridges during the year.

Would Reform Mining Laws

New York, Feb. 19.—A plea for better mining laws in the western states was made last night by Senator T. J. Walsh of Montana at the annual dinner of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. Senator Walsh said the mining laws of the western states were in a chaotic condition and needed reform. He pointed to their need of modification to the end that transfer of property and distribution of claims could be more properly made. The senator smilingly remarked that the business of mining is to point out to the world the opportunities to make money where no one has ever seen before.

"There are radium-bearing lands that are useless except for the processes which mining engineers may bring to bear upon them," he said. "All through the west are ore deposits which it is certain will prove valuable in the future."

Ordinance Number 29

An ordinance for the purpose of establishing the form and denomination of bonds to be sold by the City of Fort Benton for the purpose of creating a fund to construct a sewerage system for the City of Fort Benton.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Fort Benton: Section 1. The qualified electors of the City of Fort Benton having had an election called for that purpose, decided to sell Thirty three thousand dollars of the bonds of said city for the purpose of creating a fund with which to construct a sewerage system for said city, the denomination of said bonds is hereby declared to be in the sum of Five hundred dollars each.

Section 2. The form of said bonds is hereby declared to be as follows: "United States of America, State of Montana Number 500 Dollars City of Fort Benton, City Sewer Bond"

Know All Men by These Presents, That the City of Fort Benton, in the County of Chouteau and State of Montana, acknowledges itself to owe, and for value received, hereby promises to pay to bearer the sum of Five Hundred Dollars, on April 1, 1934, or at any time before said date on or after April 1, 1926, at the option of said City, together with interest on said sum from date thereof, until paid, at the rate of 5 1/2 per centum per annum, payable semi-annually on the first days of January and July in each year, upon the presentation and surrender of the interest coupons here to attached as they severally become due. Both principal and interest payable in lawful money of the United States of America, at the office of the City Treasurer of Fort Benton in Fort Benton, Montana, or, at the option of the purchaser hereof, and upon written notice to said Treasurer, in New York City, New York, at such bank in said City as shall be designated by said City Treasurer; and for the prompt payment of this bond, with interest as aforesaid, at maturity, the full faith, credit and resources of said City of Fort Benton are hereby irrevocably pledged.

This bond is issued by said City of Fort Benton for the purpose of providing funds with which to construct a sewerage system at said City and this bond is issued in accordance with the election held in said City to determine whether the bonds of said city in the sum of Thirty Three Thousand Dollars should be sold for the purpose of creating said fund, which said election was determined in favor of the sale of said bonds and is issued pursuant to and in full compliance with the provisions of the laws of the State of Montana.

And it is Hereby Certified and Recited, That all acts, conditions and things required by the constitution and Laws of the State of Montana to be done precedent to and in the issuance of this bond have been properly done, happened and been performed in regular and due form and time as required by law and that the total indebtedness of said City of Fort Benton including this bond does not exceed any Constitutional or Statutory limitation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, The said City of Fort Benton has caused its corporate seal to be hereto affixed and this bond to be signed by its Mayor and its City Clerk, and the coupons thereof in lithographic or engraved fac-similes of the signatures of said Mayor and City Clerk, which lithographing or engraving is hereby authorized and the date of this bond to be registered by said City Clerk at Fort Benton, Montana the first day of April, 1914.

Attest: Mayor

Section 3. This ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and the same shall be in effect from and after its passage and approval.

Passed and approved this 7th day of February, 1914.

Attest: Mayor

City Clerk.

has not done so, may have his or her name entered upon said list.

The registry agent shall deliver to the officers of election of each ward the registry list of such ward before the opening of the polls at said election. No person shall vote at such election unless his or her name appears on such registry list, unless such person presents to the judges of election satisfactory evidence that he or she is entitled to vote therein. Such satisfactory evidence shall consist of the affidavit of such person and of two qualified voters of the same ward, setting forth the facts necessary to entitle such person to vote.

The registry agent shall publish in a newspaper published daily in the city of Fort Benton and of general circulation for one week next preceding the first day set for the opening of the registry office, a notice setting forth the times and place at which his office will be open, and that he will then and there receive the names of all persons qualified to vote at said election.

The city clerk shall supply the registry agent with the necessary stationery and blanks, and with a copy of the list of the taxpayers on the last city assessment roll.

The compensation of the registry agent shall be \$4.00 per day and all the proceedings of said agent shall be open to public inspection.

Passed by the City Council and approved by the mayor this 9th day of December, 1913.

CHAS. H. GREEN, Mayor.

JOHN F. MURPHY, City Clerk.

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And it is Hereby Certified and Recited, That all acts, conditions and things required by the constitution and Laws of the State of Montana to be done precedent to and in the issuance of this bond have been properly done, happened and been performed in regular and due form and time as required by law and that the total indebtedness of said City of Fort Benton including this bond does not exceed any Constitutional or Statutory limitation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, The said City of Fort Benton has caused its corporate seal to be hereto affixed and this bond to be signed by its Mayor and its City Clerk, and the coupons thereof in lithographic or engraved fac-similes of the signatures of said Mayor and City Clerk, which lithographing or engraving is hereby authorized and the date of this bond to be registered by said City Clerk at Fort Benton, Montana the first day of April, 1914.

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BENTON LODGE No. 28.—A. F. AND A. M.—Regular communications of the above named lodge are held at 7:30 p. m., on the first and third Mondays of each month. Members of sister Lodges and sojourning brethren are cordially invited to attend.

EZRA L. CRANE, W. M. ROBT. RICHARDSON, Sec'y.

BENTON LODGE, No. 59, I. O. O. F. Meets every Wednesday evening at Odd Fellows' hall. Visiting members are cordially invited to attend.

C. T. NEUBERT, N. G. ARNOLD WESTFALL, Sec'y.

DRS. PORTER & HOUTZ,

Physicians and Surgeons

Office: Cor. Bond and Main St.

Office hours, 2 to 5 p. m.

DR. JAMES F. MURPHY,

Physician and Surgeon

Office over Benton State Bank

Office hours—2 to 5 and 7 to 8 p. m.

Fort Benton - - - Montana

DR. C. B. HAMILTON

DENTIST

Offices over Lockwood's Drug Store

FORT BENTON, - - MONTANA

JERE SULLIVAN

U. S. Commissioner and Notary Public

Land Filings and Proofs

Fort Benton - - - Montana

F. E. Stranahan C. R. Stranahan

STRANAHAN & STRANAHAN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Fort Benton - - - Montana

H. S. MCGINLEY,

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Fort Benton - - - Montana

Office in Cummings Block

H. F. MILLER,

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Office over Benton State Bank

FORT BENTON, - - MONTANA

VERNON E. LEWIS

LAWYER

ODDFELLOWS' BUILDING

Great Falls, - - Montana

W. S. Towner E. A. Smith

TOWNER & SMITH

LAWYERS

Odd Fellows' Building

Great Falls, - - Montana

ALBERT W. MERRIFIELD

SURVEYOR

Office over Benton State Bank

FORT BENTON, - - MONTANA

MONTANA LANDS

Large and Small Tracts

SOME REAL BARGAINS

C. W