PORTLAND RIPE FOR A PURITY CRUSADE

Leaders in Secret Movement to Elevate Moral Tone Plan Larger Operations---Systematic Work to Be Done by Prominent Men.

Portland is apparently ripe for a purity crusade. At least this is the opinion of a number of ministers in various churches of the city, and it is but fair to presume that because of the number of business and professional men present at the recent purity meetings, the movement to eradicate certain evils has spread outside the pale of the church.

Within 48 hours, according to information given last night to The Journal, a meeting will be held in the city in which some of the best known citizens of Portland will be prominent. At this meeting definite plans will be formulated looking to the inauguration of a genuine crusade against the sale of liquor to young boys and girls, and kindred evils. Those who are back of the movement propose to proceed slowly. At first, it is stated, every effort will be made to keep the details of the movement secret. The men who are in the movement declare that it will not be like other enterprises of the same kind, in that nothing will now be promised, but that it is hoped much will be accomplished.

Conditions Surely Bad.

Rev. Edgar P. Hill, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, said last night that in his opinion the presentation of the case in Friday's issue of The Journal was not exaggerated. "I know," he said, "that many people deprecate the publicity given to matters of this kind, and are inclined to discount the reports made concerning moral conditions in the city. But it is plain to me that the movement having for its object the elevation of the youth of the community is now better understood than ever before. Men have been told of facts that they never dreamed of and they are now prepared to act."

Facts are to be gathered by those active in the movement showing that the laws are violated, in that restaurants and saloons sell liquor to boys and girls under legal age. These facts, it is stated, will show that girls of tender years, minors, are admitted to the back doors and side doors of saloons and restaurants where liquors are sold. It will be demonstrated that these girls and boys are customers sought after and petted by the men who run the drinking places they frequent.

Proof to be Furnished.

Proof is to be furnished that these places that are selling liquor to minor girls despite the laws of the city and state, are converting the children of Portland into confirmed cocktail drinkers. Case after case has been found where young girls of respectable parents turn from their journeys into the heart of the city—or from the work that employs them in the city—at evening time to the sumptuous mirror-bedecked and drapery-hung resorts. In these places the girls are given cocktails. Later, in some cases, the girls have been followed from the saloons to the street-cars that take them to their homes.

Dr. Hill said last evening:

"The condition of Portland, morally, as published in The Journal of Friday night is regarded by many as exaggerated. It was not exaggerated, in fact, and did not tell all of the conditions that were told at the church meetings last Thursday night.

"Enough has been said, however, to change the present movement from most reform movements, in that the present is a case where the matter is being taken in hand by representative men of this community. These men are going after the facts—not for opinions and surmises—and enough has been learned by them to convince them that conditions are thoroughly bad.

No Political Meaning.

"It may also be said for this effort at purity that it is absolutely without political meaning. Men called into it are not working for or against any party. They know that it is now a question of protecting the young boys and girls. They are going to work without regard to party to bring this improvement about.

"Most movements of this kind suffer from too much publicity, and for that reason the meeting of business men is to be secret. The intention is to do only such talking as will be necessary to show the people the truth; and for the present to keep the progress of the work towards betterment a secret."

No Law Against Back Door.

It is known that there is no law against the side entrance and the back doors of saloons in Portland, and no effort will be made to punish saloons having such entrances, because the effort could but result in failure. But there is a way of getting at restaurant and saloon men who are constantly violating the law by selling liquor to girls and boys. The restaurants are the places doing the biggest afternoon trade in supplying girls with cocktails or bracers.

"Many people, especially business men, know that moral movements of this kind usually amount to nothing," said a business man yesterday. "This time the plan is to show absolute proof, at the proper time, that will convince every pure minded citizen—no difference with which party or business concern he may be affiliated—that the traffic in dragging the girls of this city into the gutter and into the slums should cease. Enough proof has been secured to show those who have become familiar with the movement that the old cry, 'Portland is no worse than other cities,' is not founded on fact under existing conditions."

"At the request of the recent grand jury, the Municipal league secured the necessary information to indict owners of property now rented for illegal purposes," said Miller Murdoch, counsel for the reform organization yesterday. "We went to work and, at considerable expense and much inconvenience, secured the proper information. The indictments were returned, drawn up by District Attorney John Manning and laid before the grand jury for signature. Mayor Williams then appeared, delivered his celebrated speech requesting non-indictment of those people, and the result has been published in The Journal.

