BOWSER, HUSTLER

He'll Do the Housecleaning In an Hour by the Clock.

THAT'S HIS RASH PROMISE, had to do was to walk around the

But Making Good Is Another Thing. Although He Will Not Admit It In of Divers Vexations, Such as Carpet Tecks and Tricky Stepladders.

By M. QUAD.

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HEN the rest of the world cleaned house last spring. Mrs. Bowser decided to let the job wait until early fail. The other day she also decided that the propitious moment had arrived. and as Mr. Bowser sal reading and smoking she asked:

Would you mind if we had break fast half an hour earlier than usual?"

"I guess not. But why?" he queried. Well, I thought I'd begin house cleaning tomorrow. I've got two women and a man coming to help me, and I want to get an early start.

"Two women and a man, ch?" muse Mr. Bowser as he laid down his paper Two women and a man, and it will take you a month?"

"Oh, no; I hope to get through in three days"

"In other words, Mrs. Bowser, this house is to be upset from cellar to gar ret for the next three days in order that a man and two women may loaf around and charge you \$3 a day sphere



HEAVED AND TUGGED

for 12: That's your way exactly. 1 don't believe there's suother woman like you on earth!" "Haven't I got to clean house?" she asked

Will Do the Job Himself.

"Yes, things have got to be tumbled over once a year, I suppose, but I don't propose to be upset for three or four days nor pay out \$50 in cash. What bousecleaning is wanted around here can be done in one hour by the clock. and I'm the person to do it. I want exercise to work off about three pounds of superfluous flesh. I'll change my clothes and be ready in five minutes."

"But you can't clean house!" pleaded

in hereast and antway of forniture, the next thing in order was to take up the carpet. Some folks waste time by prying out the tacks. but there is another way, and Mr. Bowser caught on at once. Having got a corner loosened, he solved the border with both hands and heaved and tucged, and there was a rip, rip, rin, all along the baseboard. All he room and heave away. Some men would have folded the carnet over and

rolled it up when it was free from the floor but Mr Bowser didn't. No be drew it along like a baystack. As a sort of grand windup and to reduce the height of the pile he fell on it. Two yells and a whoop followed, and the sounds jumps of the cat from under the imnee and brought Mrs. Rowser down stairs on wings. He hadn't meant to yell when he fell foul of the tacks and magined for a minute that he had

kicked over a bumhlohees' nest, but he was taken by surprise. However Mrs. Bowser found him on his feet and struggling to preserve a calm and areless demonstr "it must have been cats fighting is

the back yard," she said "I see you've got the curpet up. The next thing is to dust the celling. I'll get you a feather duster.

Ups and Downs of Housecleaning

When she had handed him the duster ad disappeared Mr. Bowset advanced and kicked that heap of carpet about orty times as hard as he could swing is legs. A hundred tacks had tabled nto him and left smarting wounds, but he felt easier after the kicking All that was needed now to finish up was to use the duster. He carried the step tder over to a corner and mounted it and began work, and as he worked he chuckled Mrs. Rowser had figured on standing the house on its bend for two or three weeks, but he had got the best of her. Breakfast and dinner would be served at the usual hours, and he wouldn't have to climb over scrub brooms, mop sticks and pails of water to get in or out of the house. He was using the duster about as a abover uses a crowbar and flattering timself that the house would soon go to ruck without him when some move ment caused the foot of the ladder to Mr. Bowser let fall the duster dia und grabbed something, but it was too He felt himself going, and he yelled "Murder!" He heard the cat pottering in over the bare floor, and he ward Mrs. Rowser on the stairs, and then he landed somewhere and saw stars dancing before him and the sound of many wheels going around was in his ears He wasn't dead. He hadn't even broken a leg. He opened his

eyes to find his head and shoulders up on the floor and his feet slauting up on the haystack of a carpet. As he my thus for a moment he heard the ook asking in an awed voice: "Is he dead at last?" And Mrs. Bowser's voice was also

dain as she answered: "I don't think so I think he turned

over twice on his back. Keep the cat way while I fan him

He Knows Who Did It.

