

THE TABLES TURNED

By F. G. STEGGER

Silas Venable, an old ducky who had taken his name from the former owners of his family, was as good a man as ever lived. He had graduated north into life and was entirely uneducated. In his southern home he was known to be above reproach; in his northern home, when accused, he must take his chances like other suspects. A diamond had been lost which Silas was accused of stealing. Indeed, the owner declared that the stone was lying in a room into which Silas had gone to replace some rugs he had been cleaning. The gem was missed as soon as he came out of the room, and he was searched. He was not found, and the owner believed that Silas had swallowed it. Casey, the owner of the missing property, determined to fight the old man into confessing the theft. Getting a few friends together in his house, he appointed one to play the part of judge, another to defend the prisoner, while he set himself for the part of prosecuting attorney. Silas had never been charged with crime in his life and, having never been in a courtroom, knew no more of the organization of a court than a three-year-old child.

"Silas Venable," said the judge solemnly, "you are accused of stealing a valuable diamond. Are you guilty, or not guilty?" Silas rolled his eyes about wildly and said: "Fo' de Lawd, Judge, I don't know nothin' about any diamond." "My client pleads not guilty," said Jones, the prisoner's counsel. "Your honor," said Casey, "I propose to prove on behalf of the state that the prisoner stole the property and, being convicted and accused before he could get rid of it, swallowed it. I intend to look into the stomach of the accused and find out whether the lost gem is there." "How do you mean to look into my stomach?" asked Silas, much frightened. "You hadn't wided to put a pipe down my front with a candle in it, air you?" "Will your honor explain the X ray process to the prisoner?" asked the prosecutor. "Does it hurt, Judge?" asked Silas. "Not at all. You won't feel it a bit." "All right. Go ahead," said the prisoner confidently. His ready answer somewhat surprised the court, who had supposed that there was no doubt but that he had done the theft. But Casey, taking the ducky's confidence for bluff, proceeded with his plan. Producing a pair of binoculars with a scale for distance attached he affected to adjust the latter carefully, then, putting them to his eyes, pretended to look into the prisoner's stomach. Silas did not seem at all troubled.

"What do you see, Mr. Casey?" asked the judge solemnly, while some of those present put their handkerchiefs to their faces to conceal their laughter. "I see first small bits of chicken." The expression on Silas' face changed at once. He looked badly frightened. "I thought we would get at the truth," remarked the judge, diving into a lawbook before him to preserve his gravity. "Fo' de Lawd, Judge," pleaded Silas. "I didn't steal dat chicken. I bought it." "Bought chicken at 30 cents a pound?" exclaimed Casey. "No, sah. Job Wilson he got a chicken roost, and he sold me dat chicken 'cause I give him some table garter I was takin' from a gentleman's house for de chickens. He didn't charge me nothin' fo' it." "What else do you see, Mr. Casey?" asked the judge. "I see a little black spot about the size of my diamond." "Do you see the diamond itself?" Casey considered that to say he saw the diamond would not be true or fair, so he claimed only that he saw a dark spot that might be a diamond. "Fo' de Lawd, Judge," said the prisoner, "dat spot ain't no diamond. I done didn't steal it."

There was so much honesty in the old negro's face that his accusers gave up this "third degree" game, and when his counsel demanded his discharge Casey assented. "Would one of de gentlemen object to lookin' into Mr. Casey's stomach?" asked Silas. Casey looked a bit annoyed. His friends, anticipating more fun demanded that the negro's request be granted. Jones seized the binoculars and brought them to bear on the new subject. "What do you expect to find in Mr. Jones' stomach, Silas?" he asked. "Oysters." "Yes, I see oysters. What else?" "Lobster salad." "Why, certainly I cannot only see the meat, but there's a claw in his stomach." "When and where," asked the judge of Silas, "did Mr. Casey eat the lobster?" "Well, Judge," Silas replied, "I war gwine to eat a oyster yesterday, and I saw de gentleman havin' a supper with yo' wife." There was consternation in the court, and at the same time Mrs. Casey, who had been listening at a keyhole, came in to say that she had found the missing diamond in her jewel box. The court adjourned amid much embarrassment and some suppressed laughter.

Good form

A Holiday Card Party.

Invitations are sent out and delivered by hand if possible on rolls of parchment (or yellow paper) sealed with red wax and written in the formal manner of old times, bidding ye guest to come to ye inn "on the Sign of ye Christmas Tree" on a certain date. At a country house it would be possible to hang a sign with a tree painted upon it outside the door. The dining room with a big fire roaring up the chimney is the place to hold this party. Ropes of evergreen and wreaths of holly supply the holiday atmosphere, and a large trimmed tree should be stood in one corner. Lamps and candles are used for lighting, and all unnecessary furniture should be removed for the time being, with the exception of wooden settles standing on either side of the fireplace and the small tables and chairs that are placed as usual for a progressive card game. The tally cards are cut in the shape of Christmas trees. For each game won a gold star is pasted on the tree. The favors, which should suggest the season, are hidden in colored stockings, which are hung on the tree. During the game a small boy dressed as an innkeeper of Washington's time should pass handkerchiefs containing lemonade or hot chocolate. At the end of the game the guests remain at the tables, where they are served by the boy and a small girl, also in the dress of this period, with individual hot chicken pies, little rolls, tart cookies, gingerbread, sugar plums, nuts and raisins.

