

Firing Old Henry

By MATTHEW CLAYPOLE

Copyright, 1922, Western Newspaper Union. "Him? Oh, that's jest Henry! Old Hen, we calls him here. Work? Naw, Hen don't work! What'd he want to work for when he's been here nigh upon forty years? No, he jest peters, Hen does!"

Young Mr. Barrett surveyed the doddering old figure with a frown. "Doesn't he do anything?" he asked. "Oh, well, if you call mixing the pickles after they've been prepared—well, yes, Hen does that. Won't let no one into the mixing room, neither. But I don't call that work."

Young Mr. Barrett didn't either. His father had built up a nation-wide business in pickles, using a famous recipe, and he had taken over the business with strong ideas about efficiency. There were half a dozen old men pottering about the place, doing nothing. His father had not had the heart to discharge them, because they had been his earliest hands. Young Mr. Barrett showed less compunction. Out they went, to make way for young, efficient and, incidentally, cheaper girls, who hustled about their jobs in the way young Mr. Barrett liked.

Old Henry would have to go. An automatic mixer, of course, was what they wanted, not a doddering old man, scooping up the ingredients out of different barrels.

He talked it over with Claxon, the manager. "The reduction in the wages bill will look well to the shareholders," he said.

"Shareholders?" sniffed Claxon. "There ain't none worth speaking of, except that old woman in the country, who owns fifty-one per cent of the stock."

"That's awkward," said Barrett. "I wonder why my father allowed the majority to get out of his hands."

"Well, they say this old maid financed him in his early days," said Claxon. "Nothing's known about her. Nobody's ever seen her. No complaints—no! Just sits still and draws her dividends, as she's done for more years than I can remember."

"And about this man Henry," reverted Barrett. "They tell me he's got the secret for mixing the pickles in just the right proportion. I've got an idea about that. Of course, it doesn't really matter. Pickles are pickles, anyway. But I've thought of firing him, and then, when he's thoroughly scared, and down and out, offering him fifty for the recipe. Wonder why my father ever allowed him to retain the sole knowledge of it?" "Fine idea!" said Claxon. "Yes, your father was queer, Mr. Barrett. He'd never write down that recipe; guess he thought he'd live forever. Only Old Henry knew."

"I'll see the man now!" said Mr. Barrett.

In a few minutes Old Henry stood respectfully in front of him, wiping his hands upon a pickle-stained apron. "You wanted to see me, sir?"

"Well, yes, Henry. I—er—you see we've decided we'll have to let you go."

"Lemme go?" The look of pained astonishment on Old Henry's face was ludicrous. "Let me go? Why, Mr. Barrett, I've been with your father ever since we started in together. You can't let me go."

"Can't, eh?" snapped Barrett. "Well, that's just what I can do, Henry. You can draw your pay for a week ahead and you needn't go back to the pickle room."

Old Henry trembled. Tears rolled down his cheeks. "For the love of—Mike, Mr. Barrett, you don't mean that!" he stammered. "Why, there ain't nobody but me knows how to mix Barrett's Superfine Pickles. I've got the recipe."

"That cuts no ice with me, Henry. I guess it won't take more than a few days finding it out. However," he went on, "I don't mind giving you a bonus of fifty dollars for that recipe, although really we don't need it."

The veins stood out on Old Henry's forehead. "You—you offer me a bonus of fifty dollars for that?" he shouted. "You think Barrett's Superfine Pickles is worth fifty dollars?"

"Well, maybe a trifle more, but that's all I'm offering you," said Barrett unhesitatingly. "So you can take it or leave it."

Claxon, seeing the argument was going hot, came round to re-enforce the director with his presence. "Come, make up your mind, Henry," he said.

"Jest a minute," sobbed Old Henry. "Do I understand that if I don't let you have that recipe for fifty dollars you'll start making Barrett's Superfine Pickles without it?"

"You do," said both men promptly. "Then you're fired, both of you!" shouted Old Henry.

"The man's gone mad!" said Claxon. "Mad, eh? Who owns the majority of the stock? My wife! Who started your father in the business? Me and my wife! Why? Because we hadn't no heads for business, and because it'd been the dream of my life to set mixing pickles, and mebbe tasting of 'em now and again! You're fired, and I'll run this factory with Maggie unless—unless you change your mind, gents," he added appealingly.

Claxon and Barrett stared at one another. "Er—you'd better go back to work, Henry," said Barrett feebly. "We'll have to look into this, of course, and if what you say is true—"

Old Henry is still in the mixing room.

