

CHECKED UP

By ALVAH J. GARTH

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"Why, this won't do at all!" ejaculated Hiram Smith, pursing up his lips and frowning his brow in a stern, complaining way as he read a business card in the corner of the envelope of a letter he had just received.

"What is the trouble, Hiram?" inquired his better half.

"Look and see," Smythe & Co. Brokers. That's false colors Norman seems to be sailing under. Plain 'Smith' isn't good enough for him, it seems, so he has to spread-angle under another name."

"Well," rejoined Mrs. Smith placidly, "Smith is, in fact, a plain, common name, and maybe the city way is to change it."

"Change it!" cried Hiram, fire in his eye. "Say! If all the Smiths left the world tomorrow it would feel the lack of them! I won't have this, and I'm going to give Norman a good, sound piece of my mind. Why," as he opened the envelope, "it's isn't from Norman at all, and Hiram proceeded to read the inclosure.

"Humph!" he observed finally. "Here's something to consider. Just listen, Martha. This letter is from Norman's stenographer, a Miss Ava Brown, and it says that Norman is in trouble, is away from the city for a day or two, and, because she is interested in him and the business, she asks me to come on at once and have a consultation with her. Tell you, I'm worried and disappointed! I gave Norman \$10,000 to make his way in the world, and here's a break."

It was no mystery at all, Uncle Hiram found, when he entered the office of Smythe & Co. two mornings later. He looked savage as he noted that name blazoned in gilt on the plate glass windows, but he quieted down as he introduced himself to the pretty and sensible looking young lady in charge.

"I like your looks," he announced bluntly, "and your eyes tell me you are a girl in the habit of speaking the truth. Now, then, tell me all about it."

The recital that followed, serious and anxious, sobered Uncle Hiram not a little. It appeared that some bad advisers had induced Norman to make "a plunge." That of the name was a part of it, plunging outside of ethical securities was a second.

"If Mr. Smith had only kept on steadily with safe securities he would not have had any trouble," declared the young lady. "He was influenced, however, by a set of reckless speculators, and has lost nearly all his capital. He is proud, and wanted to make money too fast. He has been a good friend to me, M. Smith, giving me employment when I was out of work, or the prospect of it, and I like him—and something more than that," and the speaker flushed.

"And he likes you—and something more than that, is that?" inquired Hiram bluntly.

"I hope so," assented Miss Brown frankly. "At all events, I wish to help him and save him, with your assistance, of course."

"You put it straightforward and businesslike," said Hiram, and I'll think it over," which he did. Then he resumed: "Now, then, Miss Brown, I've decided what I will do. First thing, we'll go over the books and clear up all the debts. Next, no more silly fads like using the Smythe name. Then Norman has got to cut out his expensive clubs, and two-hour luncheons, and training with a set of young fellows who play with bank accounts and don't care whose they are. We'll take that name off those windows and make it 'Smith & Co.," as it ought to be, right away."

Hiram actually enjoyed the next two days. Miss Brown was a girl to the more and more the better one became acquainted with her. The loyalty, truthfulness, and honest business sense she displayed completely won Hiram over. It was the third morning after his arrival that his nephew entered the office.

"Who changed those signs on the windows?" he began stormily. When Ava silenced him with the prompt warning reply:

"Your uncle, who is in the next room."

Norman Smith became meek as a lamb as he confronted the letter, who was stern and dignified as he said:

"Sit down. I want to have a talk with you. No, don't close the door. Miss Brown is a better business partner than you are, and has my confidence. Now, then—"

"You talk wisdom, Uncle Hiram," he conceded, "and I'll be glad to turn over a new leaf."

"All right," spoke his uncle. "You'll find lots of encouragement and help, if you do. I'll be your backer in a reasonable way, and Miss Brown, who doesn't spell her name with a 'v' tagged onto it or any such fol-de-rol, is a safe balance wheel. If you like her—and something more than that," concluded the old man, slyly, "tell her so."

