A Political Vendetta

WELDON J. COBB

CHAPTER NX .- (Continued.) ting his teeth, shook the chain till but at once relapsed into the amused and defiant and over-confident

master of an inexplicable situation. "Sit down," he invited next, with his elippered foot slightly moving a chair towards the intruder.

"No!" flared out Hope. "I-" surprised, groping in the dark, at sea;

"Listen to me!" snarled Hope fiercely, striding up to the man and seizing one shoulder in his biting grasp until he winced with a cowering shudder-"I dis-covered you by accident, but fortune would sooner or later have led me to your lair!

"Lair?" derided Kane foudly-"don't you see it is rather a prison?"
"I came," huskily pursued Hope, "to

demand of you your wife." "Which is cool, eh?" mocked the mis-

"And just! You defy me-" Not so; at the first step I show her

That woman!" hotly cried Hope. My wife-exactly."

Mrs. Percy Kane-"

"Elita !"

This name Kane called in a clear, quick

Gideon Hope started. Its mention aroused some hint, some vague memory It was an unusual name; where had

he heard it before? under what circumected with a dark chapter in the black life of this man of plots and

Before his perturbed mind could focus and connect the loose ends of the dim chain of retrospect, a silken swish again swept the atmosphere. A shadow crossed the draperies, they parted. The woman of the tragic face and fathomless eyes stood in their presence, statuesque and impressive as before.

Uncompromising sternness was in the glance she bestowed on Kane. He es-sayed a familiarity that was uneasy despite his audacity.

"This gentleman," he said slurringly with a light gesture towards Hope, "disputes my statement that you are my

"He need not," coldly returned the

She reached within her corsage, produced a folded paper, unfolded it, and in an automatic way held it before him.

quick eyes read the words traced across it. In due form of legality and indisputable genuineness it evidenced that a duly appointed officer of the law had joined in holy wedlock this man, Percy V. Kane, with this woman, Elita Marsden, upon a certain night; upon a night, in fact, succeeding to the consummation of that political vendetta which had seen the extinguishment of the stock swindler's social and commercial career.

Gideon Hope-and quick as lightning. That is, he knew who this woman was, he "remembered," the name "Marsden" supplied the missing link-this woman the daughter of that unfortunate man, Gabriel Marsden, who intruding up on Kane at the acme of his greatness with threatening fierceness, had been sent to iail on a trumped up charge, and, for all Kane knew, languished there now, or was a wanderer, a fugitive, with a broken life

and blasted energies. And this woman-Elita-was the fair innocent girl Kane had wedded in a distant Ohio town, deserted, placed in an insane asylum, and then, securing a divorce by fraudulent means, forgot her, the fateful day when her father brought him word to have a care for himself, for she had escaped and was "on

A Nemesis, truly !--dimly, but with a half-suspicion that she was Kane's gaoler, Hope began to read between the lines.
"Is that all?" fe'l from the woman's lips in hard, metallic tones.

"Yes," bowed Kane simply, and she departed with the same uncanny tread that had signalized her appearance at his hail. clammy forehead. He almost unconsciously dropped to the chair that had been schemer who always seemed to have some

strong trump card in reserve.
"Explain!" he said in cracked, dry Kane laughed jarringly. On the table

near by was a skein of silk, lying beside some fancy embroidery work, carelessly left there, it seemed, by some feminine

With his deft, nervous fingers, Kane seized it, twirled, twisted, disarranged it. A hopeless mass of mingled threads, he cast it into Hope's lap.

"A tangle-a riddle!" he scoffed-"as soon hope to solve the enigma to which I alone can furnish the key. "A challenge?" cried Hope wrathily,

"You forget: I have found you! I have escaped defeating your kind intentions for my welfare. I have but to proceed on my way, apprise the police, and-'Stop there," directed Kane Insinuat-

fngly, leaning forward and fixing his glance significantly upon his vis-a-visyou forget."