Then Mr Bowser bost sight of stars and suns and moous, and sound of wheels died away, and he returned to one buisness. He took one leg down it a time and then slowly and with becoming dignity stood up and leaned igainst the wall. The cook withdrew and the cat walked away, and Mrs. Howser was left face to face with whatever might come. It was not long



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The p

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gested.

your life

things on.

When I was a boy I lived beside a railroad. There was a bridge across the river near where I lived, and I spent a great deal of my time on this bridge holding a fishpole over the wa ter. I perched myself on an abutment where I would not be interfered with by trains, and when any of the engineers I knew came along I would wave my hand to him, getting a nod in reply.

There was a time, when I was about sixteen years old, that a train went over the bridge carrying an express car. The engineer was Josh McCur dy, the best friend I had among the brotherhood. When I was a little kid slaying about among the switches where the men were making up trains be had jumped from his cab and yanked me out of the way of a car that was being backed right on to me As I grew older I appreciated what he had done for me and loved him acordingly. And he loved me the more securise he had done it.

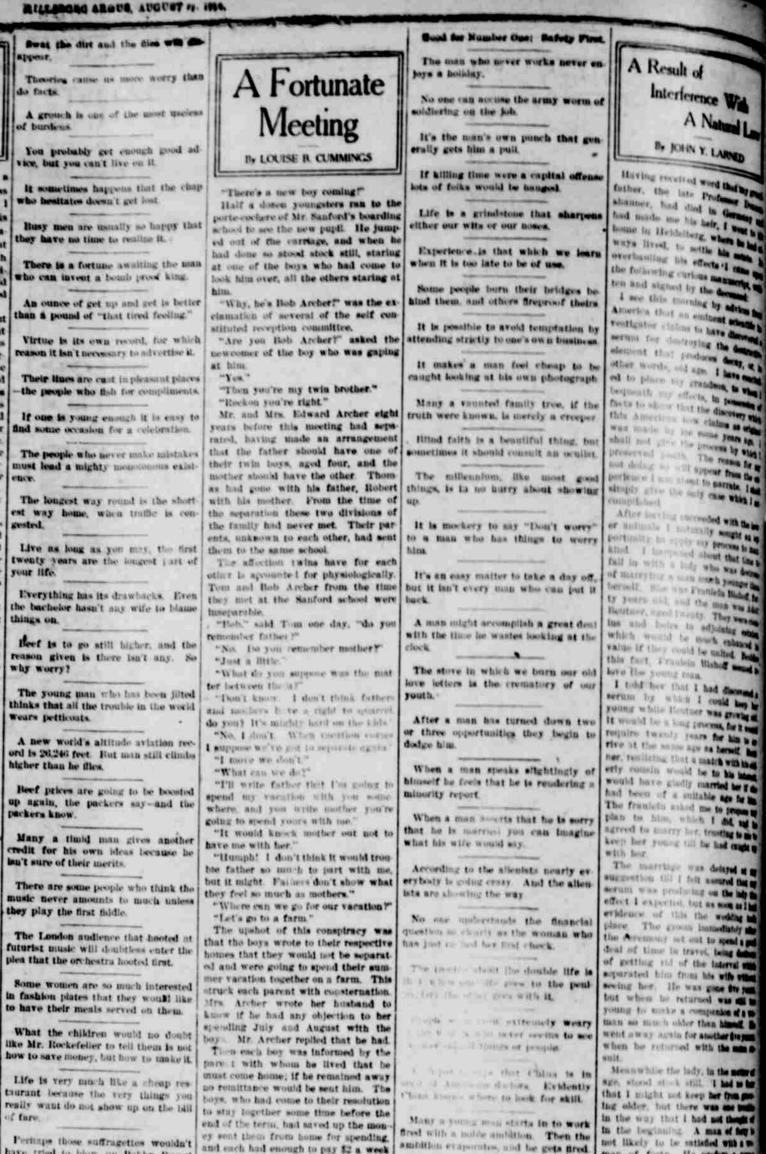
In July and August I was usually fshing on the bridge nearly all day One morning when Josh McCurdy train was coming I heard a shot and w his train slowing up. But it didn't come to a full stop till the engine and forward cars had got on to the bridge. I saw the heads of passenger threast out of the windows of the coach es and other evidences of excitement which convinced me that something serious had happened.

