

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The National Livestock association is in session at Denver.

Mark Twain is much improved and will be able to be out shortly.

Japanese cruisers await the Russian fleet in the Indian ocean off Borneo.

Seven more vessels have arrived at the Suez canal on the way to join the Baltic squadron.

Sixteen degrees below zero has been recorded on the Great lakes and in the Mississippi valley.

Russia intends to be better prepared for a siege against Vladivostok than she was at Port Arthur.

While removing mines in Port Arthur harbor, one was accidentally discharged, killing 20 Japanese.

T. C. Powell, of Portland, has been appointed United States marshal at Nome, Alaska, by the president.

Russian troops are losing confidence in Kuropatkin. There is constant bickering among the officers at the Manchurian headquarters.

President Roosevelt will call an extra session of congress to revise the tariff and calls on congress to pass railroad rate law and navy appropriation bill.

Edward Wallace Hock is now governor of Kansas.

A great socialist conspiracy has been discovered in Russia.

Charles S. Deneen has been inaugurated governor of Illinois.

Witte is to succeed Mirsky as minister of the interior in Russia.

The president urges improvement of the army medical and ordnance service.

The oath of office has been administered to Governor Douglas, of Massachusetts.

Governor Peabody announces that he will contest the Colorado election and unseat Adams if possible.

General Stoenes says he was led to believe by Chinese spies that General Kuropatkin was marching south to relieve him. He knew nothing about the retreat from Liao Yang until after his surrender.

W. J. Bryan attended the inauguration of Governor Folk, of Missouri. On invitation he addressed the legislature and advocated municipal ownership of public institutions. He declared that if Roosevelt is in earnest in his desire to curb the power of railroads he will lead a strenuous life during the next four years.

Russia plans to spend \$200,000,000 on rebuilding her navy.

Missouri may appropriate \$200,000 to the Lewis and Clark fair.

The Colorado legislature has declared Adams elected governor, but Peabody may contest.

Committees of Atlantic steamship lines and railroads met to take steps against the rigid inspection of immigrants by the government, which they say drives business from American to Canadian steamer lines.

Andrew Carnegie has intimated to the officials of the Franklin institute, of New York, that if they can secure the Franklin fund amounting to \$185,000, he will duplicate the amount, as he did in the case of Franklin union, of Boston.

All the railroads entering in Chicago will apply to the United States district court January 17 for a permanent injunction restraining all local brokers from dealing in any form of non-transferable transportation. The scalpers propose to appeal to the United States supreme court.

The beef trust case is before the supreme court.

Russian revolutionists predict an early outbreak.

Several severe engagements have occurred near Mukden.

Russia's Third Pacific squadron will be ready to sail February 14.

The movements of the Second Pacific Russian squadron are still undecided.

The Nebraska supreme court has declared the sugar bounty law unconstitutional.

One man was killed and half a dozen persons seriously injured in a rear-end collision in which three trains crashed together on an elevated road in New York.

A million dollars in gold has been engaged in San Francisco for shipment to Japan.

The North sea inquiry commission has adjourned until February. When it reconvenes Russia promises to have some sensational testimony to offer.

Fire damaged the cotton mill of the Edwards Manufacturing company at Augusta, Me., to the amount of \$75,000. Firemen had to fight not only the flames but a temperature of 32 degrees below zero.

The Japanese found 48,000 prisoners in Port Arthur, of whom one-third are sick.

The czar has decided to send 200,000 more troops to Manchuria.

The flagship of the Baltic squadron is reported to have struck a rock and sunk.

The czar's decision to continue the war causes great indignation and brings a revolution near.

The interstate commerce committee of the senate is working on a bill to regulate freight rates.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Wednesday, Jan. 4.

Upon reconvening today after the holiday recess, the senate plunged directly into the consideration of the bill for the admission of two states to be composed of Arizona and New Mexico and Oklahoma and Indian territory.

Heyburn introduced a bill for the regulation of corporations, which was referred to the committee on judiciary.

Senator Newlands introduced a joint resolution providing for a commission to frame and report to congress a national incorporation act for the construction and consolidation of railroads employed in interstate commerce.

In the house Representative Mann introduced a bill to abolish the isthmian canal commission and providing that the powers now invested in the president be extended until the end of the fifty-ninth congress.

Thursday, Jan. 5.

