

A BAPTISM OF BULLETS

Rebels Open Fire on the Palace at Havana.

NO SERIOUS DAMAGE WAS DONE

Unsuccessful Attempts Made to Rescue General Rivera and to Capture a Notorious Spy.

New York, Nov. 29.—On Sunday morning, for the first time in the history of the Cuban war, rebel bullets sought the palace in Havana, says a dispatch to the Herald from Havana. The shots came from Casa Blanca, 600 yards across the entrance to the harbor, and while no one was hurt, the palace, with its electric lights, was a shining mark, and must have been hit. The Spanish authorities attempt to make light of the affair, but at the same time a reporter for La Lucha who wrote up and attempted to publish the facts in the case, was put in prison.

The attack on Casa Blanca was made by Brigadier-General Cardenas and 50 rebels. They entered the town shortly before midnight on horseback, and at the end of an hour each man led out of town a horse with one extra head appropriated, laden with clothing, provisions, silver plate and money. Before they left they sent two volleys across the narrow harbor entrance at the palace, then only went to a friend's house inside the Spanish lines and took supper. All this was under the guns of Cabanas and Moro.

It is learned from an inside source that the object of the rebels was to release General Ruiz Rivera, and hang a citizen named Fumiro who is known as a spy. They failed in the first object only because of some misconception of the appointed time on the part of confederates within the prison with whom arrangements had been made to admit them into the fortress. Fumiro managed to escape across the harbor.

The whole affair was well planned. General Cardenas came in the early evening with two columns along the seashore, and at 10 o'clock the men followed. They first visited Cabanas. When they saw that the arrangement had failed, the rebels went after Fumiro. He fled across the harbor and the rebels did not dare to follow. Then the rebels went to Casa de los Frailes, the priest's house, where they took blankets, silver plate and money.

This house is close to Moro castle. The priest made a great outcry, but no soldiers came. Then the rebels sacked the store of Fumiro, securing some gold. They also looted other stores. Working as quietly as possible, they approached a cavalry outpost, securing several horses.

For two hours they enjoyed themselves, then rode to the harbor and fired two volleys at the palace. This aroused the Spaniards for the first time, but by the time troops turned out the rebels had gone. The authorities made every effort to suppress the details of this raid, though an official report admitted that six rebels entered the town.

The rebels approached and fired upon Mariana last night. There was great excitement. The volunteers were called out, and with the troops returned the rebel fire. The residents were panic-stricken and locked themselves in their houses. The rebels did not succeed in entering the town. The lines have been strengthened all about Havana.

Correspondence received from the east states that General Gomez is massing men near Sagua, and is preparing to march westward to strike a potent blow before congress meets. Unusual activity of the rebels is reported from all quarters. The Spaniards are also making preparations for action, but as yet each avoids the other. Where and in what manner the blow that is coming will fall cannot be predicted, but it is more surely coming than autonomy.

General J. M. Rodriguez, command-in-chief of the western provinces, is out in a manifesto stating that he will accept nothing but independence. He contrasts the treatment of Cuban prisoners with that of Spanish prisoners, and says only the Spaniards under arms are considered as enemies. He promises equal rights to other Spaniards if independence is gained.

General Blanco's general shake-up of the police force throughout the island is causing some excitement. The heads of departments of police were nearly all changed. Wherever fraud or undue cruelty was discovered drastic measures were taken. Secretary-General Congosto's knowledge and experience gained in America are of valuable assistance in this direction. Special reports from the Herald correspondents in various parts of the island state that the Spanish soldiers are as badly off as the pacificos and concentrados. In many places the troops have been forced by circumstances to beg from door to door. General Blanco is making every effort to relieve their condition, and to reform the hospital service.

Vienna, Nov. 29.—The unparalleled violence in the lower house of the reichsrath yesterday is about the only subject of conversation throughout Austria today. The German progressist party has published a note expressing regret at the outbreak, and disclaiming any responsibility for it.

Made a Clean Sweep.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—The three remaining buildings spared by fire, which devastated the little town of Willow Springs two months ago, were totally destroyed by fire last night, while the members of the fire department were at a dance. The comparative isolation of the buildings prevented the blaze from spreading, and what now remains of the town was saved. The loss is estimated at \$20,000. It is spread around among a number of small retailers.