The shot I had heard, together with the fact that I knew the train always carried an express car, suggested to me that the train had been held up by poblers. Boylike, I was curious to see what was going on, besides being thinks that all the trouble in the world solicitous about my friend the engineer. So, instead of keeping out of the way, I went as fast as I could go over ties and stringers toward the train. I was not likely to be noticed. coming from the bridge; but, feeling sure that my inference that robbers were at work was correct, as I neared the hissing engine I dropped down on to some supports below and made my way along them. I was now over the bank, which

sloped from the abutment to the river. I couldn't see what was going on in or about the train, but one thing I saw that set me to thinking. The locomotive and one car-either the backage or express-were on the bridge, and 1 could look up from under them. In those days the old fashioned coupling had not completely passed out of use. and the curs of this train were linked together with a pin.

A man was immering with his fis at the rear door of the car above me

but suddenly turned and ran down the steps and disappeared from my view I was not slow in divining that he had goop for sumstilling with which b break in the door, an ax or a tie. There right over my head was the link that held the car to the rest of the train hanging loose. A plan of action flash ed through my brain Catching a stringer, 1 pulled myself up to where I could reach the pin and pulled it out Then, lowering myself, I made my way with a boy's agility to the cab



Pertups those suffragettes wouldn't have tried to blow up Bobby Burns' cottage if he had written it, "A gal's a man for a' that." found myself in it, alone. Opening the valve, I let on steam, slowly at

of fare.

Mrs. Bowser as she barred his way up stairs. "Just let it go I've thought of another plan. I'll do it, one room at a time, and all by myself."

"What's the matter that I can't clean house? You watch my smoke and see We won't have any puttering around about it. There's no use for you to spend a week over what I can do in an bour. I'll take the parlor first, and you needn't worrs "

Mrs. Bowser dropped into a chair with a groan, and Mr. Bowser jumped into an old suit and was downstairs with the stepladder in ten minutes. The family cut came up from the kitchen and saw him in his shirt sleeves and a grim look on his face, and she quietly slipped under the lounge to be in a safe place when the splinters began to dy

"A man and two women, eh? Three days and \$50 expense to clean a house! Kindly keep track of my motions."

Mrs. Bowser Retreats.

And with five twists and a yank Mr. Bowser had the furniture out of the parlor into the sitting room The casters chirruped and the dust flew, and Mrs. Bowser dodged the dancing chairs and made her way upstairs There were pictures and wall ornaments to come down. It would have taken Mrs. Bowser half a day to remove them, but the time consumed by Mr. Bowser was a little short of twelve minutes That was a saving of eleven hours and forty-eight minutes to begin with. In taking the pictures down he grabbed them by the corners and gave firt and a twist and snapped wires or books and started the molding from the wall, but he was working against time. As the last picture came down the corner struck and knocked the nose a marble bust of Shakespeare, and Mrs Bowser called down to know what had happened

"Nothing-nothing 'tall," replied Mr. Bowser as he picked up the nose and flang it out of the window. "You just keep quiet, and I'll show you how to do this housecleaning. I don't think we'll have to put breakfast ahead of the usual time

In carrying the ornaments into the Hving room he struck a vase against a chair and shivered it, but the shiver didn't reach Mrs Bowser, and he had nothing to complain of

The cat parred and grinned as she looked out from her lair. Things were getting interesting. They got more interesting as Mr. Bowser, loaded up with rugs, came staggering in to trip over his own feet and come down on his knees and roll over on the broad of his back.