"Forget what?" roughly demanded

Claire!"

Hope shivered from the shock. True! -it was Claire now, Claire only; any-

thing and everything for Claire! "We have arrived," pronounced Kane bluntly, "at a vital, a final stage of the game. But I know your hope, your thought—the woman! Well, then, move without me, move against me, and you may win. But she will be lost."

The dire threat struck a chill to Gid-

son Hope's staunch heart. "I am reckless because I am a beater man," continued Kane-"I am, too, desperate one. But it is not you who have circumvented me. You made a great pla; -a stake and a trust for the stake. Bu I had the reserve—that money. Even o half of that you robbed me—the severed bank notes. Well, you had cut my claws. "Be reasonable," equably retorted Kane for without money I was at the law's mercy. Still, I proved myself a resource ful man. There was Claire-the peerless better let me be you pilot, for a spell at Chaire-whom you fairly drove into my arms."

> CHAPTER XXI. Hope gnashed his teeth, but he tried to

Kane might divulge. "I am going to tell you a little history, proceeded Kane, "because I have a point to gain—because I have a compact, a bar-

gain, to make with you. "No!" declared Hope, uncompromising

"But-yes. For her sake, for Claire's sake, you know!

Hope was shaken. He paled. He dis cerned the precipice towards which he was hastening—was being hastened by the sheer villainous force of this man's cool calculating finesse. He had pulled this man down, and now

he could at his will send him to the galows, he believed. His sworn holy duty had been to run down this man. He had been baffled, circumvented. Now at the final ending he was diverted from his original purpose—for a woman's sake! "Speak!" he said mandatorily.

"Very well," answered Kane, somewhat more seriously. "I determined to abandor the field when you secured the half of the bank notes, though I was not entirely penniless, and as I vaunted there was Claire. While you were resting on your oars in fancied security I had hastened to my pretty secretary. to be her law-I only knew later your aideous plot in which hatred and revenge alone actuated her. I placed her in the hands of a trusted friend while I hastened my arrangements to wed her and fly the country and you. I had not heeded mad old Gabriel Marsden's threat. You might say at the very altar Elita, the woman you just saw, confronted me. She was my Nemesis. She had learned of the pre-carious position I was in—she was armed. was exposure, betrayal, death-or I nust wed her. Worse than that, she had baffled me concerning Claire. She had lured her away to an isolated place, had put her in charge of an accomplice, a woman knitted to her by ties of unwavering fidelity. Thus was I baffled. She brought me here-I dared not defy her-and I knew she had proofs-that is, the disposi tion to doom me by the law if I resisted her commands. Thus far she combined with me: to have you imprisoned, in hopes of securing the half of the severed bank notes that you had secured possesforeign country if she succeeded. But she she did not trust me. She has made me

a continual captive, as you see," "And Claire?" eagerly insisted Hone windler's social and commercial career.
"I know—now!" involuntarily cried
Kane shrugged his shoulders.

Kane shrugged his shoulders.

"Well," he said, annoyedly gnawing the a baffled, beaten man, "stie has the perseverance and fierceness of a tigress-in she has kept Claire, too, a prisoner. "Where?"

Kane smiled provokingly at the ingenueagerness of the other. "Do you suppose I would tell you

hat?" he inquired sardonically. "After all the wrongs you have don

"Cell quits, then!" hoarsely, suddenly spoke Kane, dropping his tones to a whis-"Let up on me for a crime you can ever fully prove."

"I have sworn-"Bah! Is not she, Claire, all in all It was true. Gideon Hope lowered his

head-in humiliation. Truly, he was paltering with this enemy, for he surmised the daring proposition that was coming But he was only human, and-he loved "Go on!" he said, without lifting his

"I will make a bargain with you-fair Hope drew a perplexed hand across his exchange: Rid me of this woman who has me in chains, that is, give me the chance to fly. She has not, and I have secreted proffered by Kane. Voidly he gazed at the the half of the severed bank notes. Secure my freedom, as I say, and give me your worthless half of the money, a start of twenty-four hours against pursuit, and I will tell you what this woman wil never tell while I am on the same continent with the being she deems her rival-

the whereabouts of Claire Tremaine. The tempting balt allured, but only for a sudden revulsion of feeling with Gideon

He abruptly arose to his feet. head came erect, his eyes were stern, duty, resolve, shone from his soul.