The joint statehood bill again occupied the major portion of the day in the senate.

Senator Bard introduced two bills intended to clear away obstacles that threaten to interfere with the construction of the Klamath reserve irrigation project in Southern Oregon and Northern California.

Senator Bailey submitted a proposed amendment to the constitution fixing the term of office of the president at six years and making him ineligible for reelection.

The house committee on fortifications reported the fortifications bill, carrying \$6,747,893, which is \$770,299 less than appropriated last session. Representative Adams, of Pennsylvania, introduced a bill providing for the establishment in the District of Columbia of a whipping post for wife-beaters.

Friday, Jan. 6.

Arbitration treaties between the United States and seven foreign countries were made public today by order of the senate. The countries making the conventions are: Great Britain, Portugal, France, Switzerland, Germany, Italy and Spain.

The nomination of W. B. Cram, a negro, to be collector of customs for the port of Charleston, S. C., was confirmed by his senate.

The house passed the fortifications bill.

Both houses adjourned until Monday.

Monday, January 9.

After the passage of the omnibus bill and a few minor measures and the fixing of January 28 for the delivery of addresses in memory of the late Senator Hoar, the senate devoted its time to the statehood bill. At 4:23 the senate adjourned.

The house spent the day in discussing minor matters and at 4:23 adjourned until tomorrow.

Tuesday, January 10.

The senate today continued consideration of the joint statehood bill, the chief accomplishment being the acceptance of most of the amendments suggested by the committee on Indian affairs.

Senator Cullom reported the legislative, judicial and executive appropriation bill as amended by the senate committee on appropriations. The total carried is \$29,192,962, a net increase of \$434,772 over the amount appropriated by the bill as passed by the house.

The session of the house was given over almost entirely to discussion of the bill on banking and currency "to improve currency conditions."

The impeachment charges on which Judge Charles Swaine will be tried were presented just before adjournment and notice given that on Thursday they would be called up for action in the house.

NOTHING FOR RIVERS.

Small Chance of Congress Passing a Bill at This Session.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Members of congress interested in securing river and harbor legislation are becoming uneasy over the repeated warnings of Speaker Cannon and other Republican leaders that the strictest economy must be observed from now until adjournment. While talk of this sort is always in evidence at the beginning of each session, there is more seriousness in the tones of the speaker and party leaders than usual, and the fear is spreading that they mean what they say.

Asks Fee of \$200,000.

Newark, N. J., Jan. 7.—A fee of \$200,000 for James Smith, Jr., for acting as receiver for the United States Shipbuilding company was asked of Judge Lansing in the United States District court here today. Counsel for the Sheldon reorganization committee opposed the application, and said that the sum demanded was exorbitant. He said all the money Mr. Smith had held in the receivership was not more than \$1,125,000. The credit for the reorganization of the company, he said, is due to the reorganization committee.

Fix Maximum Freight Rates.

St. Paul, Jan. 6.—John A. Johnson was inaugurated governor of Minnesota yesterday. In his message he referred to railway legislation as one of the greatest problems of modern times, especially as to railway freight rates. He said there was much more unjust discrimination in railway freight rates in Minnesota than across the border in Canada. The governor said he thought the remedy lay in a maximum freight rate that would be fair to the shipper and the transportation company alike.

New Russian War Loan.

Berlin, Jan. 7.—The prospect of the new Russian loan of \$100,000,000 will be issued tomorrow. Subscription lists will be opened in Germany, Russia and Holland January 12. The price of the issue in Germany will be 95. The bankers' syndicate has paid into the Russian treasury 90%. These terms are considered here very favorable for Russia, inasmuch as the holders can demand redemption at par after six years.

Another New Russian Loan.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 7.—Official announcement of the issue of a new loan is published here for the first time.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

LEGISLATURE MEETS.

Oregon Lawmakers Now in Session at Salem.

Salem, Jan. 10.—The senate was called to order by Brownell, of Clackamas, who was president of the senate at the session of 1903. He was made temporary president and a committee on credentials appointed. The senate then adjourned until 2 p. m.

At the afternoon session the committee on credentials reported, and the new members were sworn in. A motion that the senate proceed to elect a president was carried. Kuykendall, Miller and Carter were nominated. On the first ballot the vote stood Kuykendall 14, Carter 9, Miller 4, Pierce 1, blank 2. The vote remained practically the same for 39 ballots, when at 4:30, the senate adjourned until 7:30.