THE AMERICAN NAVY.

Its Present Condition Summed Up by Secretary Long.

Washington, Nov. 29.—The report of the secretary of the navy was made public today. It shows that the present effective fighting force of the navy consists of four battle-ships of the first class, two battle-ships of the second class, two armored cruisers, sixteen cruisers, fifteen gunboats, six double-turreted monitors, one ram, one dynamite gunboat, one dispatch-boat, one transport steamer and five torpedo-boats. There are under construction five battle-ships of the first class, sixteen torpedo-boats and one submarine boat.

There are 64 other naval vessels, including those used as training, receiving and naval-reserve ships, tugs, disused single-turreted monitors, and some unserviceable craft.

There is, further, the auxiliary fleet. This consists, first, of more than 20 subsidized steamers, which comply with the requirements of the postal act of March 3, 1891, with regard to their adaptability to naval service, and to an armament of main and second batteries; second, of a very much greater number of large merchant marine steamers, which can be availed of at any time of need.

These auxiliaries, ranging from 2,000 to 12,000 tons, will, if occasion require, form a powerful fleet of ocean cruisers, capable of swift and formidable attack upon an enemy's commerce. Their great coal capacity will also enable them to remain a long time at sea in search of the whereabouts of hostile vessels.

The country is congratulated upon the results obtained in the rebuilding of the navy. While its ships are not as many—and it is not necessary they should be—as those of some other great powers, they are, class for class, in power, speed, workmanship and offensive and defensive qualities, the equal of vessels built anywhere else in the world.

Five additional battle-ships are under construction, which should be completed by the end of the year 1899. One gunboat and 17 torpedo-boats are also under construction.

The first cost of the gunboats was about \$250,000 each. That of the cruisers nearly \$2,000,000 each.

Bids for the torpedo-boats were from 16 firms, covering a variety of designs. The contracts of these 30-knot boats were awarded to the lowest bidders, as follows:

To Harlan & Hollingsworth, one 340-ton boat, at \$236,000; to Gas Engine & Power Company and Charles L. Seabury Co., consolidated, one 235-ton boat, at \$210,000; to Wolff & Zwicker iron works, one 247.5-ton boat, at \$214,500.

It is of interest to note the naval programmes of the principal foreign powers which show the great activity prevailing among them in the matter of naval construction.

NITROGLYCERINE EXPLOSION.

Nearly Wrecked an Entire Town in Indiana.

Andersonville, Ind., Nov. 29.—Chesterfield, Ind., was almost wiped off the map at an early hour this morning by an explosion of 80 quarts of nitro-glycerine in an oil field half a mile from town. James Gol's house, about 300 rods distant, was torn to pieces. The explosion tore a hole in the ground down to the water line. A three-ton engine was torn to fragments, and every animal in the neighborhood was killed instantly.

The little town of Chesterfield is a mass of ruins. Every house was moved from its foundation, and windows were shattered, doors smashed in, every light put out and the plastering shaken from the walls. Several people were shaken out of bed.

At Dalesville, two miles away, and at Yorktown, five miles distant, the damage was almost as great. Many people were injured, and it is miraculous that many were not killed. The shock was felt 15 miles away. The damage cannot be estimated.

Will Hasten Durrant's Execution.

San Francisco, Nov. 29.—Acting Attorney-General Carter has received word from Attorney-General Fitzgerald that he will advise Warden Hale to carry out the execution of Durrant, regardless of any legal proceedings that may be instituted by Durrant's attorneys, after the present legal quibble has been decided. Durrant will be sentenced as soon as the controversy now pending is settled, after which the attorney-general of the state believes no legal step can accomplish further delay in the proposed execution of the prisoner.

Marshal Blanco's Assurance.

Madrid Nov. 29.—Marshal Blanco has cabled to the cabinet an assurance that he will be the arbitrator in connection with the customs tariff, and that the interests of the peninsula shall not suffer thereby.

An excellent effect has been produced in official circles by the publication this morning, in the official gazette, of the two decrees extending to the Antilles the universal suffrage law of 1890, and applying also the laws inscribed in the first chapter of the Spanish constitution.

There is a white sparrow in Lafayette, Ind.

The Concord Returns From Alaska.