"No!" he said-once and defiantly. "No?" echoed Kane, thunderstruck.

"I shall find Claire Tremaine without your help. As to you-heavens!" Gideon Hope started as if from a vio

He had resolved not to palter with this

man, and he now determined to free him from that hampering chain and drag him to the nearest jail-for the sanctity of his vow to his dead brother's memory he must do this!

If the woman Elita Interfered, so much he worse for her.

But, about to advance upon his enemy and carry into execution this design, as has been said, Gideon Hope was suddenly electrified. The life currents of his being checked

their flow and his heart stood still.

He had wasted, was wasting, precious moments—was sacrificing duty, and menaced humanity appealed for the fulfill- room.

ment of another equally sacred more re

"The dynamite!" he gasped.

CHAPTER XXII.
Yes, the dynamite! He had pledged word to the imprisoned agent of the Vulcan Company to hasten to Murryville on wings of speed, and here he was dal-

It had been a solemn compact between Warren and himself, that if he, Hope, scaped he was to hasten to the Vandyke louse at that town, and remove, sink, plosive ere it had ripened to the full point

He had been on his way to fulfill his edge when, applying at this house for a torse and vehicle, he had so strangely iscovered his enemy.

He had lost valuable time-two whole ours in this house! Would be be too

Despite his interest in Kane, his harrowing anxiety concerning Claire! Hope felt the spur of action like a sudden dag-

The unsuspected agent of destruction reposed, according to the dynamite agent, in a closet in a room at the Vandyke House at Murryville, now about ten niles distant, and when it exploded scores

a hundred-lives might be blotted out The urgency, the horror of the affair consumed Hope-he unceremoniously dashed from the room, leaving Kane amazed at the motive of his sudden evanish

He heard Kane call out sharply to the "Elita-it is Hope, that man, Rouse

your friends. He knows all! And a minute later, as he sped by the window outside, Hope shot a glance past its waving curtains to see the woman roused to excitement and rushing into the partment occupied by her husband to earn more of his meaning.

"If they have accomplices in reach, I shall be pursued," reasoned Hope, So he did not pursue the open road, but striking through the dense brush esti mated the precise direction in which Mur ryville lay, and amid the vigor of intense excitement and resolution disdained all obstacles that lay in his way.

A strange, new sense of exultation poscoherent, clear-cut purposes were fined in his thoughts, of tactical, logical sequences. Thus, he seemed to see the work of a forward twelve hours all marked out and executed through time and endeavor-he would secure, dispose of the fearful explosive out of harm's way. Then a bold, uncompromising descent on the onely haunt of the strangely mated hus-

And then-Claire! There was the star of hope at the eno of the long venture. It inspired him! He might not locate her at once, but love would find a way to trace her mysterious whereabouts, although these new discoveries might be but the prelude to a new series of complications. The end was nearer, tragically nearer, than Gideon Hope fancied.

It was an uncanny hour when, torn by riers and mud bespattered and bruised from frequent falls, he entered the silent town of Murryville.
At the hotel, a light burned only in

the office, where half slumbered the tired

Warren, Gideon's fellow captive in the eggs a for the contingency of having to proceed alone for the satchel of dynamite.

(To be continued.)

A Thoughtful Conductor.