"1-1 thought you had gone through to the cellar!" said Mrs. Bowser as she came hurrying downstairs.

"And suppose I had!" he demanded as he struggled up. "I'm bossing this job and if I want to break through the floor that's my business. You see what I've accomplished, don't you? In twenty-two minutes I have done more housecleaning than you and your crowd gouid have accomplished in three days.

"I see, I understand." whispered Mr. the locomotive and, climbing the steps lowser, as he notded his head. "You-you had a fall."

"Yes; attempted assassination. Who menked down here and kicked that stepladder from under me? Who I say who? who? who?" and, pointing the accusing finger of justice at Mrs. Rowser, he slowly and laboriously climbed his way upstairs and left her with her conscience.

No Occasion For Delay.

l'attence-They say a girl can learn to swim much quicker if she has a woman instructor than if she has

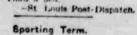
Shine. Patrice-Well, I don't blame her.-Yonkers Statesman.

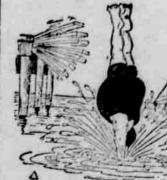
terreter to be a second
The Poet's Auto.
Though slim my purse.
Somehow it glads
My heart to read
The auto ads
Rirmingham Age-Heral
I read them ere
Sleep steals o'er me.
And all night long
I drive one free
-Boston Transcrip
1 scorch along
And pay no toll

And nesser hir A post or pole -Rochester (N Y) Post-Express

And, sleeping, I This thought embrace: There is no mortgage On my place! -Los Angeles Express.

And of the going Be it said There's nothing softer Than a bed.





A heavy plunger.-Philadelphia Rec-

Another Meanest Man.

Burton-Mean man, Isn't he? Robinson-Mean? He's enpable of going into a barber shop for a shave and then getting his hair cut just to keep other people whiting -Boston Globe.

Brave In Company. Wife after callers have gone)-How dare you scold me before company? Hub-Well, you know, my dear, 1 don't dare to do it when we are by ourselves .- Boston Transcript

first, but rapidly increasing the power till I was well under way. I expected to die for my act, for the robbers could jump on to the rear platform of the car, come forward, and I was defenseless. The reason they didn't do this was fhat they had been told off for different purposes. Two were going through the cars robbing the passengers, one was guarding the engineer, who had been taken from his cab, and the fourth man was hunting for a tie with which to batter down the door of the express car. He did not see that the car was moving till it had gone too far to be reached, walking as he would have had to do on ties, which is a slow process. I crossed the bridge with my engine and one car and was well on the other side when, hearing a sound behind me I turned and saw the express agent coming over the coal in the tender He had taken in the fact that his car had been hauled away and when he saw me at the throttle informed me that in some mysterious way I had saved the treasure for which he was responsible, as well possibly as his life. Without a word he threw his arms about me and hugged and kissed me till I thought he would smother me. Then he fired a few short questions at me, to which I fired back as short replies, and the story was told.

We had no fear of being followed across the bridge, so, pulling up at a station not far beyond the river, we telegraphed for information. The news came that the robbers had mounted horses and galloped away. It was some time, however, before we received an order to back across and, when we did, found that no lives had been lost, though the robbers had got considerable plunder from the pussengers.

Jack McCurdy set an example by bugging me, and pretty much every one present followed it. I was sent for by the president of the road and asked what I wanted as a reward for my feat. I said I wanted preferment for Jack McCurdy. The president smiled at this and said, "I think I can take care of both of you."

And he did. Jack became a division superintendent, and a quarter of a century later I became president of the road.

Children of the Rich.

"Son, I'm surprised to find you play ing is the mud." "But this mud has been thoroughly sterilized, dad."

"Oh, well, go shead with your fun ' -Kansas City Jorunal.

Absolute Rest.

