

The Times' Daily Short Story.

Flirting to Desperation.

Talk about flirt! I can tell you about a flirt that discounted all the flirts who ever lived. Kate Bunting as a little girl was a "femboy" from the crown of her head to the soles of her feet. She was a ranch girl and it had been born a girl by instead of a girl would have been one of the most desperate of desperadoes. As it was, she grew up a reckless, hard, scarred creature, half horse, half girl, and if there was any more of her it was revolver. She could ride and shoot with the best riders and shots and wasn't afraid of a road agent, a whole tribe of Indians or a cyclone. Kate was pretty and she was smart. Some thought her crack brain, but the method there was in that girl's madness was phenomenal. She had a soft brown eye that could look as innocent as an antelope's while she was hatching mischief. There wasn't a man within a hundred miles of her father's ranch but was in love with her, and man was the only animal she loved to hunt better than the wild game of the country. She would lasso one as easily as a mule. Kate's father was an educated gentleman. He had been an attorney, but on account of falling head and gone west to become a ranchman. Kate found food for her flirt-powder in the young English and American swells who, after being graduated at universities, went into ranching. Kingsley Farrington, a younger son of a British baronet, and Royal Pyle, a New Yorker, finally distanced all others and came to a neck and neck race. Some thought Farrington would win on account of his noble connections in England, while others were willing to back Pyle because he was well fixed in a pecuniary way. Kate played one against the other, wearing them both out like a couple of blades constantly whetted on the same stone. After encouraging them for months she finally engaged herself to both of them. Not that she kept her engagement to one from the other. Not a bit of it. She told them both all about it and actually insisted on each congratulating her on her engagement to his rival. Then when they asked her which she intended to marry she said "both."

There was nothing for either to do but withdraw or let her play out the game in her own fashion. She had fascinated both so far that neither would do the former, so both were obliged to do the latter. They supposed she would lead them both up to the marriage ceremony, then throw the scales in favor of one. Either this or send them both after her other lovers. The truth is they were not sure what she would do, except that she would do something desperate. And she did. Her father went east one day and left her to her own sweet will. Two days before his return Kate notified each one of her suitors that she would expect him at the ranch house the next day at noon to be married. Upon inquiry each learned that the other had received the notification. On the day and at the hour appointed each got himself up in his best apparel and proceeded to keep the appointment, knowing or at least suspecting that the other would be there. They found the bride ready to receive them, and for a person there was Oliver Shiverick, a young man who had left the ministry to turn sheep raiser, but who was still capable of performing marriage ceremonies. He adored Kate and would have willingly exploded his revolver under his ear if she had asked him to do so. Each of the double grooms looked at his other self, at the clergyman, and at Kate. She had taken on that peculiar softness in her eye which indicated she was about to out-herod Herod with some diabolical scheme. Nevertheless the grooms believed that one would be her husband. Kate gave a hand to each, took them to an end of the room and, placing herself and them with their backs to a fireplace, called on the parson to perform the marriage ceremony. The grooms were perfectly obedient, each expecting something different from the girl's avowed intention, till the parson asked: "Wilt thou, Kingsley Farrington and Royal Pyle, take this woman for your wedded wife?" Neither groom supposed this double marriage had any meaning in law, but both answered: "I will." The question was put in the same form to Kate, who also answered: "I will." Then the parson pronounced the triad men and wife. "Come," said the Englishman in a disappointed tone, "I supposed you would marry one of us." "I have married both." "Not legally." "Yes, legally. I consulted my father as to that, and he says a person may marry simultaneously as many people as he or she likes, except in a territory under United States law, where there is a special act against it. Papa says that the laws reads, 'If any person being married shall hereafter marry, each offense shall be a felony,' but this is after once being married." The blanks looked at each other with a blank stare. "But since you seem fettered by so much legal erudition in your wife we'll leave it for papa to decide. He'll be home this evening. Till then goodbye, my dear husbands." Well, the upshot of it all was that the marriage was annulled and Kate married the man who had performed the ceremony. FRANK P. CHENEY.