San Francisco, Nov. 29.—The gunboat Concord arrived from Alaska today. She will go to the navy-yard for an overhauling, after which she will be sent to China to take the place of the Yorktown on that station.

Maxim's New Gun Tested.

Portsmouth, Nov. 29.—Hiram Maxim's new quick-firing gun was tried here today with remarkable results. With 25 pounds of cordite it showed an effective range of 16,000 yards.

M'KINLEY IN GOLD.

A Statue to Be Exhibited at the Paris Exposition.

New York, Nov. 29.—Ada Rehan in silver is to be outshone by William McKinley in gold according to the Herald of today. The added fame which the actress acquired by posing for the Montana statue of solid silver exhibited at the world's fair is to be approached if not eclipsed by the president of the United States who will furnish the figure for a life-sized statue of solid gold.

This will be the most costly lump of precious metal the people of the modern world have ever seen. So says F. D. Higby, of Chicago, who has been retained by Western millionaires to furnish such a statue for exhibition at the Paris exposition in 1900. Mr. Higby was in the city yesterday on his way to Washington to get the consent of President McKinley to pose for the figure.

As Mr. Higby took a prominent part in the headquarters management of the late campaign, and has asked for no office he is confident of success in this mission.

"You know," said Mr. Higby "that I designed and built the Montana statue at the world's fair for which Miss Rehan posed. I suppose it was because of my experience that I have been retained to build this statue, which with the base will contain bullion to the value of \$1,050,000.

"While it will be designed primarily to first exhibit the statue at Paris in 1900, the directors of the pan-American exposition to be held in Cayuga island, in the Niagara river, in 1899, are anxious to have it completed in time to exhibit there first. It is likely that this arrangement will be made.

"I cannot say yet who the capitalists are who are back of this project, but there are a half dozen of them, and everything is ready to begin work on the statue as soon as a design is completed."

OREGON LINEN MILLS.

Reported That Flax Will Be Made Up Into Wares at Salem.

Salem, Or., Nov. 29.—There are prospects that the "Scotch Mills," in Salem, which have long stood idle, will be converted into an important manufacturing plant. It is understood that Mr. T. B. Wilcox, who owns a controlling interest in the mills, has submitted a proposition to Dr. Deimel, the importer of linen goods, whereby a linen manufacturing establishment is to be located here, and Mr. Wilcox is to be one of the stockholders. The details of the negotiations, pending between Mr. Wilcox and Dr. Deimel, have not been given out, but assurance is given that the prospects for the establishment of a large linen manufacturing plant here are very bright. Mrs. Lord received a letter from Dr. Deimel last night, stating that he sailed for Germany Tuesday. He further says:

"I have now more offers for shares in our present company that I am able to accept, and if \$500,000 or even \$1,000,000 should be required to organize a company for the spinning of yarn and the weaving of linen, including linen mesh, it can be had, on the showing that you can grow and will grow flax of a quality equal to the best, and that your people desire the locating of our industry there by offering us such advantages as you mention in your letter."

Legislation for Alaska.

Washington, Nov. 29.—The president in his message will recommend speedy legislation to insure the best possible government for Alaska. He will point out the difficulties which the people living there are under, and will urge that something be done to protect the property of the government. He will allude to the fact that the government is losing large sums because there is no way of protecting timber from indiscriminate use. A better system of permits for the cutting and inspection of timber, not only for the mineral states of the West, but also for Alaska, has been presented to the president, and he will endeavor to have legislation speedily enacted for the better protection of the forests.

Nearing a Settlement.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Hawaiian Minister Francis M. Hatch, who has just arrived in this city on his return from Honolulu, expressed the opinion today that the trouble between Japan and Hawaii has been smoothed over, and can be settled now without difficulty. The Japanese government seems to be disposed to have the matter settled in as amicable a spirit as possible.

Canada's Reply.

Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 29.—A reply has been prepared by the Dominion government and forwarded to Washington in respect to the negotiations which are going on between those countries. The government will not say what the reply is until it reaches Mr. Foster, at Washington, but it is understood that it is a refusal to stop pelagic sealing for one year.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—The Luetgert case will be called for a second trial tomorrow morning, in Judge Horton's court. The state will announce its readiness to go on with the trial at once, but it is very probable that Attorney Phalen, for the defense, will ask for a continuance or a change of venue.