Ignorance often saves much disquietude. Many have heard the story of the woman whose first experience in a railway train ended with an accident. Thrown from her seat and shaken up generally; she nevertheless retained ration. her equanimity. When asked if she were frightened, she replied, "Fright-No. I didn't know but that was the way they always stopped." It is to be hoped that the trolley passenger a little clover and a few grassh into "Confessions of a Summer Colo- to nist," was possessed of the same trust right proportion. An occasional feed of in the event. The conductor, at least, preserved his presence of mind. Says Mr. Howells:

I had long expected to see some or thrown out of the open trolley car at a some of the short curves. One day a of her life, and you must keep her woman was actually hurled from her or let her be seat into the road. Luckily, she alighted on her feet, and stood looking about as if in a daze.

"Oh! oh!" exclaimed a passenger.

She's left her umbrella !" The conductor promptly threw it out. "Why, did that lady wish to get ut?" I asked.

The conductor pondered a moment before he answered:

"Well, she'll want her umbrella, any-

End of the Route. One cold, wintry morning, says a

writer in the Argonaut, a man of tall and angular build was walking down a steep hill at a brisk pace. A plece of to slide, and was unable to stop.

At a crossing half way down he en ountered a large, heavy woman. The meeting was sudden, and before either realized it a collision ensued, and both were sliding down hill, the thin man underneath, the fat woman on top.

When the bottom of the hill was better to cook it. The commercial arreached, and the woman was trying to ticle of beef scraps put up by the large recover her breath and her feet, these faint words were borne to her ear:

"Pardon me, madam, but you will have to get off here. This is as far as

New York City is growing rapidly in its population of millionaires. There are about 2,000 of them now, while there were only thirty, a quarter of a century ago.

A wire contrivance to hold a spoon in the neck of a medicine bottle is a Callfornia invention of value in the sick explanations of their failures are the

WHY EGGS ARE HIGH.

Some Ways This Expensive Necessity May Be Turned to Profit.

Ry James Dryden, Poultryman Oregon Agricul-

the natural laying season. In a state of nature fowls lay and breed in the been found by experiment that fowls do spring season, and they haven't got not do well when fed altogether on quite away from that habit. Old habits die hard with hens as with men. This explains why with little care the hen will lay in the spring and with the hen will lay in the spring and with the three things mentioned above be much care in the fall and winter she much care in the fall and winter she properly attended to, there will still be won't lay, or very seldom will. centuries of training and the breeding the hen is gradually getting of the hen if she hasn't; the trouble away from her old habit of laying a goes back to her ancestors. few eggs in the spring and hatching them, and it is possible now, with the proper skill in handling, to make he ay in winter whether she will or no. But the first thing we have to learn is that to get eggs in winter means a fight against nature, against the old hen na Winter is not the natural laying

When a pullet has reached maturity. no matter at what season of the year, if she be maintained in good health and igor and gets the proper kind and uantity of food, she will lay eggs if he has the laying capacity. Let us

analyze that sentence a little.

The first point raised is a question of maturity. The pullet must be matur-before she lays. If a pullet lays in Oc tober she must be hatched early enough in the spring so that she will reach ma turity in October, A Plymouth Rock hatched the first of April should lay the middle of October or first of No vember. If they are to lay a month earlier they should be hatched a month earlier. earlier. The Leghorns should lay the first of October if hatched the first of

The next point refers to health and vigor. The pullet must come to ma-turity with good health and vigor. She must have had proper care during the rooding and growing period. A stunt d chick, a chick hatched from an egg id by a hen out of condition, a chick that has had to battle with insect pests or a chick that has not had proper food and exercise, will not be a profitable layer in any season. How to maintain the health and vigor of the flock is th biggest problem in poultry keeping. To

constitutional vigor. The third point is that to get eggs the hens must have the proper kind and quantity of food. The hen requires more kinds of food than a cow or a hog. The cow needs no animal food; the hen does. The hen gives more consideration to cleanliness of the product than the cow. She seals it up in a shell of lime to keep it clean, and she therefore must have a liberal supply of mineral matter, All foods furnish a certain amount of mineral matter, but not enough to supply all the shell ma-