"Inasmuch as Mayor Williams and his official advisers have long permitted crime to flourish, gambling to run and vice to go unpunished, we thought it no more than right we should notify the property owners before we proceed against them in court that we intend to act if they persist in renting their property for immoral purposes. Therefore we served notice upon each one, and they now know what we purpose to do."

The Paris house, on lower Third street, is regarded by the police as the most disreputable dive in Portland.

"I own the property, but have leased it to the Star brewery," said A. H. Breyman. "I do not care to make any statement regarding it. I do not know for what purpose the property is being used."

"My clients own the property on which Blazier's First street saloon is located, but they are in California, and I cannot see any way the Municipal league can get service on them," said the attorney for Blanche and Mary Ann Cottle.

"I have nothing to say at present," said Joseph Clossett, who owns the property in which Fritz's gambling house and saloon is located at the corner of Second and Burnside streets.

"I do not know just what I will do. I will see later," said D. E. Buchanan, who owns the property on Fifth, between Washington and Alder streets, on which is located the Portland club, the largest gambling house in the city.

EXPOSURE IN SPOKANE.

Employment Agencies Traffic in Girls in That Place.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Spokane, April 16.—The people of this city are aroused over the exposure of a gang of procurers that has evidently operated in this vicinity for several months.

As a result of the exposure one employment agency proprietor was arrested, and it is believed that arrests of others will follow.

Facts concerning the nefarious business were brought to light through the efforts of a woman newspaper reporter employed on a daily paper here.

She learned that local employment agencies were securing girls for places in disreputable houses.

Armed with the information she had secured the young woman applied at several offices, and passing herself off as landlady of a house in Nelson, B. C., she asked to be supplied with two girls between the ages of 14 and 16. The agent said he could easily procure the girls and would write to Nelson, telling her at what time to expect the supply.

Postal authorities were informed of the transaction and a letter from C. F. Sebring of the Peerless Employment agency here, was intercepted at Nelson. The man said he had secured the girls wanted, and would send them to their destination within a week. His arrest followed last night.

Other cases are being investigated and several proprietors who have been engaged in the business are under surveillance and cannot leave the city without being arrested.

CANDIDATES TO BE INVESTIGATED

THOSE SEEKING VOTES WILL BE ASKED TO ADDDRESS OPEN MEETING OF AMERICAN LABOR UNION AND GIVE REASONS FOR ASKING SUPPORT.

Tomorrow night an open meeting of the American Labor union will be held in the painters' hall. Prominent labor speakers have promised to attend and discuss the subject of industrial unionism and the best plan to be adopted in order to bring it about.

Officers of the organization say the A. L. U. now has a membership of more than 400, and from now on they expect it to grow rapidly. The members believe in political action and state that they intend to make their presence felt during the coming campaign. Just which side of the political fence they will occupy is not yet known, according to those who are at the head of the movement. But they expect this matter to be soon settled.

The leaders of the organization are now at work upon a scheme which they believe will solve the question as to who they shall support for political honors. They expect soon to rent an opera house in which an open meeting will be held. Every candidate for the legislature on the various tickets will be invited to attend and to give his reasons why he should receive the support of the members of the American Labor union. It is said that the candidates giving the most plausible reasons will be endorsed, regardless of party affiliations. If this plan is adopted the members state they are very likely to be voting in June for Populists, Prohibitionists, Republicans, Democrats, labor candidates and others if their views should happen to be just right.

REGULATE TORPEDO USE.

(Journal Special Service.)

Vienna, April 16.—County Appony, leader of the national section of Liberals in the lower house, will propose at the international congress in St. Louis to regulate the use of torpedoes by various nations, which is now fraught with danger to innocent vessels.

Good Fellowship

is arrived at more quickly over a glass or two of fine old rye, Scotch or Bourbon whisky than by years of ordinary acquaintance. But the quality of the friendship is likely to depend on the quality of the liquor imbibed. You are on the safe side if it is procured at

NEUBERGER'S FULL MEASURE HOUSE

108 SIXTH STREET.

Phone Main 9394, Bet. Wash. and Stark.

HYPNOTIC POWER AIDS PLUNDERER

Police Seek Mrs. Addie Cora Who Is Charged With Having Robbed a Woman While the Visitor Was in a Trance.

