

Little Stories for Bedtime

BY THORNTON W. BURGESS

First Adventure of Little Mite.

I wish—I wish I'd minded,
And hadn't run away.
If I were only safe at home
Right there I'd always stay.



Mite hadn't believed that the great world was big enough to hold such a huge creature.

Hardly did he have time to get used to the bright light and really begin to see something of the Great World, when he discovered a tremendous great creature close beside him. Mite hadn't believed that the Great World was big enough to hold such a huge creature, and he nearly lost his balance and fell from sheer fright. Perhaps it would have been better for him if he had, for just then a terrible thing struck him and knocked him over so far. He fell on his back in the tall grass with all the breath knocked out of him and feeling very faint and dizzy. He knew that what he had been looking for was a tender young Meadow Mouse, and he was sure that he had found it. He was so sure that he decided that perhaps he might have looked around a little more, but he was so tired that he decided to rest. He pushed up his head and looked around. A tall mouse stalk close by the path gave him the chance. It pushed its head "way above the grassy roof. Mite scrambled up. When he pushed his head through the grassy roof, the bright light of jolly, round, bright Mr. Sun made him blink.

Next story: "The Second Adventure of Little Mite."

ONE SPECIES OF A BRUTE

By Edna K. Wooley.



I were that man's wife I'd get a divorce," declared by hostess, pointing out one of her neighbors who was passing the house.

"That man has all the good times in his family. At home—when he is home—everybody runs and jumps to wait on him. But he is seldom home. You see I don't know how many societies, to say nothing of his being an elder in the church, and Sunday school superintendent and chairman of the trustees and boss of the Sunday school picnics and Christmas entertainments.

"Do you know that he's been married fourteen years, has eight children, and his back yard for two years—and that time she went downtown with a visiting relative and came home with a sick headache! The only downtown trip previous to that was seven years ago. She hasn't been to the 'corners' in three years—her husband even brings home her shoes. She just sticks at home doing housework and raising babies.

"I said to her husband the other day: 'Why don't you take your wife out once in a while?'

"She doesn't want to go," he said.

"Well, I just went up and spent the afternoon with her. The poor thing is so out-of-date and so timid that she's actually afraid to go out where people will see her. She never has any company and never talks to anybody except the tradesmen and peddlers that come to the house, and when she goes she goes with a neighbor. She doesn't know anything at all any more—she might as well be living in the backwoods.

"I think a husband like that is a brute. Maybe it's none of my business, but I'm going to see if his wife gets to church and joins our aid society. He isn't going to have all the fun."

Two pretty girls were walking along a secluded path in the park when one of them suddenly stooped, with a cry of joy, and plucked something along the path.

"It's a four-leafed clover," she announced.

"Umph," grunted the other pretty girl. "I used to be superstitious about four-leafed clovers, too. I've found dozens of them. But did they ever bring me any luck? I've done all the stunts you're supposed to do—swallowed 'em and wished; put 'em in my shoe and wished; kissed 'em and wished, and all that. And did any of my wishes come true? They didn't!"

"Oh, here's another," exclaimed the first pretty girl. "Lots of them, I do declare."

And presently both girls were on their knees assiduously hunting for the little tokens of good luck.

"Maybe I didn't wish the right things before," said the pessimistic one, as she ate a clover and tucked one in each shoe. "Anyway, I'm going to try it again."

PERSONAL MENTION

Big Crop Promised.

Early frosts had no damaging effect upon the crop of small grain in the neighborhood of The Dalles, according to J. A. McKeller, a prosperous farmer of that locality, who is visiting in Portland for a few days.

Mr. McKeller says he is an easterner, but has been living in Oregon for 40 years and knows almost every nook and cranny of the state. He is now spending his later years in the comfort and plenty that are his by virtue of his life's energy and his location in the favored land of his selection.

