

THE STORY OF A FARMER'S SUIT

Got What He Ordered, but It
Was After Many Tribulations.

AGREEMENT NOT LIVED UP TO

Mail Order House's Agent Promised
Time to Pay, but His Principals
Turned Over Note to Bank For Col-
lection—Money Saved in Buying
Goods Made Up in Other Respects.

Writing to the Rural New Yorker,
the well known agricultural paper, a
correspondent says:

"Last October a man, accompanied
by an acquaintance, whom I knew and
honored as a man of excellent judg-
ment and reputation, called at our
home to interest us in the — Mer-
chandise company. He was not try-
ing to sell anything. Oh, no, indeed!
He was just explaining and illus-
trating the methods of this great
mail order house—for instance, its
method of advertising. It was giving
a few—only a few, mind you—of the
best and most reliable families in each
town opportunities to obtain high
grade tailor made suits at low prices
thus. The agent carried with him
several pieces of the suitings (which
he at this point made haste to produce
and unroll), so that one could examine
the quality and choose the color de-
sired, but should any one wish a differ-
ent color or style than the agent had
with him it could be obtained in the
same quality at its branch store in a
neighboring city.

"Each family must order at least
two suits or one suit and one outside
garment. The material for the two
suits cost \$22.50. The linings were to
be obtained from the company and
were in different grades, the best
throughout for a suit costing \$3.50.
The company agreed to take measure-
ments, make suits according to any
style desired, guaranteeing them to fit,
and express them to the customer free
of charge. This it claimed to do in
order to induce people to do other buy-
ing from the mail order house. The
agent carried with him many of the
most popular styles of the town to
show, and the mere fact that he
was accompanied by a man of such
honored reputation throughout the
whole town was in itself an induc-
ement to this. I accompanied him
that this was in no way an inno-
cent representation.

"The wife and I were certainly in
need of suits, but had decided to wait
until spring, as I had recently been
obliged to expend all my ready money
for other purposes. I said as much to
the agent, only to be met with an
avalanche of reasons why I should in-
vest. He said repeatedly that he did
not ask for one cent for two months
after the order was given and then
required only a per cent interest on
the money until I found it convenient
to pay it. We were called upon to
note the quality of the goods, which I
will say was all that could be desired.
The agent declared that if I found a
thread of cotton in any of the goods he
would present me with a suit free of
charge.

"Well, the upshot of the matter was
that he persuaded me to give him an
order for a suit for my wife and one
for myself. I was not just suited with
the pattern I had chosen, so on my
next visit to the city I went to the
store to exchange as per agreement.
There I found many pieces of shoddy
goods, and, though I had no idea of
taking up with the agent's offer of a
free suit, I mentioned his promise to
the clerk. His 'crawl' out was that
it was linen, not cotton, which I de-
tected in the 'all wool' goods. How-
ever, by steadily refusing to accept
any but A No. 1 goods I was finally
taken to the back of the store and
shown some goods that were really all

our measurements taken.
"When the suits arrived, which was
some time before the two months from
the time of ordering was up, we found
them to be sent C. O. D., but not sub-
ject to examination. We were obliged
to pay the amount due for linings be-
fore we could examine the suits. We
did this protestingly and found our
suits satisfactory, except that the wife's
does not fit quite properly and will
have to be slightly altered. This, I
have no doubt will be done, but this
locality has been left quite unexpect-
edly to several people, including the
dressmaker who had done the altering
on other suits. She was paid in full
for her work, however.

"At the end of the two months I re-
ceived a communication from a Chi-
cago bank, saying that it had bought
my note (so unwittingly given) of Oc-
tober to the — Merchandise com-
pany and could not extend the time
of payment. I mentally kicked myself
good and plenty, borrowed the money
and paid the first—and I think I may
safely add the last—of my debts to the
company. Our suits, which, by a
slight discount, cost us \$17.50, seem to
be as good as those retailed at \$25 in
local stores, but the inconvenience of
paying for them at the time when we
had to and the loss of self respect
through dealing with such a firm more
than balance what we saved in money."

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Market Quotations.

SUGAR—Cash price—Sugar, \$6.75;
best sugar \$6.25.

VEGETABLES—Dry onions, 3c;
paranips, 2 1-2c; spinach, 3 lb for 25c;
fresh peas, 15c; asparagus, 3 lb for
25c; rubarb, 5c; celery, 10c a bunch;
hot house lettuce, 2 bunches for 15c;
head lettuce, 10c; radishes, 3 bunches
for 10c; green onions, 5c a bunch;
fresh Florida tomatoes, 10c; new po-
tatoes, 3 lb for 25c.

FRUIT—Oranges, 40c doz; lemons,
35c; bananas, 40c; strawberries, 15c
per box; cherries 2 lbs for 25c; goose-
berries, 2 qts. for 25c.

MEATS—Hogs, live weight, well
finished, \$10 cwt; cows, 3 1-2 to 4c;
veal 4 to 4 1-2c; mutton, 5 1-2; chick-
ens 13c.

Portland Markets
BUTTER—Extra Creamery, 23c;
store 23@23 1/2.

BUTTER FAT—Deliver f. o. b. at
Portland, sw, cream 27 1-2; sour 25 1-2
EGGS—Local, candled, 26 @ 27.

POULTRY—Mixed chickens, 19c;
fancy hens, 19c; @ 20c; turkeys, alive
20 @ 21c; dressed, 27 @ 28 c; pigeons
squabs, \$2.50; dressed chickens, 1 to
2c higher than alive.

BARLEY—Producers price, 1909—
Feed, \$23; rolled, \$25; brewing, \$24.

WHEAT—Nominal — track, club,
80 @ 81c; bluestem, 82 @ 83c; William
76c, bluestem, 81 @ 82; William
MILLSTUFFS—Selling price—Bran
\$19.50 @ \$20; middlings, \$23.80; shorts,
21 @ \$21.50; chop, \$19 @ \$23.

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ing in the month at the I. O. O. F.
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A. F. & A. M.
La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. &
A. M. holds regular meetings first and
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JOHN C. HODGINS, W. M.
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B. P. O. E.
La Grande Lodge No. 433 meets
each Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in
Elk's club corner of Depot street and
Washington Avenue. Visiting brothers
are cordially invited to attend.

DR. G. L. BIGGERS, Ex. Ruler.
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La Grande Lodge No. 16 meets in
their hall every Saturday night. Vis-
iting brothers cordially invited to at-
tend.

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