The police are working on a case which, if the reported circumstances are true, forms one of the most peculiar in local criminal annals. It is alleged that Mayme McVenes, living at Front and Ash streets, was hypnotized by Mrs. Addie Cora, a fortune-teller, and while under her influence was robbed of a gold watch and fob chain, several silk garments, a ring and a purse containing a small amount of money. The seer has not yet been located, but her alleged victim is ready to swear out a complaint against her as soon as the police find where she is staying.

Captain Moore admits the affair is one of the strangest ever called to his attention. The facts, so far as can be learned, are as follows:

Jack Marnock, who conducts the Baltimore cafe at 301 Hawthorne avenue, went to police headquarters last night and informed Captain Moore that Mayme McVenes was hypnotized and robbed by Mrs. Addie Cora, a fortune-teller, about 10 days ago. He asserted that Mrs. Cora went to the house of the alleged victim and under the pretense of reading her fortune made a few passes in front of her face and threw her into a hypnotic trance. When she emerged from the trance the fortune-teller was gone, and with her watch, ring, clothing and money.

"All I will say now," said Marnock, "is that Mrs. Cora lives in some lodging-house on Morrison street. She is portly of figure and very dark-complexioned, giving the impression that the blood of one of the Latin races flows in her veins. She professes to be a palmist and fortune-teller. The woman who was robbed will swear out a complaint as soon as she is located."

Detectives Snow and Kerrigan are working on the case. Up to an early hour this morning they had not succeeded in locating Mrs. Cora. It is said she was seen on the street Thursday, and the police are satisfied she is still in the city.

FRATERNAL ORDERS KILL SECOND BILL

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Washington, April 16.—Senator John H. Mitchell is being flooded by letters from members of fraternal societies in Oregon and others appealing to him to try and effect the defeat of the senate bill introduced by Senator Dryden to prohibit the use of the mails to transmit advertisements of fraternal insurance associations.

Senator Mitchell desires those interested to know that this bill was on his motion defeated and indefinitely postponed in the senate committee on post-offices more than a month ago and there is no possibility of its being resurrected.

This is the second bill introduced by Senator Dryden on the subject, each of which was killed in the committee.

ADVANCE TO FRONT

(Continued from Page One.)

very kind. Wantee you go live his house. Very clean house."

I looked. He was clad in spotless white, his face was washed, and his rounded lines showed all the evidences of prosperous eating. His house, I learned, was a long distance off the main road, which would not do at all, and while I changed my undergarments I courteously declined the invitation. But it was the most intimate interview with a nobleman I ever had in my life.

Takes Long Rides.

In the middle of the day, when the sun tempers the bite of the wind which sweeps down from across Siberia, it is my custom to go for a ride. First I ride north my allotted hundred yards for the pleasure of having my guards turn out and warn me back. Then I turn to the east, following the trend of the village, and ride to Captain Teshima's quarters.

Captain Teshima is my jailer, and he is "very sorry" for me, as everybody has been "very sorry" for me ever since I struck Japan. I know half a dozen words of chinook, and he speaks French; so I fall back on my interpreter in order to learn the state of Captain Teshima's feelings for me.

He is constant, at any rate, for each day he is equally sorry for me, and he is as courteous as he is sorry. He gives me rations for my horses, and rice and soy (sauce) and beel for my men; also any information he is at liberty to divulge.

I learn today that all other foreigners and correspondents are being held back in Ping Yang, and as Dunn has gone back to Ping Yang to wake the dead in an effort to get permission to proceed, I am here in Sunan alone and farthest north. Also I heard today that there was a likelihood of Dunn's being unable to return even to Sunan. It all depends upon whether or not he can get a pass from General Sasaki.

Places Are Abandoned.

From Captain Teshima's I ride to the field telephone station, which is located in a deserted temple, and after a visit to the red-cross doctor I turn eastward again past abandoned yamens and temples and through the suburbs. No smoke curls up from the houses, and the only sign of life in evidence is a host of prowling, snarling dogs.

The Korean dog is a wolf dog. Here and there will be found a strain of European stock, but through it all the wolf runs, and it is the wolf characteristics which predominate. The wolf has to predominate if the dog is to survive, for the Korean is Asiatic, and as such knows little of sympathy and kindness, and toward dumb brutes none at all. He eats his dogs, not only when he is hungry, but when he wishes to titillate his stomach with a delicacy. Young dog in the spring is to him what spring lamb is to us, and old dog is just common, every-day mutton.