A green wreathed large bowl of some hot spiced drink is placed before the hostess, and while she serves her guests a half dozen little children in simple colorful garb enter the room and sing "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" and other well known Christmas carols. This will require a slight rehearsing beforehand, but the unexpected climax to the party will appeal to the audience. The children should pass around their hats after singing, and they are paid with nuts and candies.

When One May Be Unconventional. Etiquette is not a synonym for conventionality. On the contrary, there are times when it is far more polite to be unconventional than the opposite. There are occasions when the well bred person will commit some small breach on the conventions in order to put at ease some other person, not entirely versed in the minute details of such things, yet who is far more worthy of commendation in a general sense than those of others who are "up" in such matters. The use of the wrong fork or spoon; the careful covering of a broad expanse of snowy shirt front by the man who has lived the free life of a wild country, for example, should never be looked upon with scorn by the delicately reared.

Every one knows the story of the admiral who gave a hostess who, noting the mortification of a clumsy guest who had broken one of a priceless set of teacups by letting it fall in his embarrassment, said to the poor man, his face burning with the shame of his awkwardness: "Never mind, Mr. Blank; these cups are so easily broken, by the slightest touch. Look," and she quietly broke another on the edge of the table. This was a loss to her, inasmuch as she knew the set could not be duplicated, but she knew the man was a scholar, a student, a man of intellect and broadest intelligence, whose life, passed in researches for the good of his fellow creatures, had not allowed of learning all the small methods of doing exactly the "proper thing" at a conventional so-called affair.

It is not very likely that such tests of true courtesy and consideration come often, yet there are many who would show the true meaning of that innate politeness that comes from the heart and which really means consideration for the feelings of others in equally quick understanding.

Santa Claus Dance. A Santa Claus dance is one of the most delightful of all Christmas frolics and really one of the easiest to plan, for only one scheme of decoration has to be thought of, only one idea kept in mind—Santa Claus. Santa Claus everywhere, and it is one that appeals to the youngest as well as the oldest dancers. To begin with, write the invitations on paper or cards which bear the good saint's image. Such paper or cards can be found everywhere. Postal cards, at least, bearing Santa Claus' portrait will be available, and these can bear the invitation and then be enclosed in an envelope or else small gummed Santas can be bought and pasted to the invitation note paper. These gummed Santas may also be used as seals on the envelope. The invitation may well be worded in Santa's name, for instance: "Santa Claus requests the pleasure of your company on the evening of Dec. 28, at the home of Mrs. John Jones, where he is going to spend the evening." The house decorations should, of course, include plenty of holly and Christmas greens, but if possible small Santas should play a conspicuous part in the scheme. Paper or china or cloth, whatever they are, they should perch over the doors or windows, cling to holly wreaths and hide themselves in the greens.

The Meanness of Her. "That woman next door is a cat." "How now?" "Here I spend \$100 for an out of town trip, and she pretends she didn't know I was away."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Possibility. Jinks—if I had not married I would be worth a million. Binks—but I am single and penniless. Jinks—Ah, but if you had married you might have learned to economize.—New York Globe.

Reckless Question. "I wasted a full hour yesterday." "How?" "Asked Green how his baby is getting on."—Detroit Free Press.

Woman's World

Miss La Bouissie, President of Social Bureau.



MISS LA BOUISSIE.

Everything from the etiquette of leaving cards down to advice on how to entertain in the prospectus of a social bureau recently opened at the downtown capital. The leader of the new enterprise is a Washington matron of much social experience, and the working head or pilot of the bureau is Miss La Bouissie. The bureau will make a specialty of "fashionable" chaperons, taking charge of entertainments, deciding vexed questions of precedence at semi-official functions and giving advice on wardrobe.

Not the least of its tasks is to be that of taking charge of residences during absence of owners from the Capital City.

This bureau fills a long felt want for social chaperons.

A Pension Roll For Mothers. Mrs. Malie Potter Dargatz, describing in the World's Work the pending of destitute mothers, tells of the valuable experiments that several of the states are already putting to the test.

Two states, Missouri and Illinois, in 1911 put motherhood regularly on the payroll. The court awards what is called a pension to any mother of good character who needs such assistance to bring up her children. Illinois it has been the custom when a woman failed in the struggle for existence for the court to place such children in an institution. This new re-orientation of sociology, however, says that a child's mother, if she is the right sort of woman, is God's own institution for his upbringing.

The Cook county juvenile court in the city of Chicago last summer had some 257 mothers, with an aggregate of 1,200 children, cared for on this plan. It is costing the community an average of \$5.75 per month per child as against \$10 per month per child under the old institutional plan. It will cost the state of Illinois this year about \$100,000. The state authorities have said they don't care if it goes to \$500,000. The contract with the mothers will be cheap at that, for it is counted on to diminish the bill for crime that is now costing Cook county alone \$9,000,000 a year.