Abnormality in Mankind. Regardless of whether "genius is to madness close allied," eccentricities no doubt could be found in all great men. But if the truth were known would not something, just a trifle abnormal be discovered in everybody? Is it not too much to expect that the brain should always be well balanced under the terrific strain to which modern conditions of life subject it? What a dull place the world would be if everybody always did the conventional thing!—Exchange.

The Clancy Kids

Timmie Went Up in the Air By PERCY L. CROSBY



PIERZ Pierz Journal, July (13)—The village council has ordered four transformers for the electric light system. The transformers give a brighter and better light by means of alternating currents. The transformers will be connected with the electric light system on the poles, near the Math Neisius place, on the corner near Frank Boehm's dwelling, at the Gau garage and at Wenzel Maurer's blacksmith shop.

Fert Faust left for Kildeen, N. D., where he will be employed by the Occident Elevator Co.

Louis Rauch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Rauch of Agram town was killed in an automobile accident in a Wisconsin town, where he rented a farm. Just how the accident happened is not known at the time of going to press as the report of his death only stated that he was killed in an auto accident Monday morning. He was 32 years of age.

The remains were shipped to Pierz for burial and arrived in Genola on the 10:40 a. m. train today. Burial service will be held in St. Joseph's church Saturday morning at 9 o'clock and interment will follow in St. Joseph's cemetery.

John Stumpf of Kenosha, Wis., and Miss Mueller of Lake Mills, Wis., who spent a two weeks' visit among relatives and friends in Pierz, left for their homes the latter part of last week.

The Pierz Hose Co., No. 1 held their annual meeting in the village hall Saturday, July 14th. The following officers were elected: Frank Faust, chief; Louis Eller, assistant chief; W. Preinberger, secretary; Fred Preinberger, treasurer; Ester, lawyer; lower tillerman; John Gau, upper tillerman.

The Gross informs us that he received a letter of Sarvatusius Gau of North Dakota that a hailstorm did much damage to grain in his neighborhood. Some farmers suffered a total loss.

Fred Raatz, aged 69 years, died at the home of his son Emil Raatz 4 1/2 miles northwest of Pierz last Monday at 8 o'clock p. m. Death was due to apoplexy.

The deceased was the husband of Mrs. Augusta Raatz, who is at present staying with her son Emil, who resides on the old John Endres farm. The surviving children are Emil of Pierz, Frank and William of Westgate, Ia., Mrs. Amelia Kohns and Mrs. Caroline Dietz of Little Falls and Mrs. Augusta Shaver of Westgate, Ia.

Burial for the deceased was held in the Oakland cemetery from the Zion Evangelical church at Little Falls yesterday morning at 11 o'clock.

Rev. John Sand of Burbank, Minn., is visiting here and in Lastrup. He is well known in this vicinity. He was for several years stationed as priest at Lastrup in St. John's church. Rev. Sand will go to Germany in six weeks to spend the balance of his life in his former home.

Tuesday, this week, brought the birth and death to a little infant child at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Stangl. Burial was held in the local cemetery at 2 o'clock p. m. Tuesday.

The Pierz Eastern Farmers Threshing Company held their annual meeting at which officers were elected and other matters of importance taken up. The following officers were elected: Wm. Dickman, president and manager; J. B. Bednar, secretary; Jos. Stangl,

director. The company has purchased New Perfection wing feeders for their rig which they will have in operation this fall. Threshing will begin in about three or four weeks.

LINCOLN July 18.—P. O. Nelson and family drove to St. Cloud Saturday.

According to last reports, Ruth Randall is very much improved and thinks the Wadena hospital is fine.

E. J. Hull was in Pillager this week. Mrs. Nels Swanson entertained the club this week at a special meeting. A very nice lunch was served. Regular meeting is July 20th at Mrs. Murphy's.

Miss Christine Randall of Carington, N. D., is at home.

Jennie Mostrom returned from Harkness Monday.

Lulu Weum went to St. Paul Saturday evening for a visit.

Al. Noble returned to Columbus, Ohio, Mrs. Noble and daughters remaining for a longer outing.

J. J. Kunze's mother and brother-in-law and family returned to Winnipeg, after a few days' visit.

Mrs. John Mitchell returned to St. Paul, after a few days' visit with Mrs. C. O. Weum.

H. H. Murphy was in Browerville Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Weum were in Little Falls Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Louie Buechner entertained friends from Little Falls this week.

Ladies' Aid will meet at the home of Mrs. L. Kapengst. This meeting will be a real party, account of three members having a birthday on that date.

S. L. Staples has a business caller in Little Falls Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Dvorak were in Staples Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hansen and family drove to Backus Wednesday to visit relatives.

Mrs. Frank Sams of Midway, N. D., came down Thursday to visit relatives.