Comparison of Dogs.

As like as peas are many of the dogs to the sled dogs of the Klondike, and here in the deserted streets of Sunan may be duplicated all the slight differations of the Klondike breed. Here also is the prototype of the Hudson bay dog, somewhat larger than the Klondike dog, heavier, chestier and shorter-burred.

The country as far as the eye can see is equally deserted. No peasants bend their backs in the fields or gather fuel from wooded slopes. But the paths through the hills have been churned into bogs by the feet of the fugitives. Here and there, like forlorn ghosts, in their white wraps, may be seen strings of men drifting back to town for their koo kyung and for any stray doors or windows which may be lying about.

But the center of things, the seething life, is to be seen on the street in which I live. It is the Peking road, 20 feet wide between the houses, and everything passes my door. In the afternoon I set up my photograph gallery, and the audience of Sunanites becomes perturbed, excited and delighted. The perturbation is individual, the excitement and delight belong to the mass.

The poor wight I pitch upon for my victim comes in fear and trembling to the gleeful shouts of the crowd, and each selection is hailed with a shout from all save the one selected.

Holds His Subjects.

One married man I was compelled to hold while the camera was snapped by proxy. He squirmed and twisted, the tears washing white channels through the coating of dirt on his face, and thereby making his expression of fear the more ghastly. But this particular man was only 10 years old, yet he was a man, for no male is a man in Korea until he is married.

A man is a boy if he be a bachelor, and must wear his hair down his back; while a boy is a man if he be married, even though no more than 5 or 6 years of age, and it is his privilege to wear his hair in a topknot on the top of his head.

Manyoungi has quite entered into the spirit of my photography, and fares forth enthusiastically to capture any specimen I desire. Yesterday a Korean refugee with a child and household goods on his back drifted into Sunan, bound south. Manyoungi seized upon him forthwith, and man and boy howled and cried for very life.

Between sobs the man assured me that he had done no wrong, that he was a mere nobody—a poor man who had no money, nothing. But his howls and tears redoubled when I put the camera on him, for he took the glittering machine for some terrible instrument of death. Not always is Manyoungi's zeal so successful.

Another refugee he captured had a child on his back, the head of which was covered. Manyoungi drew the blanket back, exposing at the same time the child's face and a case of smallpox in the extreme stage. The blanket was drawn up hastily and the specimen passed on unrecorded.

Disperse at Night.

At nightfall, the koo kyung over, the main body of the audience disperses, but still stream by the soldiers, bullock carts, horse trains and coolies, and late at night as I roll between my blankets I hear the jarring of wheels and creaking of leather, the lowing of tired bullocks, squealing of ponies, curses and yells of drivers, and the crunch, crunch, crunch of hoofs and sandaled feet on the frozen mud, bound north, all—man and beast—where the Russian lies in wait.

ANOTHER DISASTER RUMORED.

Reported in St. Petersburg that Battleship Sevastopol Is Sunk By Mine.

(Journal Special Service.)

St. Petersburg, April 16.—A report reached here yesterday, that for a time created great excitement, which was to the effect that the battleship Sevastopol, flying Admiral Alexieff's flag, had come in contact with a mine and been destroyed.

The story has so far been unconfirmed, but the war bureau declines to either deny or affirm the story. The Sevastopol was a sister ship to the Petropavlovsk, which met such a terrible fate.

GREAT RUSSIAN FORCE.

Kouropatkin to Command Half a Million Men By May According to Report.

(Special Dispatch by Leased Wire to The Journal)

St. Petersburg, April 16.—The authorities are determined that General Kuropatkin shall not fail because of lack of men. The ninth and tenth army corps were mobilized today, the seventh and eighth will be mobilized Wednesday.

Today I am informed that General Kuropatkin's force already is sufficiently strong to spare a hundred thousand men guarding the Siberian road from Irkutsk to Harbin.

The first, second, third and fourth artillery corps are already at the front, the fifth is in transit. The Russians are confident that they will have 500,000 men at the front by the middle of May. General Kuropatkin's policy is to remain on the defensive until the vast army arrives at the front. There are no fears that the enemy will be able to cross the Yalu in force.

MAY ABANDON PORT.