"I have wheat on my farm as high as my head and barley that is breast high," he said today. "Forty bushels to the acre won't be stretching the yield any. Everybody in our neighborhood is prosperous and we aren't feeling the hard times that some people are complaining of. The corn isn't doing as well as the small grain because of the late frosts, and some of the fruit was hurt by the same agency, but there's enough other crops to make everyone smile."

"The Dalles looks a little deserted now, because so many of the people are out there harvesting corn and wheat. When the harvesting is over and the wheat begins to come in for shipment, you will see busy times at The Dalles."

Back From Fishing Trip.

J. W. Metcalfe, division superintendent of the Southern Pacific company at Dunsmuir, Cal., has been fishing in Wallows lake and, though he declared any especial prize, managed to hook a few fine trout. Accompanied by Mrs. Metcalfe, he arrived in Portland yesterday on his way back home.

On his way toward 10 days ago Mr. Metcalfe borrowed a fish pole of C. G. Sutherland, assistant to the general manager of the O-W. R. & N., promising to pay for its use with a mess of fish.

"But I really didn't catch very many," explained the superintendent. "I don't believe he will insist on the rent. We had a fine time, though, and I got a good rest that was much needed."

Spokane Conditions Better.

Spokane is emerging from a period of business depression, and while conditions are still quiet, prospects of a huge harvest and good fruit crop are having their effect, says "Pat" Welch, wealthy railroad contractor, who is at the Oregon.

Off on Fishing Trip.

Dr. H. L. Geary and his family of Seattle spent yesterday in Portland and today took the electric for Eugene. From Eugene they will travel by team up the Mackenzie river, where the doctor plans to enjoy a good fishing trip. They stopped at the Imperial.

Dr. Geary says that Seattle is feeling the effects of improved conditions and the usual things ever saw by the Alaskan with the summer season is helping make business materially better.

Talking About Big Crops.

The sole topic of conversation in the Garden City is the big crops about to be harvested, according to Dr. M. S. Thompson of Walla Walla, who is at the Imperial. "If only the harvest is needed to start the wheels of prosperity rolling, then they are due for some high speed work," said the doctor.

Judge J. C. Moreland, clerk of the supreme court, is registered at the Cornelia from Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Comerys of Snohomish and Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Comerys of Duval, Wash., are among last night's arrivals at the Cornelia.

J. D. Zurcher of Roseburg, an abstractor, is a guest at the Cornelia.

W. P. O'Brien, a lumberman of Astoria, is at the Imperial.

E. E. Goff, accompanied by Mrs. Goff, motored in from Newberg, their home, and are the Imperials.

M. R. Matthews, a business man of The Dalles, is at the Oregon.

William Williams, of Yacolt, is a guest at the Oregon at the Cornelia.

A. W. Bell, of Astoria, is stopping at the Oregon.

J. C. Corbin, of Seattle, is registered at the Benson.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Edsell, and their daughter, who are touring the Northwest, are registered at the Benson from San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Goldsmith, of Philadelphia, are at the Benson. They

are enjoying a pleasure trip through the states.

Among today's arrivals at the Multnomah are Rev. W. T. Manning, his wife and two daughters of New York. Mrs. A. P. Wadsworth and Miss Baldwin of Boston are at the Multnomah.

VACATION DAYS

By Paul West.

We wait to mention it, but they are only 7 weeks & 2 days more of vacation. Then—oh, you know what!

Write a Show Bito Bear.

The posters about the County Fair over to Byville are all round the village.



Ex made a list of what he could show off.

lidge, wun being rite in front of Ex Brigham's house. Ex says it doant look so wonderful to him, we being able to get up a pretty good show rite in our own little village. He made a list of what we could show off, & this is it:

FATTY BELLOWES—The Humin Pig.

GENEVIEVE HICKS—The freckled-est girl in the world.

WALT WHITE—This moast mixed-up mennajerie, frum frogs up to snakes.

ANDY ANDERSON—The youngest detective.

SHORT-LEG MILLIKEN—Our effishant truant officer, who can't catch a flea.

REX BOGERT—Lance's dog, which is moast diffrent kinds of breed than anybody ever seen.

