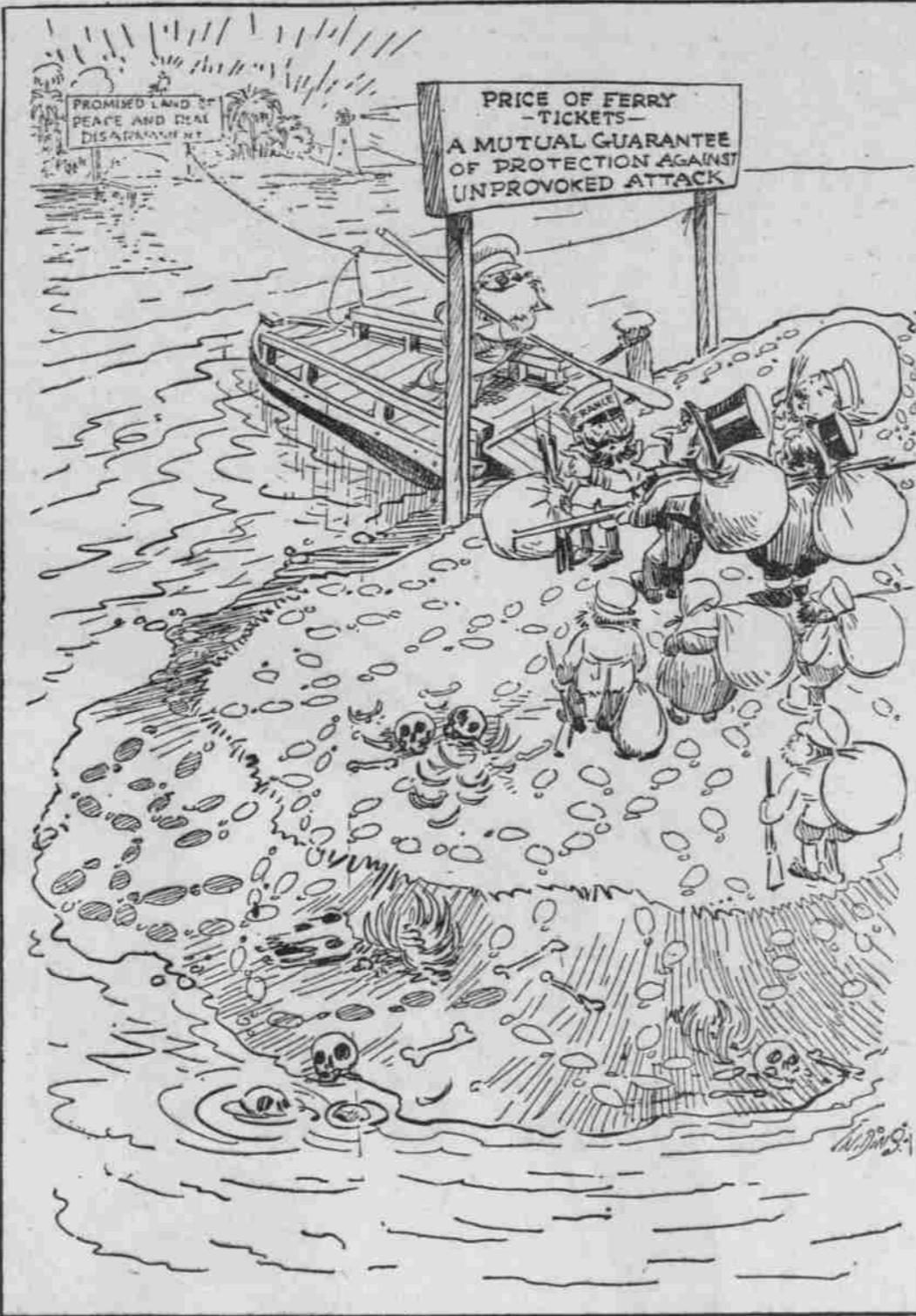


CURRENT HAPPENINGS PICTORIALY PRESENTED BY DARLING

IF THE CONFERENCE HAD DONE NOTHING MORE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WORTH WHILE.



AND ALWAYS WE COME RIGHT BACK TO IT.



WE NEVER WILL "REDUCE" THAT WAY.



BESIDES, AFTER FILLING UP ON CHOCOLATE CREAMS YOU CAN'T EXPECT



TO HAVE MUCH APPETITE FOR SPINACH AND SPARE RIBS.

THE BRIDE'S FATHER SHOULD TRY NOT TO LOOK TOO RELIEVED.



WHAT'S THE IDEA? SHE WAS ALWAYS HAPPY DOWN ON THE FARM, WASN'T SHE?



"THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO LIVED IN A SHOE."



LANDLORDS' OBJECTIONS TO CHILDREN IN CITY APARTMENT HOUSES ARE DEFENDED

Renting of Property Is Business Proposition and Overhead Is Bound to Be Greater Where Tenants Have Youngsters, No Matter How Carefully Trained They May Be.

BY SHEBA CHILDS HARGREAVES.

RISE to the defense of that much maligned individual, the landlord; he refuses to rent his houses or apartments to families with children; and surely there must be some reason for this hardness of heart. I defend him with fear and trembling; however, there is always danger of starting an argument which will run all winter in the daily papers.

It must be remembered in the first place that the renting of property is a business proposition with the landlord. Rents are high, so are taxes, but for the purpose of this article I am not directly concerned with this problem, though it has some bearing on the relation of the child and the landlord. The overhead expense is bound to be greater where houses or apartments are rented to tenants with children, even if the children are models of deportment, which they are not, in most cases. Children, no matter how good they

are nor how carefully trained, are not careful of property—they smear woodwork with sticky fingers and mar plaster with crude pictures. If they chance to come into possession of a lead pencil, when older they break windows and leave a trail of destruction generally in their wake. This is not to be construed as an indictment against childhood; it is just a characteristic of children, and it is only fair to face facts exactly as they are and to look the situation squarely in the face, in fact, so far as is possible to see both sides of the question. To do this it is necessary to lay aside all previous conclusions, in fact, to ignore the sentimental side altogether and to see the child just as the landlord sees him. The practice of seeing their child through the eyes of those who have no special reason to love him is a very good habit for parents to form anyway.