A Four-Handed Fight.

Mandeville, La., Nov. 29.—From Bayou LaCombe, a small settlement 11 miles east of here, news has been received of a desperate fight between Arthur and Edward Jolie, on one side, and Laurence and Edward Consin, on the other, in which all concerned were killed. Shotguns and pistols were the weapons used. A long-standing family feud led to the fight.

To every 192 persons in the United States there is a telephone.

NORTHWEST BREVITIES

Evidence of Steady Growth and Enterprise.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

From All the Cities and Towns of the Thriving Sister States—Oregon.

Willamette valley fall-sown grain is looking fine.

Several Oregon towns report "not a vacant house."

The late storm was the severest known in many years in Clatsop county.

Last week five carloads of wheat and five carloads of wood were shipped from Sheridan, in Yamhill county.

A Medford man has sold 10 carloads of Ben Davis apples to a New York firm for 75 cents a box, f. o. b.

A Buck Hollow rancher raised \$300 worth of silver-skin onions on one acre of land in Sherman county this year, and sold the crop for cash.

The run of steelhead salmon in Coos bay has commenced. Quite a number were brought from Coos river to Marshfield last week, and were sold for 50 cents each.

Three steamers now ply between Yaquina and San Francisco, the President, Truckee and Scotia. The latter carries only stone, while the others carry all kinds of freight.

The financial condition of Grant county shows some improvement. Treasurer Hazeltine has funds on hand for the redemption of outstanding warrants bearing date of registration prior to January 24, 1891.

State Treasurer Metchan's account with the several counties of the state shows that Baker, Benton, Columbia, Coos, Curry, Grant, Jackson, Klamath, Lincoln, Umatilla and Wallawa have paid their taxes and interest in full for 1896.

A Grant county paper says more wheat has been threshed in the surrounding country this year than ever before, and that enough of it will be ground into flour to supply Grant county with flour until next season. Usually it has been necessary to bring in flour.

The apple crop on Burnt river is reported to be three times that of last year and of good quality. The price, also, shows a very material advance over last year's. Last season's yield brought 40 cents a box, which this year has advanced to 75 cents, nearly double.

Both dwelling and business houses are needed in Vale, Malheur county, says the Advocate. Every available room in town is occupied, and the great demand for more is increasing daily. Little three and four room cottages that can be built at a cost not to exceed \$200 each will bring from \$5 to \$8 a month rent.

Samples of Eastern oysters that were planted in Yaquina bay have been on exhibition in Newport. The oysters have increased very much in size, and have improved much in flavor, oyster experts say, but whether or not spawn discovered on mussel shells and other objects near them is the product of the foreign or native oyster cannot yet be determined. Samples were sent East two weeks ago for setting this point, but no report has yet been received.

Washington.

There is a good demand for logs on Gray's harbor.

The lumber shipments from Washington in October by rail were 750 cars.

The shingle shipments from Washington in October were 1,866 cars, or 298,560,000 shingles, notwithstanding the car shortage and drop in prices.

A Gray's harbor fisherman says that the falling-off of the catch in silverside salmon there this season is fully 50 per cent. The pack of the cannery at Aberdeen is only 10,000 cases, against 21,000 last year. The new hatchery on the Chehalis river will, it is expected, check this diminution in supply and restore the industry.

Washington has a law against alien ownership of land in that state. A Scotch company is desirous of building a beet-sugar factory near Spokane, and this law stands in the way. There is a case in the supreme court of Washington at the present time which will determine whether the law is constitutional or not, or whether aliens can own land in the state or not.

By the breaking of a sheer boom at Stanwood, in Snohomish county, the other day, between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 feet of logs went out into the Sound, and that of this amount probably 500,000 feet will go out to sea through Deception pass. The boom company expects to be able to save all except those carried out to sea by the tides.

The state auditor has had printed in pamphlet form the opinions of the attorney-general relative to revenue and taxation. These pamphlets will be forwarded to the different county treasurers throughout the state. So many inquiries were received by the state auditor relative to the construction of the revenue law that this step was deemed advisable.

