STEAMSHIP **ENGAGEMENTS**

By C. B. LEWIS

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It may have been that in the hurry and confusion of getting away from London the purser of the steamship Bramble got things mixed up. He knew that he had among the passengers no less than three fond American mammas who had been trailing over Europe with marriageable daughters and were coming home with disap-pointed looks, and he hoped to give one of them a last chance.

However it happened, it was known among the passengers even before the Bramble left her dock that a great man was on board. It was Mr. Julius Smithers of the Chicago beef trust, and his fortune was variously estimated at from ten to fifty million dollars. There were men who at first denied that Smithers was a member of the trust. They could name over every packer who had ever been mentioned in the papers, and the name of Smithers didn't figure in the list. They were about to denounce him as an impostor when a red headed man suggested that Smithers might have come into the trust on a merger of some sort. There were mergers merging all the time, and what if the beef trust and the tombstone trast had consolidated their

The thing was as good as settled in an hour. Mr. Smithers was a man of forty. He was rather rotund and baid headed. He had just the faintest inclination to be flashy. Mr. Smithers was very democratic for a man worth untold millions. He made acquaintances rapidly, and the steamer had not made a hundred miles to the westward when he started a game of poker in the smoking room and had for companions a drummer, a cattleman, a ward politician and the inventor of the sausage stuffing machine. He was given a seat at the captain's table. It was afterward said that this was a mistake and



"I WILL BER YOU AGAIN. IN FACT, I WAN TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

that he had taken the place assigned to a bishop. If he hadn't been worth millions upon millions his table manners would have been open to criticism. There was much to overlook in Mr.

Julius Smithers or there would have been under any other circumstances. He was about the only one who didn't know it, and he was happy. Within forty-eight hours those mam-

mas were laying wires. If they had failed to pick up a lord, a duke or count abroad it wasn't such a bad thing to fall back on one of the "its" of the beef trust. Mr. Smithers could not only restore the family beefsteaks to the old time prices, but he had millions to spend in castles, yachts and diamonds. These mammas had male friends aboard, who were instructed to obtain information about Smithers. He met them halfway and more.

"Say, you take my word for it, it's going to be the biggest success of anything for the last ten years," was his sanguine reply. "You'll hear all about it within a month after we land. Money in it? Well, I guess yes. I expect to make bonfires of fifty-dollar bills."

He was talking about the merger, of course. His replies were reported to the waiting mammas, and they were introduced. The said introductions came about in a careless way, as if by mere accident.

The mammas found him hearty and jovial in his speech. He didn't always follow the rules of grammar, and he sometimes caught himself just in time to bite off a cuss word, but a man may be forgiven much if he can draw his

check for several millions. It was decided in all three cases that Mr. Smithers would do as a member of the family. When he became a son-inlaw they could polish him up a bit and gradually reduce the size of his two watch chains and his diamond pin,

Then the daughters were introduced. This was also carelessly accomplished -that is, while Mr. Smithers was making intervals between his poker games in order to get a breath of ocean air he would suddenly find some one in his path and be compelled to pause and be introduced. He wasn't a man with a scaln of statistion in his composition. Yonkers Statesman.

and he was the foul of good nature. He gave up his poker to sit down and

make himself agreeable to Miss Blank, "You may have heard of the beef trust?" was his way of starting off the conversation, "It's going to be the biggest thing the United States ever heard of. My, but that was a great thought of mine, and I can't help but feel rather swelled up over it! No more bust-ups; no more walking the railroad tracks for Julius Smithers,

rather familiar, that he evidently a per cent of the value extracted.

hadn't attended over a thousand high. The mine pays to the government teas and grand receptions and that it amount determined by the value and would take a carload of sandpaper to importance of the concession, after rub him down, but he had a good heart which it must pay to the government a as a foundation to build on. If his con- sum proportioned to the value of the versation wasn't exactly up to the notch the windup was intended to draw applause. He always finished by

fact, I want to see you again. I think vides for the public safety. I can figure it out before we arrive at of the season, but keep that to your-

"Mamma, what did he mean by that?" asked the respective daughters of their respective mothers.

"Why, child, how silly you are!" was the reply. "What could be mean but one thing?"

"But we have known, him such a little while."

"You haven't got to know a million aire over a day or two. They are different from other men. They have the

There were men abourd looking to get into a good thing on the ground floor. They knew that the beef trust was a good thing. They threw out by her child. Seeing the elephant, she hints to Mr. Smithers, but he laughed guessed his intention and pleaded, and shook his head and replied:

"Not yet, my boy. I've got the dough to start it off, and I want all the plunks there are in it. See me next swallow me, too, oh, elephant!" So the веаноп."