In the evening 16 ballots were taken with no change except as the Democrats shifted their votes from one to another. Adjournment was taken until 10 o'clock Tuesday morning.

The house is organized and ready for business. Mills, of Multnomah was elected speaker over Kay of Marion, the ballot standing 26 to 24.

Salem, Jan. 10.—Nine ballots were taken in the senate for president this morning without material change. At 11:30 adjournment was taken until 2 p. m. Negotiations were commenced by the opposing factions looking toward a final settlement, and at 3 o'clock adjournment was taken until 4 o'clock. At that time negotiations were not complete and a further recess was taken until 5.

At that hour the senators took their seats and the first roll call gave Kuykendall the entire Republican vote, electing him. Adjournment was then taken and the Republicans went into caucus to select clerks.

The house was called to order by Chief Clerk Thompson, Speaker Mills being absent. Bailey of Multnomah was elected speaker pro tem. The usual resolutions for supplies of stamps, codes and inspection of state offices and institutions, for printing the calendar and for obtaining newspapers were offered.

Fifty bills were introduced and read the first time. They will be referred after Speaker Mills shall have announced the committees.

Among the bills introduced were: To cede Klamath lake lands to the United States; to create Jefferson county from parts of Crook and Wasco counties; fixing salaries of state officers, and a large number amending town charters.

Help Pilot Rock Country.

Pendleton—"The farmers and people, with a few exceptions, are much pleased over the prospect of a railroad out through Pilot Rock," said Theodore Beene, a farmer residing five miles from Pilot Rock. "Of course there are a few moskashos who can not become reconciled to the disappearance of the crude methods of 50 years ago, and wish the county to stand still. A few of the merchants oppose the road, saying: trade will all go to Pendleton. Other towns on railroads live, and I can not see why our little town will not thrive as well as they."

New Phone Line in Field.

Silverton—An independent telephone company has been formed to connect Silverton with the adjoining towns. P. L. Brown is the company's local representative. The old company is working hard to keep the new one from getting a start, but more than 20 phones have already been subscribed for in Silverton. Many advantages are claimed by the new company, among which are large exchanges and free service between towns. The new company will be known as the Interurban Telephone company.

New Town of Three Pines.

Grants Pass—A new town, known as Three Pines, has been established in Josephine county. It is located 15 miles north of Grants Pass, on the Southern Pacific. Streets and lots are now being surveyed, and the new place, which will be the trading place for the Jump-off-Joe mining district and the timber belt of that section, promises to become a thriving little burg. It is a picturesque spot, near the foot of Mount Sexton. The place will also be made into a mountain resort.

Will Buy a Fair Site.

Pendleton—The Pendleton Fair association was formally organized at a meeting of representative farmers and stockmen of the city and county. It has decided to purchase a tract of 50 acres located immediately south of the city, the price to be paid for the property being \$7,000. The directors are planning to build a fair building, erect buildings to be used for the purpose of exhibiting the products of the county. It will be their plan to hold regular county fairs every fall.

Tillamook at Exposition.

Tillamook—There was a public meeting at the opera house a few days ago to take into consideration the matter of an exhibit at the Lewis and Clark exposition, and to ask the county court to appropriate \$2,000 toward the expense. County Judge W. W. Conder presided. The sentiment of the meeting was in favor of a county exhibit, and the motion to ask for \$2,000 carried. Judge Conder was authorized to appoint a committee to take charge.

Ask for Better Roads.

Eugene—Farmers in the vicinity of Lorraine have come here with a petition signed by almost everybody in that section of the county asking for extensive improvements on the public road between Lorraine and Cottage Grove. They had a hearing before the county court and it is probable an appropriation will be made for the purpose.

New Courthouse for Tillamook.

Tillamook—The tax levy for Tillamook county was made by the county court, it being placed at 27 mills. The court decided to erect a new courthouse to take the place of the one burned down about 12 months ago.

MORE CONTROL OVER ROADS.

Purpose of Law Proposed by Various County Courts of State.

Oregon City—"The Clackamas county court, through the legislative delegation from this county, will seek to have enacted at the present session of the legislature laws that will prove of material aid to the various county courts of the state in the building and repairing of roads," remarked County Judge Ryan.