Patience-Women employees of the government printing offices are to have rest rooms. Patrice-You mean rooms where no talking is allowed?-Yonkers States man.

dresterridan ment

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A high school professor, drawn on a jury, was late in court, and the judge made him stay in during recess. That must tickle his pupils,

Miss Commissioner Davis' triumph over the rebellious prisoners on Blackwell's island is militancy of a high or der properly directed.

If the fool who didn't know it we loaded could only hit the man who rocks the boat, few would object to his possession of firearma

Now the man who has recovered from his vacation eyes with pitying contempt the man who is in the threes of preparing for a vacation.

Paris has just completed a census of her trees. Possibly the census was ordered in connection with a national search for new abinet material.

What foundations for the fish stories of a great nation lie in the 4,000,000,000 spawn distributed in the fiscal year just passed by the bureau of fisheries!

Advisable as it may be to cultivate the "smile that won't come off," there is far greater need for a similar cheer ful disposition on the part of pants buttons.

If Greece makes as good a thing out of the battleships as we did of the Louisiana purchase at about the same price, her ancient glories will soon be entored.

A Chicago man committed suicide because his wife nagged him for fooling away a quarter getting his bair cut. It is surprising to learn that he had any hair.

The battleship Mississippi, purchased by Greece, has been rechristened the Klikis. If she had been soldsto Russia the vessel might now be rejoicing under a six syllable name.

Miss Margaret Wilson's formula for dispetting the heat with a "cheerful smile" is fair philosophy. But it is doubtful if the most cheerful smile will restore the starch to the wilted collar.

ndes three dogs this year."

kee Free Press.

"Don't you dance?"

to, two weeks ago. But I haven't bad time to learn the really fashionable steps."-Washington Star.

that they could get on without remittances.

and each had enough to pay \$2 a week

money and her suit case with good

things for them, she went to see them

Putting an arm around each of them

she sof weeping that she could not

have both of them with her always

She remained with them two days,

when, fearing that her husband might

hear of her presence there, she bade

the boys goodby, intending to go home

She was embracing both at once, tears

streaming down her cheeks, when the

door opened and there stood her hus-

Now, Mrs. Archer in her trouble

with her husband had yielded to irri-

tation and when he said disagreeable

things to her had buried them back in

kind. She had never resorted to wo

man's trump card, tears. Her husband,

seeing her embracing their boys, weep-

ing, began to weep himself. Tears,

like laughter, are contagious, and, see

ing their parents weeping, the boys

followed suit. The father approached

his sons to embrace them, shedding a

few tears over Bob, whom he had not

seen for years, and thus got mixed up

with Tom and the wife and mother.

Their arms were around each other

"Belle," said Mr. Archer, "these boys

have got ahead of us. We can't con-

tinne the situation without its pertain-

Laconic Analysis.

"Perhaps you can tell me what's the

matter with the way I farm," said the

"Easy!" replied Farmer Corntonnel

"Too much theorizing and not enough

Black and White.

"Then no wonder he was white

washed."- Baltinore American.

enry rising."-Washington Star.

amateor agriculturist.

Lot in priinted."

promisenously.

board for eight weeks.

enjoyed it.

band.

There was a farm a few miles from once. the school that they had often visited. and there they made arrangements to The absentminded New York indy pay \$2 a week each for board and do who left her child on a car is still \$2 tourk a week, which consisted prinshivering with fright-it might have cipally of collains. On leaving school they went to this form, and since the been Fido!

work was a nevelty to them they guite Cages for wild animals have been abolished at the London zoo. Visitors Mrs. Archer endared her son's abaccustomed to seeing the militants at sence as long as possible, then gave large manifest no alarm. way to a desire to see both her children together. So filling her purse with

Beef and diamonds are going up But automobiles are coming down. For some people life will continue to be one joy ride after another.

The dictators who have gone from this country to Europe would make an interesting and perhaps Influential community if they were to colonize.

to reduce the high cost of living the disclosure of the halibut trust wakes the consumer from pleasant dreams,

Even the most preposterous things sometimes come true A Chicago bather whose clothes were atolen at the beach actually went home in a barrel.