"Will beef go up?"

"Thunder, no! We expect to knock the price down to 15 cents a pound." lions out of it?"

quivering wink with his left eye and conveyed the impression that there and envy and toadyism for five or six days.

Then Sandy Hook was sighted one morning, and he announced to the three scheming mammas that he wanted to hold converse with their three daughters. It was to be private converse. There was agitation. There was perturbation. There were consultations, Mr. Smithers selected a corner tion was about the same in each in stance,

"My dear girl," began Mr. Smithers, with paternal blandness, "I told you I had a good thing on hand and would corps are usually in relays of from try to arrange to make you an offer. I four to a half dozen, and they are ream about to do so. You have never had lieved at short intervals by fresh workany experience on the stage, but you are a mighty good looker."

"Sir!" demanded the maiden as she retreated a step.

"Oh, I shan't ask you to dress unbeplay called 'The Beef Trust' and showing how that corporation by raising the prices parted two happy lovers and brought grief and death to other households. Three corking acts and a cast of twelve people. We introduce a drove of cattle, a slaughter house and a

What do you say?" came cries of "Kill him! Throw him sugar when allowable or with sacchapulled into the purser's room and saved ture herself is crying out. Give water steamer reached her dock the captain are difficult to digest. lent him a pair of false red whiskers to disguise himself and escape the mob.

The Diver Bird.

Dantzic correspondent writes: While swimming on a lake with her brood of five a diver bird was shot and, although mortally wounded, collected her young ones and dived for their safety. When her dead body floated to the surface the five little birds were still clinging with their beaks to her wings, but all had been suffocated by remaining too long under the water .-London Mail.

Philosophy. A Kansas philosopher warns the men against the girl who takes time to consider a proposal of marriage. He intimates that she is hopeful that something better will turn up. Still, the man she finally accepts can console himself with the reflection that she has discovered it wasn't possible for anything better to turn up. - Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Whistle Blows.

Bill-Don't you think this blowing of factory whistles is a onisance? Jill-Well, when they blow for quitting time I don't think so, but when they blow for us to go to work I certainly dol-

CURIOUS LAND LAW.

Owners In Belgium Do Not Control Beyond a Certain Depth.

One of the curious phases of the land law in Belgium is that the earth of a landowner beyond a certain depth does liver and regulate the bowels. For sale not belong to him. Should the owner of the surface discover a coal or gold deposit underlying his property he must first obtain a government concession before he can begin mining opera-The girls elevated their eyebrows in tions. The land beyond the prescribed surprise and perplexity. They had nev- depth in which wealth in the raw has er heard any merger talk before, and been discovered may be conceded to a it was as Greek to them. They report-ed to their respective mammas that who may operate under certain govern-Mr. Smithers didn't get into college ment regulations, one of which is that the day he called, that his ways were the owner of the surface is entitled to

The mine pays to the government an total extraction. The government names the conditions under which the mines as well as other industrial establishments shall be operated and pro-"I shall now have to ask you to ex- tects and safeguards the health and cuse me, but I will see you again. In lives of the workmen as well as pro-

The minister of industry and labor Sandy Hook to offer you the best thing appoints a state hoard of mining engineers, authorized to regulate the working of all mines and all establishments considered dangerous or insanitary, whether shaft or open mines, quarries, factories, coke oven plants or briquette works.-Boston Globe.

A ZULU LEGEND.

Odd Story of the Origin of This Savage People.

The Zulus account for their origin, says a correspondent of the Country Gentleman (English), by a story of a talking elephant who fed upon children. He met a woman laden with an ax and bundle of fagots, accompanied Spare my child, oh, elephant!" The elephant refused. "Then," said the mother, "if this evil must happen elephant swallowed mother and child, and they found themselves with all the other children who were eaten previously. By and by the child grew hun-"Then how will you make your mil- gry, and the mother lit a fire with her fagots. She then with her ax cut away Mr. Smithers didn't make any direct | the elephant's flesh, cooked it, and they answer. He simply winked a long, all atc. As the fire burned, its great heat filled the elephant with pain, and be ran and ran and ran till they felt was a coon up the tree. The merger the thunder of his hoofs racing over man enjoyed the sunshine of flattery hill and valley. At length, exhausted, he dropped down dead. Using her ax, the mother chopped and chopped until she made an opening in the elephant's side. After this they crept out and became a new nation in a new country.

Bees as Ventilators.