"I have great faith in the eminent domain theory which is being inducted by the different counties of the state," continued the Clackamas county judge. "The enacting of such a law will give to the county court of each county the right to condemn property for the establishment of a new road, or the appropriation of additional property for the improvement of roads already established, the rights conferred being identical to those already enjoyed by railroad corporations." It is also the purpose of the Clackamas county court to have passed a law regulating the use of which all roads shall be placed in the matter of heavy traffic, and still another measure that will place some restrictions as to the use of automobiles on the public highways.

Soon Open for Entry.

Grants Pass—News has been received here that the timber land in Southern Oregon and Northern California which the department of forestry announced several weeks ago would be thrown open for entry, is to be advertised at once. At the expiration of 90 days from the time the advertising begins the lands will be ready for entry. The sections involved cover a large area of fine sugar and yellow pine timber in Josephine county and parts of the surrounding counties, as well as sections in Del Norte and Siskiyou counties, California. In a portion of the tract in Curry county is considerable redwood, the only redwood in Oregon, and the giant trees compare very favorably with the famous "big trees" of California. The forest is valuable, and the timber, however, for the great amount of yellow and sugar pine that it contains.

Douglas Men Demand Good Roads.

Roseburg—A delegation of representative men from a majority of the road districts in Douglas county called upon the county court in a body and presented their petition and resolutions asking that the court take the necessary steps to provide this county with three sets of modern roadbuilding machinery, including that number of rock crushers, rollers, engines, etc. Enthusiastic good roads arguments were presented, and the matter was then taken under advisement by the court. It is believed, however, that the court will act favorably upon the matter, and that a large amount of good road building will be done in this county this year.

Prizes for Fair Exhibits.

Oregon City—At a regular meeting the committee having in charge the exhibit from this county that is to be shown at the Lewis and Clark fair at Portland in 1905 adopted a schedule by which will be distributed to the producers of Clackamas county the sum of \$150 for the best samples of agricultural and other products of which the exhibit will be composed. Three prizes are offered for each sample, ranging from \$5 for first prize to \$1 for the third. The contest is to conclude April 13.

Gets Lower Rates.

Dallas—A promise from the board of underwriters at San Francisco that it will immediately make a new rating for Dallas patrons, and allow rebates on the old premiums dating from the acceptance of the new city water works last June, has caused the Dallas county to suspend for two weeks its purpose of charging all insurance companies doing business here a license fee. The license ordinance resulted from a failure of the committee to make a reduction in the premium on the new water works should be completed.

Surveying Ended for Season.

Pendleton—The last surveying party, which has been making further tests in the Echo irrigation project during the past year, suspended work January 1 and came in. This ends the work this season. Engineer John T. Whistler says work may be resumed again in the spring. The party which has been conducting the drilling in the Malheur project has been transferred to the Washtena district and is making tests of the reservoir sites.

To Freeze Rogue River Fish.

Astoria—The schooner Chetco has gone to Rogue river fitted with a cold storage plant of a capacity of 225 tons, to collect Chinook salmon for German shipment for delivery frozen. This is the first of a fleet being equipped by Captain E. B. Burns and a Seattle company, and the first time fish frozen on leaving water will be delivered fresh to European breakfast tables.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 85c; bluestem, 88c; valley, 87c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.32 1/2 @ 2.35; gray, 25c; 1.40 per cent.

Hay—Timothy, \$14 @ 16 per ton; clover, \$11 @ 12; grain, \$11 @ 12; chest, \$12 @ 18.

Potatoes—Oregon fancy, 75 @ 85c; common, 60 @ 65c.

Apples—Baldwins, \$1.25; Spitzenbergs, \$1.75 @ 2 per box.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 27 1/2 @ 28 1/2; Butter—Basky creamery, \$15 @ 27 1/2.

Hops—Choice, 29 @ 30c; prime, 27 @ 28c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 19 @ 20c; Eastern Oregon, 10 @ 17c; mohair, 25 @ 26c per pound.

By Order of the Czar

A Story of Russian Power

By MARCUS EASTLAKE

CHAPTER XIII.

I look round me and shiver. The solid masonry of the walls is oozing with damp, which envelops me, enters my lungs, and literally permeates my being. Drowning my spirits, lowering my vitality and extinguishing hope in my breast.