The statement old Dr. Oaler made that all of us are more or less tubercutarly affected will not be any more shocking than the statement of the allenists that none of us is perfectly same.

A critic in the Berlin National Zeltung says that American men are mere "money grabbers." That explains, of course, why they are so enthusiastically welcomed in European tourist centers.

Named. "Who is that powerful glant who looks like a modern Samson?" asked the stranger.

"That is Percival Algernon Cyril Milk," replied the native. "And who is the deliente, sissified looking chap with him?" asked the

"That be John I. Suitivan Hercules Strong," replied the nutive,-Stanford Chaparral.

Thoughtfulness.

"What are you doing?" asked the friend.

"Sending out felicitations on my approaching marriage," replied Baron Fucash.

"Felicitations!" "Yes To my creditors."- Washington Star.

He Didn't Ge.

"I didn't see you at church yester "That fellow whom they have been day." acceptimiting is every bit as black as "No; my wife considers it unfashion

able to be seen at church during the summer months. We're supposed to be out of the city then, you know."-Kan-

Nobody admitted to the ball of fame The matter between Her he ner and his wife west es ter mis in the same way till he was thry do years old, then he wrote her he for four years. This seems to afford a chance for-well, don't all speak at South Africa that he had been b terested in dismond mining there was growing rich. He is the up that he was tired of a peak in and on the day he was forty well b turn to her and settle down. Feeling responsible for the minte conditions existing between these the persons, I viewed the approach of the real supplials with solicitude func-something might occur to mar the b suit. The lady who had wand the ty years for a husband was an # ting a trille antious, I dd will could to encourage her, but she seed

man of forty. He prefers a pa

etri.

to have a presentment that whith the head been hoping for would at b rehlized Three months before the time at M the return of her hustand the is sot hernelf into such a state of way that I found my serum was not and And just as fish is being suggested properly, 1 told her that I de C properly. I too her despedent w should have a had failure. The fail counter effect from what I had a marted. It frightened her, and the fail pected. It frightened ber, and make control of herself. The real wat hysterical condition, which real my hypodermic injection absoluty b offeetive.

Within a week from a worth C forty she had become one st and, not being mod to the press the youth destroying animaking a her system, she had deteriorist in

her system, she had deterious more than she would have don and ordinary circonstances. Indeel and was shriveled far beyond her real. Then came the most distresses in ture in the affair. Her Bears rived suddenly, full of anticiping setting down with a companies woman as well preserved a loss and stumbled into the very me where she was. Seeing an ed con

he asked her where he would tall wife. The poor woman reliant situation, pointed to a room scrub hall and us seen as he had in locked the door. She never at a

As for my discovery, I have been a secret all my life, as I beet I those twenty years that I been be

Had I proceeded with my Beutner. ments perfunge I would have far more wonderful results than case, but I preferred not to to

"I love the new soprant" and The tenor to the present "I don't care if her hair live She is a storious screent" - Cincinsed Rese

Mrs. Newlyrich-My dog b 1 Miss Caustic-Will be at an P fully trained.

knife?-Philadelphia Leight.

Old Hercules through stalles we A river caused to flow. But where's the Harrans can be To clean old Mexico? -Clevelant Part Parts

Pluto's Pet. Cerberus was barking at the gates of "He's all right," Pluto ruminated.

Even he had his troubles .- Milwau-

both of them. But time had changed them, and loneliness had taught them that scrapping is the result of nervousness and, after all, doesn't mean much.

However, scrapping was never resumed between them,

"But I do hope they won't tax me for

Changeful Requirements

"No." replied Miss Cayenne. "I used

ing to them. In separating from each other we separate ourselves from them. If you'll come home and bring them with you you'll be welcome." "Do it, mother," pleaded both the boys. That was the end of the separation in the Archer family. Both father and mother placed a guard over themselves, for they knew that as soon as they parted the boys would part from