But most parents do not make even a feeble attempt to look at the other side of the matter. They, themselves, give their children every considera-

tion and are entirely blind to their faults and they demand that the world at large shall fall into line and give their spoiled offspring the same careful consideration, being as blind to lapses and shortcomings as they are.

Now, this is just what the landlord cannot afford to do if his investment is to return him a fair profit. Desolation and destruction, whether it lies in the wake of grown people or children he is the loser. He has found by more than one painful experience that the overhead expense of keeping up property is not so great if he rents to families of adults, and so being a keen business man he naturally seeks tenants who will yield him the best returns.

Parents have a way of saying that their children are different from the general run of juveniles—a mother will stand and unblushingly discourse on the way she has taught her children to conduct themselves in the home, expecting her hearers to be-

lieve her, but as most mothers are prone to do just this thing, especially when seeking to convince a landlord that they are desirable tenants, their statements are not taken very seriously by any one with a knowledge of human nature.

Then, in the case of renting houses or apartments to tenants with children there is the question of the rights of other tenants to be carefully considered. The presence of a few spoiled unruly children in an apartment house can easily make life a burden for the other inmates thereof. This is not altogether the fault of the children—at best, even where they are carefully brought up they are full of life which must find vent in romping and noise. Then, too, the presence of children naturally draws other children so that there is no rest or peace in the immediate vicinity and, while any right-thinking person wishes to give the youthful population their full rights—and oftentimes rather more than can justly be considered, their rights are conceded—still it must be admitted that those who have not been blessed with children still are entitled to a small amount of consideration.

From the standpoint of the children themselves it is fortunate that it is so difficult to find apartments that will domicile families of children. The apartment is admirably fitted for certain persons—old couples or childless women who work, or for those who must of necessity live close in, for

instance, but to attempt to bring up a child in such cramped quarters is sheer folly. Children, if they are to grow into sturdy men and women must have their feet on the ground during the early years of their lives. They must at all times have plenty of space for vigorous play in the open air and this, of course, is nearly impossible in the congested apartment-house district.

There may be some excuse for cramped quarters in large, congested cities, but conditions are such here that no parents need be forced to deprive their children of the contact with the soil and the fresh air and sunshine which God gave them as their natural birthright. Portland is known as a city of homes, where there are plots of ground available for children to romp on.

The real solution to the problem of adjusting the difficulties between children and the landlord is to boycott him by buying a home far enough out so that the children will not disturb anyone while at their strenuous play.

I have a strong suspicion, too, that many of them, if they are brought up in homes owned by their parents, will not have such a tendency to deface the house. It is natural with the general run of human beings to take excellent care of property in which they have a direct personal interest, where they are inclined to indifference if the house belongs to someone else.

Bright Sayings of the Children

A DIMINUTIVE Boy Scout came into the butcher shop where I was marketing the other day and requested some sausage to take on a hike.

"How much do you want?" the butcher asked, with his knife poised above the sausage.

"The boy did not hesitate an instant. "O, about a yard," he replied seriously.

L. G.

We just had a winter body put on our car. When sonny saw it he said delightedly, "Gee, when did you have the taxi put on your car?"

Z. S.

Grace is often asked if the sand man is coming when she is sleepy. She awoke the other morning, still sleepy, and said, "O, that sand man put too much sand in my eyes."

H. O. H.

Mother was telling father that the percolator was about worn out. "Well," said father, "we will purchase a new one."

Ruth, who had been listening attentively, said, "Well, get a two-seated one, so we can all ride."

F. V.

Some playmates came early one morning to spend the day with Betty. All went right merrily until about 4

o'clock in the afternoon, when Betty's eyes began to droop for want of her afternoon nap. She tried to keep on playing, but finally came to me and said, "Can't they go now? I have had a too muchness of fun."

E. H.

Junior had brought home his first report card. "A" meant excellent, "B" good, "C" fair, and "D" dandy, he explained.

V. B.

Dean was playing with his brother, Dick, and a neighbor boy, John, when John and Dick began to fight.

"Dean came in the house and I asked him why he didn't help his brother, for I had been watching from the window."

"I just told him he could battle his own fights," he said.

J. G. S.

Frank, whose father is bald, caused much merriment by asking his mother, who was entertaining friends, "Mother, was daddy bald headed when we married him?"

M. B. A.

Miss Green, the second grade teacher, was holding the nature study class.

"In the springtime the robins and blue birds come to us from way down in the southland. Then, as it gets

warmer, more birds come, the orioles and cardinals."

"And where have all the birds gone now that it is cold?" asked Miss Green.

No answer. Then a quick hand from the smallest boy.

"Gone to seed."

B. H. J.

A woman was admiring Don Dick's baby sister and asked him if she could have her.

Don Dick said: "No, you can't have my sister, but you can go to the hospital and get one. They have lots of them there in little baskets."

L. G. D.

Arthur was careful with his toys, but his younger brother, Jesse, was not. After Jesse had spoiled his drum by taking it apart he said to Arthur, "I thought you would let me use your drum if mine wouldn't get together again."

"O, you did!" remarked Arthur loftily. "Well, you can just unthink it."

C. C.

Davey was with his mother and grandfather in a cafe having dinner, when suddenly he spoke up: "Mother, I'll bet every one in here will think grandfather is our husband."

MRS. L. C.