Notes About Women. The Portuguese government has appointed a woman subinspector of public health in Oporto. This is the first time that such a position has been held by a woman in Portugal. The government has also appointed a woman as professor ordinary of the Society of Philologia Germanica at the universities of Lisbon and Coimbra in recognition of her "illustrious services to literature."

By a decree of the Spanish government women will in future be admitted to all universities in Spain on the same terms as men and will be entitled to follow any profession for which the university diploma qualifies them.

For the first time in history a woman appeared in an official capacity in the law courts of Australia when the daughter of Justice Isaacs took her seat in the high court of Australia the other day as her father's associate. On her devoted the duty of inquiring the jury, and much favorable comment has been made on the quiet and dignified way in which she performed her task. Miss Isaacs is said to be a student of unusual ability, and a brilliant career is prophesied for her.

Italian Women Have Suffrage Club. The new woman suffrage club recently opened in Rome has established a free employment bureau for the benefit of Italian working women in making this departure the club is carrying out the wishes of the late Donna Giacinta Martini, who was president for many years of the Italian Woman Suffrage association. All her life Donna Martini worked for the betterment of the conditions of working women, and she devoted a large part of her fortune to this end.

Scotland's Islands. There are about 185 inhabited British islands, of which Scotland claims over 100.

Lava. Lava may be blown into spange bed. Best of granitic lightness, and the harder sort makes a beautiful green glass of half the weight and double the strength of ordinary glass. But it is not always the same. Every volcano pours out its own special brand of molten mixture, homogeneous to itself, but sometimes yielding precious products, as pumice stone. Lava, like all things, decomposes under the touch of time, as the fertile plains of Sicily testify.

Notice for Levy of Special Road Tax. Notice is hereby given that we, the undersigned tax payers representing ten per cent of the tax payers in Road District No. 31, Clackamas County, Oregon, hereby give notice to the tax payers of said Road District No. 31 that there will be a meeting of the tax payers of said District in Frog Pond school house at Frog Pond, on the 24th day of December, 1912, at 2 o'clock p. m., to vote an additional tax for road purposes, as provided by an act of the legislature in 1909.

Notice for Levy of Special Road Tax. Notice is hereby given that we, the undersigned tax payers representing ten per cent of the tax payers in Road District No. 34, Clackamas County, Oregon, hereby give notice to the tax payers of said District in Williamsburg school house at Williamsburg, on the 24th day of December, 1912, at 2 o'clock p. m., to vote an additional tax for road purposes, as provided by an act of the legislature in 1909.

Notice for Levy of Special Road Tax. Notice is hereby given that we, the undersigned tax payers representing ten per cent of the tax payers in Road District No. 62, Clackamas County, Oregon, hereby give notice to the tax payers of said Road District No. 62 that there will be a meeting of the tax payers of said District in East Mount Scott school house on the 27th day of December, 1912, at 8 o'clock p. m., to vote an additional tax for road purposes, as provided by an act of the legislature in 1909.

Notice of Final Settlement. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed her final account in the estate of Charles McCormack, deceased, in the County Court for Clackamas County, Oregon, and that the judge of said court has set Monday, the 27th day of January, 1913, in the County Court of the County of Clackamas, in Oregon City, Oregon, as the time and place of hearing objections to such final account and the settlement thereof.

First Notice to Creditors. In the County Court of Clackamas County, State of Oregon. In the matter of the estate of Thomas E. Kelly, deceased.

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Notice of Final Settlement. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administratrix of the estate of Joseph Herbert, deceased, has filed her final account and report in said estate, and the County Court of Clackamas County, Oregon, has fixed Monday, the 6th day of January, 1913, at ten o'clock a. m., at the County Court room in the County Courthouse in Oregon City, Oregon, as the time and place for hearing objections to the said account and the settlement thereof.

Notice of Administrator's Sale of Real Property. In the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Clackamas. In the matter of the Estate of Charles W. Cassidy, Deceased.

Notice to Creditors. Notice is hereby given that by an order of the County Court of Clackamas County, Oregon, duly made and entered of record on the 6th day of November, 1912, in the matter of the estate of Alpha A. Walter, deceased, the undersigned was duly appointed administrator of the estate of said Alpha A. Walter.

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answer, plaintiff will take a decree against you, forever dissolving the bonds of matrimony heretofore and now existing between the plaintiff and yourself, and restoring to plaintiff her maiden name, Anna Phillips, and for such other and further relief in the premises as to the court may seem just and equitable.

Summons. In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Clackamas County. Arthur P. Olson, Plaintiff, vs. Matilda H. Olson, Defendant.

Summons. In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Clackamas County. Arthur P. Olson, Plaintiff, vs. Matilda H. Olson, Defendant.

Summons. In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Clackamas County. Arthur P. Olson, Plaintiff, vs. Matilda H. Olson, Defendant.

Summons. In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Clackamas County. Arthur P. Olson, Plaintiff, vs. Matilda H. Olson, Defendant.

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