Let's Talk It Over, Anyhow.

A friend from a western town writes: "We can trace at least a thousand increase of population the past year from the fact that the fifty-four members of our Commercial Club about a year ago all agreed to have printed on the back of their business letterheads a description of the town, its location, climate, natural advantages, possibilities for business, etc. Thus every letter they wrote was an advertisement for the town. The town booming matter was artistically printed, and the catch line being visible as the folded sheet was taken from the envelope, few persons failed to read it. Inquiries for more information came pouring in, and then the people came pouring in. Why don't you try to have your people do likewise?" Now that looks like a sensible proposition. Suppose fifty of our citizens should have their stationery printed with such matter on the back! Say they will average a thousand letters a year. That would be fifty thousand little booms for the town, going out to all quarters of the compass. One of these letters might strike the eye of just the right party and bring us a new factory, an educational institution, or even a good substantial family looking for a desirable home place. It is worth trying. We can get up the descriptive matter for you and do the printing. Why don't you start the ball?

LET'S TALK IT OVER, ANYHOW.

IN LOCAL MARKETS

Native Beef is Very Firm in Price

BUTTER PLENTY AND WEAK

Old Potatoes Take a Drop—Eggs Continue Steady at 18c—Dressed Pork 7 1/2 to 8c—Lamb 33 to 34c.

Barre, Vt., June 26, 1907. Native beef very firm, butter plenty, and prices weak. Old potatoes take a drop. We quote wholesale prices as follows: Dressed pork—7 1/2 to 8c. Fancy veals—3 1/2 to 4c. Yearling lambs—10 to 11c. Native beef—active at 6 1/2 to 7c. Fowls—fancy—17 to 18c. Butter, prices steady, dairy 24 to 25c. Creamery, 23 to 24c. Eggs, steady at 18c. Old potatoes lower, 53 to 55c. per bushel. Strawberries looking well but late in yielding.

IN BOSTON MARKETS. Butter Prices Advance—Increased Firmness in Eggs.

Boston, June 26.—The local market for dairy products is firmer all around. Receipts of butter continue large, and the demand is only fair, but under strong advices from outside centers prices have advanced about 1/2c. a pound. Butter outside markets also are responsible for slightly higher prices for cheese in this city. A lively demand and light supplies cause the increased firmness in eggs. Quotations follow: Butter—Creamery, extras, Vermont and New Hampshire 25c., northern 25c., western 24 1/2 to 25c., firsts, northern 23 to 24c., fair to good 21 to 22c.; dairy, fancy 23c., common to good 19 to 22c.; western imitation creamery 20 to 22c., western ladies 19 to 20c., packing stock 18 to 19c., renovated butter 20 to 21c., boxes and prints 19 to 21c. Cheese—New York twins, fancy 12 to 12 1/2c., fair to good 10 1/2 to 11 1/2c.; Vermont twins, fancy 11 1/2 to 12c., fair to good 10 1/4 to 11 1/4c. Eggs—Fancy henery 21 to 22c., eastern, fancy 19 to 20c., common to good 16 to 17c., western, fancy 18 1/2 to 19c., choice 13 1/2 to 15c., common to good 12c., fresh laid southern 15c., western dirties 12 1/2 to 13 1/2c.

DAMES AND DAUGHTERS.

Mrs. Calve delights in shows of wild Indians. In New York she went for a ride in the stagecoach on its way to be held up.

The infant heir to the throne of Spain is being cared for by English nurses. The head nurse is a Miss Evans and her assistant is Miss Alice Mary Bouting. Both are Roman Catholics.

Julia Ward Howe recently celebrated her eighty-eighth birthday and to show how spry she was entered the elevator at her home in Boston and ran the machine up and down three stories to accommodate a visitor.

Dr. Mary Stone, who is the head of an American hospital in Kinkiang, central China, lately returned to this country to be operated upon for appendicitis. She has recovered, is now in New York and will return to China in the fall.