AC, & C, & C.

If the County Fair doant turn out to be so good we are going to have wun of our own & we bet it will be fine.

Ignorant Reijnold.

We had the biggest hailstorm today you ever seen, it busting winders all oaver the villidge & rooning lots of gardens. The hailstones was the biggest things ever saw by the oaldest inhabitant, everybody sed, they being as big as eggs, & Reijnold, Steve Hardy's city cussin, who is going home to-nite, got about a bushel of them & packed them in his trunk to talk hoam & show the pepul in the city.

His trunk was upstares in Steve's house, rite oaver the parlor & Miss Hardy had sum of the naybors in to tea to say goodbye to Reijnold's.

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to notice Reijnold's trunk which they had moved out in the hall so as to get at the floor, & all round it was water.

"Merry," Miss Hardy sed, "what is that in that trunk?" so they opened it & found everything, all Reijnold's fancy close & everything, was all round. That wasnt anny haw stons left by this time, not eaven much water.

Reijnold's muther tride to blame Steve for it, she saying he had bin getting her sun into the trouble, ever sense he cum to visit him, but Reijnold was all rite. He sed:

"No, muther, I dun it myself."

He is a good feller, Reijnold is, & Walt White give him snalk to talk hoam & lots of the fellers would give him things too, only they need them. Well, next week is the County Fair! Let's hope it will be good!

YOUR WARDROBE

By Jessie Roberts.

Saving is earning, sometimes the more important of it. Most of us working women spend too much on our clothes—spend, that is, out of all proportion to what we give to amusements, rest, food, and housing.

One way of saving money on your clothes is to know exactly what you have.

This may sound like fool's counsel. But it is surprising to see how often we buy something not needed in our wardrobe through a lack of knowing precisely what we do need.

Make a careful inventory of your clothes, lingerie, and outer habiliments, and more especially look over all the things that can be made useful by a little changing or by combination with something else. Often a half yard of chiffon, a bit of emerald, a new flounce will give you the required new dress which otherwise you would have had to pay full price.

Two old dresses can often be made into a lovely new one. But you keep them stuck away in some closet, forgotten and wasted, because they have gone out of style or are worn.

The same way with waists. Or the required new dress which otherwise you would have had to pay full price.

You then, and take out everything you have. Sit down with pencil and paper and jot down just the things you must have, whether all new or helps to newness. You will be delighted to find that your wardrobe rejuvenates itself at half the expense you have been used to.

And you won't be led into buying bargains that aren't bargains to you, since they're not what you need.

Save your money for the real bargains. At the end of the year you'll find you have been quite as well dressed and that there is more money in your credit in the savings bank than ever before.

Furniture mops and dusters may be treated with a good quality of oil in the same manner.

Dish mops may be purchased for a small price in the shops, but as they are soon worn out they are quite a little expense in the homes where pennies count.

You can make a dozen dish mops of different sizes for no cost at all.

A small, round stick that is smooth to the hand is best to use and pieces of old materials, linen, cotton or woolen as you prefer. Whittle the stick so it tapers toward the end and cut three little circles of cotton and tie them over this end to form a sort of wad.

Then cut a strip of linen 24 inches long and 12 inches wide. Double this with the long edges slightly overlapping in the center and notch it deeply along both folded edges. Wind this around the stick. Tie firmly and then pull the top strips over the lower ones.

Begin by taking a strip of strong cloth and cut it about two and one-half to three inches wide and about 10 inches long. Cut the old stocking in strips and place the strips close beside each other in a row. Place the cloth across the middle of the stocking strips and stitch along each edge of the cloth on the machine.

When the strips are all stitched there will be a double row of stocking strips. Of course, the strips must be cut of equal length. You can now insert the mop for a day or so in a good furniture polish, until it has taken up all the oil possible; squeeze dry and insert in your mop handle and you have quite as good an oil mop as many on the market. It goes without saying that you must frequently remove the mop and renew the oil.

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