The famous Ruby creek, over which there was so much excitement 15 years ago, promises to furnish the state with another rich district. A resident of Burlington was in Mount Vernon last week and brought with him and sold to the bank a little over \$1,000 in coarse gold taken out of placer claims on Canyon creek, a branch of Ruby creek.

W. A. Woodin and others, who were contemplating building a shingle mill in Fairhaven, have changed their minds, and will put up a salmon cannery with a capacity of 20,000 cases.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

(Office of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 711 7/8 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.)

The event of the week in the Chicago wheat market was a jump of 4c in one day in the price of December options. The sentimental figure of \$1 was reached for a moment. The bulk of the wheat in Chicago is in the hands of a powerful clique, who are in a position just now to dictate to the short sellers of December. These people keep on declaring there is to be no corner, but a squeeze is almost certain.

The outcome of the May price depends altogether on the world's statistical position. Europe would not be taking 6,500,000 bushels of wheat and flour from America in one week if there did not exist extraordinary necessity for it. But no one knows how long this demand will keep up or whether the price fairly discounts the situation.

A good illustration of how little can be decided with exactness about so vast a question as the wheat supply is the conflict of two respectable authorities in the mere interpretation of an official Russian crop report. The Corn Trade News declares it shows a shortage of 102,000,000 bushels, compared with last year, while Beerboom makes the shortage only 1,000,000 bushels. The profession of crop statistics is like theology. It is so big a field as to permit of all sorts of differences and to enable each teacher to pose before those immediately around him as the only really authoritative one.

Nothing would affect the sentiment at Chicago quicker than a falling off in Northwest receipts. But on this comparatively simple problem there is no unanimity. Pillsbury a fortnight ago predicted confidently that the car lots at Minneapolis and Duluth by November 20 would be down to small figures, with not over 20 per cent of the crop left in the hands of the farmers. There has all through November been perfect weather for marketing; but the authorities at Minneapolis are now predicting another two weeks of free movement. The weather is to count a great deal on the price between this and December 10th. It will make easy or difficult the continued movement of wheat between Duluth and Chicago; it will keep open or close up navigation between Chicago and Buffalo, and will influence, too, the movement from the spring wheat farmer into Duluth and Minneapolis.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 76@77c; Valley and Bluneston, 78@79c per bushel.

Four—Best grades, \$4.25; graham, \$3.50; superfine, \$2.25 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 34@35c; choice gray, 32@33c per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$15 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$15.50.

Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.

Eggs—\$2 1/2 @ 25c per dozen.

Butters—Fancy creamery, 50@55c; fair to good, 40@45c; dairy, 30@40c per roll.

Cheese—Oregon, 11 1/2c; Young America, 12 1/2c; California, 9@10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$1.75@2.50 per dozen; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$5@6; ducks, \$3.00@4.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 9@10c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35@40c per sack; sweets, \$1.40 per cental.

Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental.

Hops—8@14c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4@6c.

Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7@12c; mohair, 20@22c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$3.00; dressed mutton, 6c; spring lambs, 5 1/2c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.50; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$4.50@5.00 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.25; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2c per pound.

Veal—Large, 4 1/2@5c; small, 5 1/2@6c per pound.

Seattle Market.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 27c; ranch, 16@18c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 12 1/2c; California, 9 1/2c.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 30@32c.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10c; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.00; ducks, \$3.50@3.75.

Wheat—Feed wheat, \$22 per ton.

Oats—Choice, per ton, \$19@20.

Corn—Whole, \$22; cracked, per ton, \$22; feed meal, \$22 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$22; whole, \$22.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5 1/2c; mutton sheep, 6c; pork, 7c; veal, small, 7c.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 4@5c; salmon, 3@4c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and sole, 3@4c; ling cod, 4@5c; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2 1/2@4c.

Fresh Fruit—Apples, 50c@51.25 per box; peaches, 75@80c; prunes, 35@40c; pears, 75c@81c per box.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Nevada 11@13c; Oregon, 12@14c; Northern 11@12c per pound.

Hops—10@14c per pound.

Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@22c; California bran, \$17.50@18.00 per ton.

Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, \$1.40@1.60 per cental.

Eggs—Store, 18@20c; ranch, 40@41c; Eastern, 17@24c; duck, 25c per dozen.

Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 12 1/2c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound.