Two New York society leaders, Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney and Mrs. Herman B. Duryea, formed a partnership at one time and went into horse racing, registering in the jockey club as "Mr. Rostra." Too much publicity and heavy expense, however, have combined to induce their retirement from the turf as owners.

The Duchess of Roxburgh, formerly Miss Goslet of New York, after spending about \$1,000,000 in the repair and adornment of Floss Castle, has leased an extravagant figure Lord Colerbrooke's London mansion, where she is expected to entertain lavishly. Her grace is earning a reputation as one of the most lavish money spenders of the Anglo-American aristocracy.

The oldest living human being of authentic record is Mrs. Mary Wood of Hillsboro, Ore., a few miles west of Portland. Mrs. Wood is 120 years old. She was born in Knoxville, Tenn., May 20, 1787, which the records of Knoxville still show. When she was sixty-five years old she rode the entire distance across the continent from her old home in Tennessee to her present home in Oregon.

THINGS THEATRICAL.

William Gillette, after a prosperous season in "Clarice," is now abroad. Margaret Anglin has arranged for a professional tour in Australia next season. It is possible that Olga Nethersole will add "The Doll's House" to her repertory next season.

Huntley Wright is to have a leading role in Charles Frohman's production of "The Dairy Maids." May Robson is to star in a dramatization of "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary," by Annie Warner.

Francis Wilson is in New Rochelle, N. Y., after a prosperous season in "The Mountain Climber." Charles Frohman is in London, conducting his English season and preparing for next season in America.

Maxine Elliott is to appear in the fall in London in a new play by H. V. Esmond, entitled "The Greenwood Tree."

Viola Tree is to have the role of Joan of Arc when Berthelm Tree produces Louis N. Parker's "Lady of France" in London.

"UNIONISM A NECESSITY."

Robert A. Woods the Speaker at Sagamore Beach.

Sagamore Beach, June 26.—The principal speaker at the Sociological conference here this week was Robert A. Woods of the South End House, Boston. Mr. Woods reviewed the social progress of the last twenty-five years. He said in part: "Twenty-five years ago American city government was our burning national disgrace. Up to that time no systematic effort toward improvement had been made. Since then gains have been won which afford the greatest encouragement as to a not distant occasion in a quality for city government which will in fair degrees come up to the best standards of municipal administration in Europe. There have been two stages in municipal reform, the first and impulsive, spasmodic sort, designed merely to 'get the rascals out' and to improve the technical administration of the city offices; the second, and vastly more promising, fixing its attention rather upon reforming and modernizing the aims of municipal administration and bringing it into concrete and explicit contact with the human needs of all classes of citizens. This second type of municipal reform is accompanied, and to a large extent has been caused, by a quiet but extremely vital and well-nigh universal movement for local social betterment through the means of churches, neighborhood guilds of various sorts, district improvement societies and many other forms of philanthropic and reform organizations covering larger towns and cities in their scope. The whole tendency of things has been deeply stimulated and made general by the amazing economic growth of the country since 1880. Successful beyond all possibilities of foresight on its productive side, this economic development contains the gravest dangers to the nation as a whole and to every individual in it on the distributive side. The highly intensified concentration of the power of capital has gradually brought the average citizen into an economic position which in many respects is simply that of the wage earner receiving his income wholly at the hands of another and putting out his income with extremely little option as to the price which he shall pay. This development has brought about a highly complicated system of organized labor, which has its abuses, but which is absolutely essential to the maintenance of the standard of life of the working man and his family, and, therefore, essential to our national political and moral welfare. These developments have in spite of many cross currents led strongly in the direction of that social unity which is essential to the success and progress of Democracy. Meanwhile we have with customary American daring been willing to face not only all the problems of Democracy, but all the problems of cosmopolitanism besides. The greatest of all the historic migrations of the peoples has taken place during the past twenty-five years, and we socially and nationally are to work upon the results of that migration. Marvellous for rapidity and thoroughness is the process of cosmopolitanism in this country. The child of the immigrant, but far-reaching also is the tendency by which the immigrant assimilates the country to himself. A wholly new type of American is in the making. A hopeful fact in this confusing situation is that in fundamental respects that new type will be a single type. The moral challenge involved in all the complexities of this truly reconstruction era comes back at last with a penetrating personal force, not merely to men engaged in any formal ministry, not to men in the public service, and not merely to the state of individual life which has to do with church membership or with citizenship. Men in all walks of life are learning to see the meaning of their occupations in social service, are deciding that private office quite as well as public office is a public trust.