Kuropatkin Advises Czar That It Is Costly and Useless.

(Special Dispatch by Leased Wire to The Journal)

Mukden, April 16.—The Russian Baltic fleet will not be sent to the far east. The project of increasing the water defenses afloat at the seat of action is on the point of being abandoned and this decision involves the abandonment of Port Arthur.

General Kuropatkin has advised the czar that Port Arthur is at present a useless and costly establishment and that it will be wise to abandon it and move the garrison further north. He considers that there is danger in the concentration of troops at Port Arthur.

GATES' YACHT IS IN NEW YORK HARBOR

(Journal Special Service.)

New York, April 16.—John W. Gates' 99-ton steam yacht Roxana, which was built in Milwaukee last year, has arrived from Chicago after a voyage down the Mississippi, out through the Gulf of Mexico and up the Atlantic coast. She took 177 days to make the passage.

The Roxana anchored off the Columbia Yacht club at Eighty-sixth street, North river, will fly the flag of the club and will be used in these waters during the yachting season.

The Sort of Clothes We Sell

MADE RIGHT
FIT RIGHT
PRICED RIGHT
SUITS $15 to $30

BEN SELLING

Leading Clothier

CITY OFFICERS CAN CLOSE DENS

JUDGE CLELAND OF CIRCUIT COURT FINES 10 GAMBLERS $100 EACH AND GIVES LOCAL OFFICIALS A BAR TO CLOSE ALL PLACES OF GAMBLING.

By the decision of Judge Cleland of the circuit court yesterday in the cases against the 10 men arrested and prosecuted a week ago for gambling, the officers of this city have it within their power absolutely to prohibit gambling.

The decision of the court yesterday was that each of the men pay a fine of $100 and $5 costs. Only one of the accused men, Gus Erickson, was in court. He paid the fine for himself and one of his men.

The decision of Judge Cleland furnished the weapon whereby the officials of the county can close the games for good. These officials can do as has been done in other cities and states wherein gambling has been held amenable to a fine. They can arrest the offenders every day in the week and every hour in the day, if necessary.

In the cases against the Chinese gamblers a demurrer was filed by the defendants, but the date for arguing the demurrer has not yet been set.

COMMISSIONER HOFF SEES HOPE AHEAD

State Labor Commissioner Hoff will return to his home in Salem this morning after having spent the greater part of the week at Portland in an effort to have the labor difficulties adjusted. He conferred with the proprietors of the leather firms yesterday and states that they are in favor of an open shop. For that reason he says it is hardly probable that they will come to an agreement with the union unless the sentiment among them should undergo a radical change. One reason for his taking such an interest in the matter he explains is for the purpose of keeping in touch with the labor situation in order to incorporate a true account of the strikes in his annual report which he is now preparing.

So far as the bakers' difficulty is concerned he is of the opinion that it will be satisfactorily adjusted in the near future. He says that both sides are inclined to be reasonable, and they are evincing a disposition to get together. A conference was to have been held tonight, but Chairman Brandes of the association was absent from the city and the meeting was postponed. The union held its weekly gathering, but those who attended state that nothing of importance transpired. Mr. Hoff says that he is undecided at this time as to whether he will return to Portland next week or not. He reports that he intends to be present at the convention of the State Federation of Labor, which convenes at Oregon City on May 2.

Keeley Cure LIQUOR-MORPHINE-TOBACCO HABITS PERMANENTLY CURED — FOR FULL PARTICULARS — ADDRESS THE KEELEY INSTITUTE, PORTLAND, ORE.

TO ACT MONDAY ON ONE-CENT FARE

PRESIDENT SWIGERT ON HIS RETURN WILL LAY BEFORE CITY & SUBURBAN DIRECTORS THE LOW FARE PROPOSAL FOR THE MORRISON-STREET BRIDGE.

President Swigert of the City & Suburban Railway company is at present out of the city on business and will not return until tomorrow. Until his return the personal letter written yesterday by Mayor Williams, asking a 1-cent rate across the Morrison-street bridge, will not receive consideration. Mr. Swigert stated to The Journal when the petition for a reduced fare was first brought up that any proposition laid before him would be placed before the board of directors immediately, and that a meeting of the board will be called at once is expected.

The bridge will be closed to pedestrians and team traffic tomorrow morning, as published exclusively in The Journal last Friday night, on the statement of F. M. Butler, manager for the Pacific Construction company, contractors for the new bridge.