THREW HIS MONEY AWAY.

Was Rich Once, but Died Penniless and a Morphine Fiend.

"Tom" Coffin, a mysterious spendthrift who lived near Winthrop, Me., is dead. His end was in keeping with the strangeness of his life. He died in the little town of Lovell, Me., from the effects of the morphine habit and leaving no friends or money to bury him. The selectmen of Winthrop have received word that Coffin has been buried at the expense of the town of Lovell and that Winthrop would be looked to to make good the costs. How Coffin got his money no one seems to know. His life away from Winthrop is a mystery. Some say he got his money as a bookmaker at the New York race tracks; some say inflated mine and land enterprises. But this is known: He was there twelve years ago with money—with heaps and stacks of money. Coffin was a Winthrop boy and lived there till nearing young manhood. Then he got into trouble and had to leave town. Nothing was heard or thought of him for years, when suddenly he reappeared in the community at that time a man of middle age, medium size, agile, hearty of manner, with a strong, intelligent face. But soon he began to paralyze the community. He was an opium fiend at the time. He bought horses, and when he got angry at them he had them shot. He bought a fine house and immediately began to mutilate the grounds by tearing away a fine bank wall of granite. He had his front stone steps torn up and carted away because some young people sat upon them, uninvited, one evening. He bought carriages and furniture and then more carriages and furniture and made a bonfire on his lawn of the first installment. If he had an end in life it seemed to be to dazzle and astonish the acquaintances of his youth. He bought expensive carpeting, to be spread from his front door across the street so that the woman he introduced as his wife might go to an entertainment without soiling the soles of her slippers.

Sometimes he had his tantrums and bad spells. Then there were shrieks from the house, from its female inmates, and the good people of Winthrop held their breath with thoughts of murder and other crimes.

It is estimated that Coffin must have spent \$200,000 at least in the four years he was in Winthrop, and several persons in the place were left the richer for his having come. He distributed his money among his friends with lavish hand. He seemed utterly careless in regard to the keeping of his money. At one time he left a basket containing \$100,000 in currency in the house, in plain sight, in a room, with no one left to look after it but a few women.

He carried about with him a grip stuffed with \$30,000 in bills, and once absent-mindedly left it in a store and did not think to call for it until the next day. It is also related that one time he had the grip full of money, and, being about to start on a trip to Boston, he did not wish to be bothered with so much money, so he emptied it upon the floor of a closet in his house and started on his way without further thought. He left Winthrop after these escapades as suddenly as he came. When he was there again, a short time ago, he was a changed man, only the ghost of his former self, emaciated, unsteady in gait—a pitiable wreck.

YOUNG MARRIED PEOPLE.

Sad Mistake for Them to Begin Life in a Boarding House.

Edward W. Bok, editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, always a staunch and uncompromising advocate of the home, asserts, in a late issue of his magazine, that a home, however humble, is a million times better place for young married couples to live than is the most luxurious hotel or best boarding house in the land. "It is always a sad thing," he says, "when a young married couple begin life in a boarding house or hotel. Sad because they start life practically outside of themselves. The furniture around them is not their own. The young wife may bring with her all the trifles she chooses; she may add a touch of her own here and another touch there. But the things in the room are not theirs, and sooner or later she realizes it.

"During the day the wife is alone. No duties call her. Nothing is there in her life to exercise her ingenuity nor develop her womanly talents. She cannot prepare any little pleasure for her young husband, for things are prepared for her. When her husband leaves for his office she turns back into the room, and wonders what she can do during the day; how she will employ herself, where she will go. There is nothing in her room to appeal to her to stay there. No home duties confront her. So she goes out and shops, perhaps, for a while; runs around to her mother's; calls upon some friends; goes back to her room to practice a little, if she is musical and has a piano; or, if she is fond of books, she reads. There is nothing in her life; two-thirds of herself lies dormant. She is glad when the time comes for her husband to come home; glad to feel that she has some one to whom she can talk; glad of company. And he? What can he do to express himself to his young wife? Nothing around him is his; everything is by lease, his for a time, for so much money. And after he is through paying for it he leaves it behind. The end is the same as the beginning. That is why boarding house or hotel life is so injurious to young married people. It makes them practically homeless."

Your Chances.