TO PREVENT GERRY-MANDEY IN OKLAHOMA. The President Directs That a Special Census Be Taken.

To prevent a gerrymander of the proposed new state of Oklahoma by the Democratic President Roosevelt has directed that a federal census of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory be taken this summer.

DENY FUNSTON'S CHARGE IN FRISCO.

Say U. S. Soldiers Would Not Be Injured if Allowed to Parade in City.

San Francisco, June 26.—The Fourth of July committee has drafted a scorching reply to Gen. Fred Funston, in which it flatly denies the latter's intimation that United States troops would not be

GREAT GAIN IN SURPLUS

It Has Reached a Total of \$82,052,317

LAST YEAR AT SAME TIME

It Was Only \$17,544,443—The President Orders a Census of Oklahoma—Holmes Prosecution Closes.

Washington, June 26.—The treasury surplus for the year has reached \$81,052,317. At this time last year it was \$17,544,443. The receipts for the current fiscal year have already aggregated \$848,786,026, and five more business days remain before the accounts for the present year will be closed. The expenditures this year to date were \$567,733,709. The receipts for yesterday were \$3,065,816, and the expenditures aggregated \$1,370,000, leaving a surplus for the day of \$1,695,816.

TO PREVENT GERRY-MANDEY IN OKLAHOMA. The President Directs That a Special Census Be Taken.

To prevent a gerrymander of the proposed new state of Oklahoma by the Democratic President Roosevelt has directed that a federal census of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory be taken this summer.

DENY FUNSTON'S CHARGE IN FRISCO.

Say U. S. Soldiers Would Not Be Injured if Allowed to Parade in City.

San Francisco, June 26.—The Fourth of July committee has drafted a scorching reply to Gen. Fred Funston, in which it flatly denies the latter's intimation that United States troops would not be



FREDERICK FUNSTON.

safe from insult in the streets of San Francisco. His offer of troops is declined because the idea of a parade has been abandoned.

The reply covered both the original letter from Gen. Funston, and a later communication in which the general offered troops for a parade on July 4 with a statement that it was "up to the people of San Francisco to deal with any disorder that may occur."

PEN AND BRUSH.

Heard Marlin, an American painter, has been awarded the medal of honor by the Paris salon. He exhibited two landscapes.

Sir Laurence Alma-Tadema, R. A., was lauded for the law, and his parents so disliked the idea of his studying art that he was obliged to rise early in the morning in order to paint.

Captain Merritt is said to have written so had a hand that the printers when setting up his copy had to mark the spot where they left off with a pin, so that they might be able to tell where to begin again.

Israel Zangwill and George Bernard Shaw are considered the most businesslike of authors, and they give editors as much trouble as if they were great capitalists placing their thousands to grow millions. While one has what is called a "fantastic ideal" and the other is the sworn enemy of cant, each is capable of driving a hard bargain.

State Lines.

Florida has passed a law prohibiting diving for sponges, as the beds are injured thereby.

South Carolina was the first and only state to refuse to enact divorce laws; also the first and only state to engage directly in the sale of liquor.

Rhode Island, which has 400 persons to the square mile, is the most densely populated state in the Union. There are only seven other states with more than 100 to the square mile. Rhode Island leads not only in density of population, but in increase in density.