"I'll do that," acceded Norman willingly, and he went into the next room.

"Miss Brown—Ava," he added, "my uncle chides me for my folly in changing my name, but I don't think he will object if I ask you to change yours," and, chuckling serenely, Uncle Hiram felicitated himself with the supreme belief that he had smoothed out the wrinkles in the lives of all of them.

Use Water Springing. An Arab drinks cold water with a spoon, and never bathes in it unless his home be in the shore.

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An inspiration is a joy forever; to have many of these is to be spiritually rich—Stevenson.

STEAMED PUDDINGS.

This is a collection of reliable recipes of various steamed puddings which are enjoyed during the cold weather.



Suet Pudding.

—Take one cupful of finely chopped suet, one cupful of molasses and one cupful of sour milk, two eggs beaten light, three and one-half cupfuls of flour, salt, spice to taste, one cupful of fruit, raisins, currants and citron mixed, or any one fruit. Add one teaspoonful of soda to the sour milk and steam in a buttered mold two hours. Serve with egg sauce.

Beat one egg very light, add one cupful of sugar, and pour over the egg and sugar half a cupful of boiling hot milk. Flavor to taste and serve at once.

Graham Pudding.—Take one-half cupful of molasses, one-fourth cupful of sweet fat, one beaten egg, one-half cupful of sour milk, one-half teaspoonful of soda, a little salt, one and one-half cupfuls of graham flour, one cupful of raisins, and spices to taste. Steam four hours.

Prune Pudding.—Take one pound of prunes soaked over night and pitted, half cupful of butter substitute, one cupful of coarse bread crumbs, one cupful of sugar, one-fourth cupful of molasses, three beaten eggs, half a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in one tablespoonful of milk, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, half a teaspoonful of cloves. Steam three hours.

Wedding Pudding.—Take one cupful of fat salt pork chopped fine, one cupful of chopped raisins, two cupfuls of sugar, three and one-half cupfuls of flour, two cupfuls of milk, one teaspoonful of soda, one of cloves and one of cinnamon; mix all the dry ingredients except the soda, which is dissolved in the milk, then add milk and beat well. Steam four hours. Serve with a rich fruit sauce.

Bread Crumb Pudding.—Take two and one-half cupfuls of bread crumbs, one cupful of sour milk, half-cupful of shortening, one egg, one teaspoonful of soda, one cupful of raisins, one cupful of any kind of preserves, one cupful of sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg to taste. Steam two hours. Serve with any desired sauce.

Nellie Maxwell

First American Grammarian.

The first American grammarian to attain distinction, Lindley Murray, died nearly a century ago. He was a native of Pennsylvania and a Quaker, and his famous "Grammar of the English Language" was the first textbook of its kind written by an American to be used in the schools on this side of the Atlantic. It first appeared in 1795.

National Prosperity.

No country can endure long if its foundations are not laid deep in the material prosperity which comes from thrift, business energy and enterprise, from hard, unsparring effort in the fields of industrial activity; but neither was any nation ever yet truly great if it relied upon material prosperity alone.—Theodore Roosevelt.

Cadavers Stored in Oil.

For storing bodies for anatomical use, Dr. Arthur William Myers of Stanford university uses boxes filled with mineral seal oil, which is almost odorless and preserves the cadaver from decay.

Miss Spring Arrives



Earth Still Growing.
In the early days of its history the earth grew rapidly by the addition of meteoric matter. It is still growing in the same manner, though scarcely to an appreciable extent, for the mass of meteoric matter added yearly is reckoned to be only 20,000 tons.

Arkansas in First Place.
Arkansas is first among the states in America in the production of two minerals, bauxite and novaculite, the former being the ore of aluminum and the latter the source of the larger part of the oilstones produced in the United States.

Many Accidental Drownings.
Accidental drowning caused 5,550 deaths, or 7.4 per 100,000, in this country last year. This rate is considerably less than that for any preceding year since 1910, and is also decidedly below the average for the decade 1901-1910.