Until the petition for a reduction is acted upon, all who cross the bridge will have to pay 5 cents.

TO HAVE CHARGE OF SANATORIUM

The first board of trustees for the projected consumptives' sanatorium, to be located near Portland, was named yesterday by the joint committee of the county and state boards of health, as follows:

A. L. Mills, president of the First National bank; Robert Livingstone, president of the Oregon Mortgage company; W. D. Wheelwright, president of the Pacific Lumber company; I. N. Fleischner, of Fleischner, Mayer & Co.; C. E. S. Wood, Ben Selling, Dr. Arthur Morrison of Trinity Episcopal church, Dr. E. L. House, pastor of the First Congregational church; Father Black of the Roman Catholic cathedral; Mrs. Millie Trumbull, secretary of the Oregon Child Labor commission and secretary of the city board of charities; Mrs. Ross, president of the Federation of Women's clubs of Portland; G. Y. Harry, S. H. Shaver, Dr. Andrew C. Smith, Dr. A. S. Nichols, Dr. Harry Lane, Dr. Otto Binswanger, Dr. Frank Cauthorn and Dr. Woods Hutchinson.

EARLY MORNING FIRE CUT SHORT

Fire started in the basement of the building occupied by Houseman Bros., clothing merchants, at 224 Morrison street, at 1 o'clock this morning, presumably from spontaneous combustion. Damage to the stock was wrought to the extent of $400, by smoke.

The fire department responded to an alarm and soon had the blaze extinguished. Had the fire gone unnoticed a little longer it would have resulted in a serious blaze.

TOCO DESCRIBES LATEST VICTORY

(Continued from Page One.)

were slightly wounded. There was no time to rescue the enemy's drowning crews, as the cruiser Bayan approached.

"The third fleet reached the outside of Port Arthur at 8 a. m., when the Bayan came out and opened fire. Immediately after the Novik, Askold, Diana and Petropavlovsk, Pobeida and Poltava came out and made an offensive attack.

"Our third fleet, hardly answering and gradually retiring, enticed the enemy 15 miles southeast of the port, when our first fleet, informed through the wireless telegraphy from the third fleet, suddenly appeared before the enemy and attacked them.

"While the enemy was trying to regain the port, a battleship of the Petropavlovsk type struck mines laid by us the previous evening, and sank at 10:32 a. m.

"Although another ship was observed to have lost freedom of movement, the confusion of the enemy's ships prevented us from identifying her. They finally managed to regain the port.

"Our third fleet suffered no damage, and the enemy's damage, besides that above mentioned, was probably slight also. Our first fleet did not reach firing distance. Our fleets retired at 1 p. m. and prepared for another attack. They sailed April 14 toward Port Arthur. The second, the fourth and fifth destroyer flotillas and the ninth torpedo flotilla also joined at 3 a. m. and 7 a. m.

"None of the enemy's ships was found outside of the port. Our first fleet arrived at the port at 9 a. m. and discovered three mines laid by the enemy and destroyed them all.

"The Kasuga and Nishin were dispatched to the west of Lao Tishan and made an indirect bombardment for two hours, it being their first action. The new forts on the Lao Tishan were finally silenced. Our forces retired at 1:30 p. m."

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

It keeps a married man busy diving in and shelling out.

Life is a constant drill for soldiers and bank burglars.

The right kind of a girl doesn't need leap year in her business.

A man deliberately lies while a woman merely suppresses the truth.

A political ring has a beginning, but like any other ring it has no end.

A college diploma doesn't always enable a man to get three square meal a day.

Many a girl's popularity with the sterner sex is due to a rumor that she has money.

If a druggist has no conscience he usually has something he considers equally good.

A successful man is one who succeeds in making others think as well of him as he thinks of himself.

Not What He Feared.

From the San Francisco Bulletin.

"John!" whispered Mrs. Swackhammer hoarsely. "John, wake up! In the basement—hear them—they're—they're working in the basement——"

"Wh-wh-what!" gasped Swack. He dived under the pillow and clutched his pocketbook. "What is it?"

"B-b-burglars!" chattered poor Mrs. Swackhammer. "Don't you hear them——"

"Aw, rats," said Swack, as he lay down and prepared for sleep again. "You scared me nearly to death. I thought it was burglars."