The Alternative. Suburban How do unexpected supper guests—Now, then, Miss Hobson, will you have a little of this rabbit pie or—er—(looking around and discovering there is no other dish)—or not—London Tatler.

The BOSS Name. The name "Boss" wherever you find it stamped on the end of a package of crackers stands for everything that is best in cracker making and baking. Boss Crackers cost more to make than any other crackers sold anywhere in America at the same price. Ask for the "Boss" Sold by most Grocers. Save the coupons for the children.

The Scrap Book

The Ways of Congressmen. It was at a banquet in Washington given to a large body of congressmen, mostly from the rural districts. The tables were elegant, and it was a scene of fairy splendor, so to speak; but on one table there were no decorations but palm leaves.

"Here," said a congressman to the head waiter, "why don't you put them things on our tables, too?" pointing to the plants.

"We can't do it, boss," he whispered confidentially; "they're mostly congressmen at all the tables 'ceptin' that one, an' if we put palms on dere tables dey take um for celery an' eat um all up sho. 'Deed dey would, boss. We knows 'em."

MORTALITY. Ashes to ashes, dust to dust! What of his loving? What of his lust? What of his passion? What of his pain? What of his poverty? What of his pride? Earth, the great mother, has called him again.

Deeply he sleeps, the world's verdict defied. Shall he be tried again? Shall he go free? Who shall the court convene? Where shall it be?

No answer on the land, none from the sea! Only we know that as he died we must—You with your theory, you with your trust. Ashes to ashes, dust unto dust! —Paul Laurence Dunbar.

College Days. There was once a Yale sophomore who found himself in financial straits and pawned all his good clothes. A little before Thanksgiving he got a big check from home.

When he got home for the holidays the first thing his mother took out of the trunk was an overcoat, and on it was pinned the pawnbroker's ticket he had forgotten to remove.

Hastily grabbing the ticket, he said: "Hello! They must have forgotten to take this off at the Smith dance when I left it in the cloakroom."

A moment later his mother took out his evening trousers. They also had a ticket on them. "Why, Reginald," she said, "surely you didn't leave these in the cloakroom, too, did you?"—Lippincott's.

He Won the Pie.

When Barham, the author of "The Ingoldsby Legends," was a boy at Canterbury, he, in company with a juvenile companion, entered a Quakers' meeting house, and looking around at the grave assemblage, held up a penny tart and said solemnly, "Whoever speaks first shall have this pie."

"Go thy way," said a drab colored gentleman, rising, "go thy way and—" "The pie's yours, sir," exclaimed Barham, and, hastily dropping it before the speaker, made his escape.

"Would you please repeat your order, sir?" "I said very distinctly, two eggs, one fried on one side and one on the other."

Oppressive silence, and then a dazed "Very well, sir." This time he was gone longer, and when he returned he said anxiously: "Would it be awfully too much, sir, to have you repeat your order, sir? I can't think I 'ave it right, sir, y' know."

"Two eggs," said the American sady and patiently, "one fried on one side and one on the other."

More oppressive silence and another fainter "Very well, sir." This time he was gone still longer. When he returned his collar was unbuttoned, his hair disheveled and his face scratched and bleeding. Leaning over the waiting patron, he asked beseechingly: "Would you mind tyking bottled heggs, sir? I've 'ad some words with the cook."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Kissing the Girls. Senator Vance once stumped North Carolina in joint debate with Judge Settle, the Republican candidate for the governorship. All the white Democrats turned out to hear Vance, and the colored Republicans to hear Settle.

At the conclusion of the speaking day, Vance was told that a number of young women had expressed a desire to kiss the Democratic candidate.

He stepped down from the platform and kissed a dozen or so of the pretty

BAKER EXTRACT COMPANY



Baker's Extracts

COMPLY WITH ALL FOOD LAWS. Always have and always will. But desire for profit is a human weakness, and dealers frequently substitute a compound extract on which the profit is greater, unless you specify Baker's and insist upon it.