A warden brings me my allowance of bread and a jug of water. He informs me that I can have tea if I choose to pay for it, and shrugs his shoulders when I tell him that I have no money. On lighting my lamp he leaves me.

After a while I stretch myself on the bed, where I lie staring at the light. I begin to raise it, a straight, strong, muscular man, with the sweat of anguish pouring from my body. And thus the night wears away—the ghastly, fevered night, whose hours seem to lengthen out more and more as they crawl toward the pale dawn.

Today is little more than a wretched repetition of yesterday, only I feel it less. I have become apathetic. I have lost the mental energy to think strongly. For hours I sit on my cot and move not, or I stand at the grated window gazing vacantly at the river and the passing craft.

About midday the sky darkens and it begins to rain. It is a straight, steady, land-rain without wind, and the monotonous patter of the drops on the water comes to me, mingled with the creaking of the raft and the husky calls of the boatmen.

After my midday meal they take me to walk for a quarter of an hour in a court that is partly covered in, and again I shake off my apathy to observe the faces of the two gendarmes who pace each side of me. They are stolidly impersonal. My eyes dart now at an official, now at a passing warden, with a vague hope that the Cossack may throw himself in my way and give me a slight glimpse of sign. It is vain. And he is trading against the damp corridor and the gendarmes leave me in my cell.

The clock in the chapel tower of the prison tolls the hour of midnight. I begin to glance my eyes looking over the top of the trap in the door? Is that in very truth a hand holding something toward me? I stagger to my feet, staring with all my might. In two strides I am at the opening! I grasp hold, I am free! It is a life! A face is advanced so that I can see a long drooping mustache, as black as jet, and a pair of eyes, staring, staring, staring.

I clutch it, I hug it—the little instrument that is to give me liberty! The reaction from the deepest depths of despair to a sudden, full-blown hope, for a moment overpowers me. I sink on the edge of the bed and find relief in a succession of gasping sobs. Then I get mastery of my emotion, and rise with compressed lips, burning to commence work. First I deliberately put out the light, after which I mount the stool and work. Even when the dawn began to glimmer I dare to continue it, until every last screw is turned, and the bottom leaving only a thin, unfiled surface to the inside, so that a single thrust will cause the entire grating to give way.

I am examining my handiwork with comparative complacency for I have grown confident during my undisturbed labors, when the unexpected click of the opening trap makes my heart stand still with sudden dismay, whilst the sweet turn of my key, and the sound of the door, leaving only a thin, unfiled surface to the inside, so that a single thrust will cause the entire grating to give way.

"How much have you done?" he whispers. "Finished," I whisper in reply. "Good. Give me the file."

I hand it to him and he thrusts it into the breast of his uniform. "Again he and his brother, I have grown confident during my undisturbed labors, when the unexpected click of the opening trap makes my heart stand still with sudden dismay, whilst the sweet turn of my key, and the sound of the door, leaving only a thin, unfiled surface to the inside, so that a single thrust will cause the entire grating to give way.

"I go over to the bed, and fling myself on it with a sigh of supreme satisfaction. It is done—my task is finished. With a single thrust of my hand I can make for myself an outlet from this foul den to liberty. A few hours and I shall be free!"

It is the very longest day of my life! And when at last the shades begin to gather and my brow I have grown confident during my undisturbed labors, when the unexpected click of the opening trap makes my heart stand still with sudden dismay, whilst the sweet turn of my key, and the sound of the door, leaving only a thin, unfiled surface to the inside, so that a single thrust will cause the entire grating to give way.

"Ready?" he whispers. "Quite," I respond promptly. "You can swim?"

"Like fish." "Come then. You first; I follow. Straight across where Yerack awaits us."

I am on the stool preparing to thrust out the grating. "Toward you! Toward you! Pull the bars inside," whispers the Cossack. "It will make less noise. And by all the saints, the light!" he darts to the lamp and puts it out, and is standing below me ready to receive the grating from my hand.

Already I am drawing myself up to the stone edge. My head is through the aperture when—what was that? A familiar creak! The Cossack has me by the legs and is actually pulling me back! I hear him say: "The best creek under the door, unlocked it, and by the dim light that illuminates the corridor I see him seize some one by the arm, jerk that some one into the cell and lock the door again."