It is not generally known, but most beekeepers will inform you that such is the case, that each beehive has a of the music room, and to that spot the victims were led in turn. The convered "ventilating bees." During the hot easons these ventilators station themselves at the entrance of the hive and fan the interior with the incessant motion of their wings. These ventilating ers who keep up the fanning process. They are kept at work by a sort of patrol of bees, which insures incessant activity on the part of the fanners during the time they are at work. This comingly. It's just a plain, straight story may sound strange to those who know but little concerning the wonderful intelligence of bees, but it is a scientific fact that has often been authenticated.

Diet and Sickness.

It is a broad rule that bolled milk butcher shop among other spectacular and puddings made with milk agree effects. Will move right along without more frequently than anything to rea hitch. Papers are bound to give it store a sick person. When beginning free columns of advertising. I can put to restore a sick person to more ordiyou in the cast at \$30 per to begin on. nary diet begin with white fish, boiled. Plaice or sole boiled in milk is excel-None of the three said anything-not lent. Never give potatoes when the dito Mr. Smithers. Ten minutes after gestion is bad. In place of bread give the last interview a murmur swept toast. Often there is a craving for over the great steamer. That was fol- acids. In such cases give lemon juice lowed by a growl. After the growl diluted with water and sweetened with overboard." There was a rush of feet rin in diabetes. A craving for green along the decks, but Mr. Smithers was stuffs should always be satisfied. Nafrom total wreckage, and when the cress, but withhold radishes, as they

The Fishing Fleets.

In many localities off the Scotch coasts and the coasts of Norway the fishing grounds lie at some distance from the shore and the start must be made with the ebb tide, sometimes in the middle of the night. All the boats of a single locality generally start together, and to one unaccustomed to the sight the spectacle of 200 to 300 fishing boats putting off from a harbor like Yarmouth is a sight never to be forgotten.-London Graphic.

"Bonus" ought to be "bonum," since ft is evidently intended to mean "a good thing" and therefore should be neuter, not masculine. The word is found as early as 1773, but no one knows who was the ignorant or willful sinner against Latin that introduced it, though conjecture assigns it to the London Stock Exchange.

Made Rim' Tired.

Affectionate Wife-George, dear, sit down and rest in your elegant new Worried Husband-How can I rest in that chair, Emily, when I know that the man is likely to come in at any moment to collect an installment on it?-Chicago Tribune.

Do Not Neglect Your Bowels.

Many serious diseases arise from neglect of the bowels. Chamberlain's Stom ach and Liver Tablets are a pleasant and agreeable laxative. They invigorate the by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

Cures Kidney and Bladder Diseases in Every Form-Many People **Have Kidney Trouble** and Do Not Know It.

HOW TO FIND OUT.

It is the function of the kidneys to filter and purify the blood which is constantly passing through them.

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HOW TO FIND OUT.

You can easily determine if your kidneys are out of order by setting aside for 24 hours a bottle of the urine passed upon arising. If upon examination it is cloudy or milky or has a brick-dust sediment or small particles float about in it, your kidneys are diseased and Foley's Kidney Cure should be taken at once.

Foley's Kidney Cure is pleasant to take and acts directly upon the parts affected and you begin to feel better

It corrects slight disorders in a few days and it has cured many obstinate cases after other treatment had falled,

Doctors Said He Would Not Live.

Peter Frey, of Woodruff, Pa., writes:
"After doctoring for two years with the
best physicians in Waynesburg, and still retting worse, the doctors advi had any business to attend to I had better attend to it at once, as I could not possibly live another month, as there was o cure for me was recommended to me by a friend, and I immediately sent my son to the store for it and after taking three bottles I be-gan to get better and continued to improve until I was entirely well."

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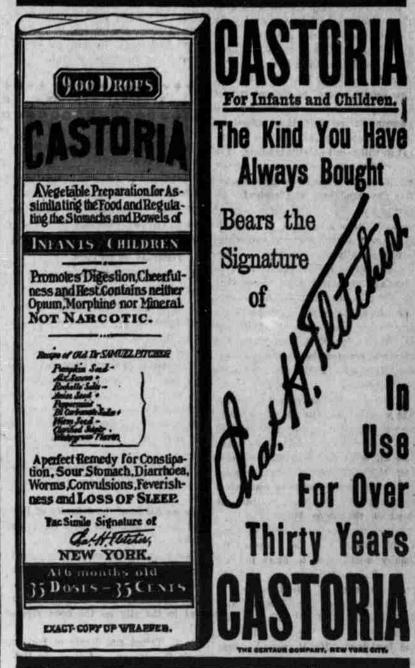
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