terial when hens are laying heavily. They should have grain, but grain alone won't do. What will happen if the bering that she puts nothing into an egg that she does not eat, that an egg contains about one-fifth ounce of fat and that if she ate nothing but wheat she would get enough far for three or four eggs a day and about enough protein private madhouse, had fully equipped him for half an egg a day, the thing that for the contingency of having to proceed will happen will be that she will refuse to make eggs. The hen does nadulterate her product, otherwise s ould fill up the egg with surplus fat, like some people make butter, out of spurious oil or beef fat. She will make an honest article or none at all. The point is that the hen should have such foods as will furnish the necessary food elements in proper proportions; There are different ways of balancing the ration. the hen has access to wheat, to clover and to grasshoppers, angleworms and grit, she will balance her own ration. She will eat a little wheat, in Mr. Howells' anecdote, introduced or angleworms and eat enough of each furnish the egg-making elements

mprove the ration.

This much for the food. How shall count of the nature of the hen. She is busy creature naturally; that is part busy. If she has free range on the farm she will keep herself busy and her muscle and digestion in good order, but when you shut her in yards you ar: imposing artificial conditions and you must provide exercise for her. I have kept hens for a bare board floor in a small pen and fed them well. They laid about three dozen eggs each during the year, and at the end of the year with this of luxury and ease they had lost their constitution and their usefulness; while other hens fed in the same way, but with a ground floor and deep litter to scratch in and yards to run in, laid over twelve dozen eggs each, and at the end of the year were still in The hen needs exercise. business. The demand for animal food may be a heavy-laying hen can scarcely drink enough of it to get the necessary amount ter than fresh-cut lean meat and bones the danger from uncooked meat scraps, however, being that they are liable to contain disease germs, and unless it is known to be free from disease only fit for fertilizer, however. During

Raspberry Ice. Boll four cupfuls of water and one

and a half cupfuls of sugar twenty minutes. Cool, add two cupfuls of raspberry juice and two tablespoonfuls lemon juice. Strain and freeze, using three parts finely crushed ice to one part rock salt. To obtain the rasp berry juice wash the berries and stre'n through double cheesecloth.

The men who can give satisfactor; ones who become loafers.

worms are plentiful and the fowls have

liberty of the farm, little animal food may be fed.

Another point about feeding grai Should it be ground or fed whole? is known that a certain proportion Eggs are 50 cents a dozen, because the food of fowls is used to produce the hens don't lay. The main reason energy to grind the food, and from this why they don't lay is because this is not point of view it is cheaper to have the point of view it is cheaper to have food ground at the mill. But it

a scarcity of eggs unless the fowls have laying capacity, and it is no fault

COMMERCIAL POTATO GROWING

Some Good Points on One of the Most Profitable of Crops.

G. Craig. Assistant Hortfeulturist, State

Potato land should be plowed in the fall and allowed to lie rough during the winter. This favors the catching of winter moisture, and allows the subsurface soil to settle and the surface can be worked earlier in the spring. If the fall plowing is impossible land should be disced in the fall so that the surface may be rough and open through the winter. Deep plowing usually gives better results than shallow. The plowed land should be well harrowed early in the spring, and if not immediately planted, it should be frequently harrowed in order to conserve moisture and kill the weeds which start after the first harrowing. Spring plowed land should be harrowed immediately after the plow, to prevent loss of moisture. In the dryer sections, some form of subsurface packer should follow the plow, and this should immediately be followed by the harrow to work up a surface mulch If the soil plows up cloddy, a plank clod

masher may be used quite profitably. The time of planting should be governed largely by the climate and the purposes for which the potatoes are grown. The potato plant needs ample noisture when the tubers are setting; hence, the grower should endeavor have the plants reach that stage of development at the time when the moisture supply is likely to be favorable For early new potatoes, the seed should be plan ad as early in the spring as the soil will permit, on light, warm soil. For late potatoes they may be planted as late as the middle of June, provided the moisture supply is ample and continuous; but where summer rains cannot be depended upon, the earier the potatoes are planted the better, if the