"Just in time! Just in time to help me." I hear him repeat, with a strange, wild, exultation in his voice. Then there is a short, fierce struggle in the dark. The best creek under the door, unlocked it, and by the dim light that illuminates the corridor I see him seize some one by the arm, jerk that some one into the cell and lock the door again.

"A cry of 'help!'"

His profile is between me and the horizon, so that his hooked nose and the bushy beard are marked out against the glowing light. Though they continue to converse together, I no longer gather the substance of their conversation, for I think of Maruscha, and how soon I may get a letter dispatched to her. I cannot help feeling a yearning anxiety about her. I have been spending myself that she is safe from interference until the inquiry subsequent to my trial in St. Petersburg should be instituted.

"Yerack," I say at length, "where are we at present? It is necessary that I get to a post town as soon as possible."

"We are about ten versts from Borlitch," replies Yerack, without looking around.

"I must send a letter from Borlitch," I say.

"Bah—nonsense!" exclaims Yerack, impatiently. "This is not a time to write letters! It is bad—bad—to send writing through the post! I believe not in the letter writing, it has lost many a man!"

"Yerack, when I tell thee that the safety of one to whom I owe my life is endangered through me and that the individual knows not of it, therefore without being able to escape it, thou wilt recognize that I cannot argue this point with thee."

The Cossack gives a dissatisfied grunt, but says no more about it. Presently he informs me that we pass through Borlitch on our way to Vilna. "Where thou wilt take train direct to Konigsberg," he adds quietly, as if it were the simplest thing in the world my passing the frontier.

"To Konigsberg?" I repeat in amazement. "Yes; that is the program. And thou wilt arrive safe and sound in the Prussian town without a single hindrance. The official that we pass through Borlitch on our way to Vilna. "Where thou wilt take train direct to Konigsberg," he adds quietly, as if it were the simplest thing in the world my passing the frontier.

"A long silence ensues. Kalatch's head disappears from the range of my vision, and one long look snores rise at intervals near me. Yerack slackens the pace of the horses to a steady trot, and thus we proceed until we come to a long bridge thrown over a stream. He pulls up at the side of the road, and says: "Come, rouse thee, Kalatch," he cries. "Get down and stand by the horses' heads."

Kalatch, still half asleep, stumbles over the edge of the cart, and mechanically does as he is told.

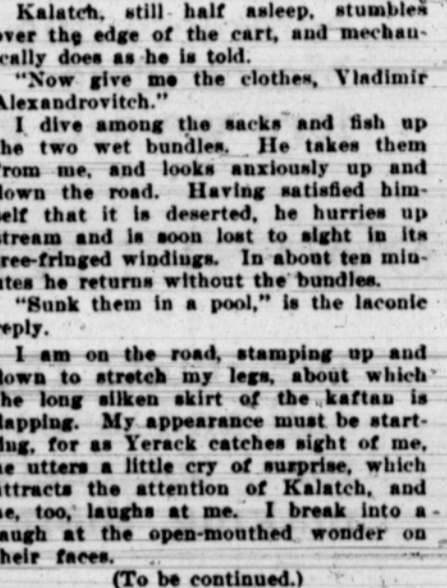
"Now, remove the clothes, Vladimir Alexandrovitch."

I dive among the sacks and fish up the two wet bundles. He takes them from me, and looks anxiously up and down the road. Having satisfied himself that it is deserted, he hurries up stream and is soon lost to sight in its tree-fringed windings. In about ten minutes he returns without the bundles.

"Stunk them in a pool," is the laconic reply.

I am on the road, stamping up and down to stretch my legs, about which the long silken skirt of the kattan is flapping. My appearance must be startling, for as Yerack catches sight of me he utters a little cry of surprise, which attracts the attention of Kalatch, and he, too, laughs at me. I break into a laugh at the open-mouthed wonder on their faces.

(To be continued.)



The Morrisons had a convulse the other day. It just happened, as the Morrison convulses often did, but every member of the family acknowledged that it gave him something to think about. Beatrice began it. She had not returned from an afternoon of calls.

"I'm going to bed," she declared. "I shall report in humiliation of spirit later, but I'm going to say it. I can't bear the Uptons. They are people who always put the best on top."

"Which means?" Dick inquired.

"Silk gowns over ragged skirts, lace curtains in the parlor and dirty tablecloth in the dining-room. I tried not to see things—really!"

Dick