If you expect any miracles in 1920 you have got to perform them.—"Sid Baya."

LITTLE ECONOMIES.

Every one who wants to help the state this year can do so by giving thought to the question of how to economize food. If we are careful of the little wastes, the larger ones will look after themselves. One of the best tests of patriotism just now is the stopping of all waste of food in our homes and substituting other foods for those which are less plentiful. This can be done without sacrificing health or strength.

If a veal loaf or any kind of meat loaf is wrapped in oiled paper before baking it will save a loss of flavor and juices with no hard crust.

An emergency billing for sandwiches for two or three people can be made from half a jelly glass of chopped meat.

A tablespoonful of molasses added to griddle-cake batter will make them brown nicely.

Keep a small bottle of caramelized sugar to color gravies. Brown sugar in a clean, smooth frying pan until a dark brown, add boiling water to dissolve the sugar and bottle the liquid. A few drops will color a bowl of gravy.

In steaming puddings like suet or plum puddings which keep for some time if small baking powder cans (one-pound cans) are used the slices are shapely and there are never any broken bits to waste. Boston brown bread steamed in baking powder cans cooks more quickly, may be reheated in the cans and it also slices in attractive-sized pieces.

To remove the small feathers from game dip the bird after picking it as well as possible in melted paraffin; the wax when cool will come off with the small pinfeathers. The paraffin may be melted and strained and used again and again.

Honey may be used in many dishes in place of sugar; is fine in cake and cookies, makes good griddle cake sirup and candy; in fact is an all-round good substitute for sugar.

In cooking lemon pie filling remember the acid should not be added until the cornstarch or egg has been well cooked as the lemon juice will act upon the starch with the heat and thin it.

Intolerance Always Error.

Few men are really mean, but many are intolerant and lacking in forbearance toward others, forgetting that the temporary decisions of men are all subject to revision according to the stern law of compensation.

Inca Stonework.
That which is claimed to be the finest stonemason work in the world is to be seen in the ruins of Inca palaces in Cuzco, Peru. Not even a needle can be inserted between the great blocks. The microscope shows that these stones were wrought with tools of champ, an alloy of copper and tin.

Far-Seeing Youth.

Robert had been angry at James for several days and I was surprised to hear him call over to James and invite him to come and ride on his new sled. Later I questioned him as to his forgiveness of James and Robert explained: "Well, Bill told me Jim was going to have a party next week and I didn't want to lose out."—Exchange.

Something About Olives.

Like other fruit trees, the olive tree has many enemies, including birds and insects. The most dreaded of these is a small fly called *daucus* eteoe, half the size of a house fly. It is calculated that a single fly will destroy 300 or 400 olives. The only remedy is to gather the fruit early, and by crushing it at once destroy the larvae.

An Opportunity For Ambitious Saleswomen

Woolworth's New 5c & 10c Store

Corner Canal & Burgundy

RUSAKOFF FURNITURE STORE 508-10 FRENCHMEN ST.

Refrigerator time is here, and for the proper conservation of food a refrigerator is an absolute necessity. When you buy the Alaska Refrigerator, you are buying the best. The one shown is solidly built of hardwood. Has nickel plate handles and hinges. Interior lined with porcelain, making it sanitary and easy to keep clean.

\$21.95

Refrigerators from \$10.90 up.



Reed Go-Cart

When Baby comes, mother's thoughts turn to the baby carriage, feeling that nothing is too good for baby. When the Reed Go-Cart is selected you may feel assured that baby will have comfort. These are genuine fiber reed over steel bodies; equipped with wind shield and adjustable hood; has rubber-tired wheels.

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In Tibet one son at least of every family must join the church, partly for spiritual motives, partly to gain the temporal protection of the monasteries, the most powerful factor in the country.

Use Water Springing. An Arab drinks cold water with a spoon, and never bathes in it unless his home be in the shore.