Max Meyer was a business caller in Staples Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reddieapp are the proud parents of a little son, born July 14th. Mrs. Reddieapp was formerly located on their own place at St. Marie, Idaho.

Farmers' Shipping Association will ship another car of stock Tuesday, July 23th.

Dr. and Mrs. Lang and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Aiken and the Misses Laahr of the cities have been visiting at the J. J. Kunze home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kiebler and daughter Ruth and Mrs. Kunze, Sr., returned to Winnipeg, after a few days' visit with Mr. and Mrs. Kunze.

Rollie Hull returned to his work at the U. S. Navy Yards, Chicago, Ill.

CUSHING July 18.—Wm. Arent left Wednesday for Nevs, called there by the death of his brother.

John Brneke was elected as manager for the Cushing Produce Co., at a meeting held in the potato warehouse Friday evening.

The farmers in this vicinity started cutting rye this week.

Joel Youngdahl was in this vicinity buying up stock last week.

Mr. Husted, who was seriously hurt some time ago, is able to be up and

around again.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Olsen and baby of Bristol, S. D., arrived Sunday for a short visit with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Husted.

Miss Jennie Mostrom of Lincoln spent a few days here last week visiting friends and old acquaintances.

A gospel team of Augsburg Seminary of Minneapolis, consisting of Messrs. Halverson, Peterson, Nash, and Dahle came down Monday, from Wadena, accompanied by the local pastor, Rev. Grundland, and for two days held services in the Lutheran church. Splendid music was rendered at each service, after which the gospel was preached in a very convincing manner. We hope these young men will pay us a visit again in the near future.

Jim Mather, a pioneer resident of this place, arrived at this place Sunday morning from Walker for a short visit with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Simones of Little Falls visited with friends and relatives at this place Sunday.

Miss Helen Simones, who has been on the sick list, is up and around again.

Melvin Hanson has a new car. Services will be held in the Lutheran church Sunday, July 20th, at 2:30 o'clock. Everybody welcome.

Mrs. Emil Klingberg and baby of Minneapolis visited with her sister, Mrs. B. E. Nygaard at this place Monday and Tuesday.

The Woodmen lodge of this place held a business meeting Monday evening to make arrangements for building a hall here.

BOWLUS Bowlus Advance, July (14):—Word is received from Rev. A. J. Moncol, who is still at Duquesne, Penn., that Rev. Paul Jamarik, formerly pastor of the South Elmudale church, died at Pittsburgh on June 29th and was buried there on July 1st.

Rev. Jamarik was supreme president of the junior department of the Slo-

vak National Society of America at the time of his death. He was 44 years old and leaves a wife and three children.

He was born in 1878 in Kanon in what is now Czechoslovakia, and came to this country in 1890. He studied at Oberlin, Ohio. He was pastor of the South Elmudale church from 1905 to 1908.

The grading on the state road south of town has been completed about halfway down the brickyard hill. The work began at the county line and a mile and three-quarters are therefore done of the three-mile contract. The part that is left is the easiest to grade, but since haying began teams have become scarcer and the progress is slower. However, the prospects are that the grading will be finished this month and graveling will begin soon after.

Andrew Zielenksi has bought the Kinney house in Royalton and has moved it to the lots formerly occupied by the Palace theatre.

Miss Agnes Barton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Barton, was married to Mr. August Balucha of Brainerd on the morning of June 28th.

Boris Stroikoff, one of the Russian boys whom Rev. Moncol aided to come from Siberia to this country two years ago, threw himself under a train at the St. Paul Union station last Monday and was killed. His studies mind was affected. He was being de-

ported by the authorities and he committed suicide rather than go back to the land where he had passed through so many horrors.

GILBERT July 17.—Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Carlson and son and Miss Ellen Hedlund returned on Monday of last week from a few days' trip to Grove City and Kingston. They were accompanied home by Walter Carlson, who drove a car which Mr. Carlson bought from him.

Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Carlson of Kingston were here a few days last week to visit relatives and also to pick blueberries.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Tuttle, Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Carlson, Misses Esther and Ellen Hedlund and Walter Carlson motored up to Merrifield a week ago last Tuesday to look for blueberries.

Mrs. Albert Olson, Esther and Ellen Hedlund and Victor Enlund drove up north of Brainerd last week to pick blueberries. They report blueberries as rather scarce there this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nelson, Mr. Nelson and Mrs. P. Kronbeck of Freedom, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Carlson and Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Tuttle were guests at the Chas. Hedlund home last Sunday.

Miss Esther Hedlund returned to Minneapolis this week, after spending two weeks at home.

Mrs. Philip Martineau was visiting relatives and friends here last week.

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