danger from frost is guarded against. The distance between rows and be tween hills in the row is an important point in the potato culture. * Varieties that tend to produce very large tubers should be planted close. Soil will admit of close planting in direct proportion to its fertility and moisture content, and the care given the crop. high priced land, intensive culture should be practiced and the rows and hills planted as closely as the fertility of the land will permit. Increasing the size of the "seed pieces" will accomplish the same results as close planting, but the danger of sunburned

tubers is apt to be increased. No farmer who grows six or more acres of potatoes each year can afford to do without a horse planter. Of the veral methods of hand planting, the

following is the most satisfactory: After the soil is well prepared, up furrows to the proper depth with a single shovel plow. After the seed is dropped, cover with the plow and harrow thoroughly. The depth of the planting should depend upon the texture of the soil, and upon whether early or late potatoes are desired. Five inches is not too deep for late potatoes, on light, mellow soils, but three to four inches is better for an early crop,

or.on very heavy, or very wet soil. The amount of seed to use varies from three to ten sacks per acre, and depends upon the variety of the soil. Varieties which tend to produce very large tubers should have a large quantity of seed. Rich land should receive more seed than poor land. If the seed pieces are not too large, the number of eyes to each piece makes no difference. It is more important that the size of the pieces sohuld be uniform than that

there should be the same number of eyes in each piece. Frequently only a part of the potatoes which are planted come up. This may be due to one or more of several causess, all of which should be guarded Cut seed potatoes should against. never be allowed to remain in piles until they heat, and are thereby seriously injured. Seed potatoes that have been plied in different ways. Skim milk, exposed to too low temperature will milk curds and buttermilk will take the seldom give a uniform stand. All defee under the snow caused him to slip place of meat if enough of it can be cayed tubers and those which have and lose control of his feet. He began fed. Skim milk is largely water, and brown or black spots through the flesh cayed tubers and those which have should not be planted as there are two diseases which are found in this state which are sure to result in an unsatisfactory stand if seed infected with them is planted.

Cut seed should never be planted deeply in the cold wet soil, or unsatisfactory germination is sure to result. Finally, in the dryer sections, potatoes should be planted to uniform depth bepacking houses are largely used, some should be planted to uniform depth be-of the stuff sold for poultry food is low the dry surface mulch in order to secure a uniform stand.

Short Suggestions. All lard to fry fritters and doughnuts must be sizzling hot before putting in the batter.

Candles will burn slowly and steadily through the evening if they are kept on ice all day.

To keep mold from pickles, in the top of each jar or bottle place a layer or horse-radish roots, sliced thin.

If you are unable to satisfy yourself-and you cannot-how can you hope to satisfy others?



1502-Columbus entered the harbor which he called Porto Bello.

1580-Sir Francis Drake returned from his voyage round the world.

1618-Sir Walter Raleigh beheaded in 1620-The Plymouth company was or-

1701-The first constitution of Pennsylvania was adopted. 1735-Gen, Oglethorpe re-embarked for

America, accompanied by John Wes-ley and other missionaries. 1739-England declared war against

1765-The "Pennsylvania Gazette" appeared in mourning for the passage

of the Stamp Act. 1774-The first American Congress, having finished its deliberations, ad-

1777-John Hancock resigned as Presi-1783 Continental army disbanded and returned to their homes.... Treaty of peace between Great Britain and the

United States proclaimed. 1793-Execution of the Girondists during the French revolution

1803-John Penn, one of the signers of the Deciaration of Independence from North Carolina, died. 1807-Russia declared war against Great

Britain. 1810-Mexican revolutionists defeated the Spanish at battle of Los Cruces 1813-Moravian Town, on the River Thames, destroyed by the Americans

under Gen, Harrison. 1818-Convention signed at London regulating the privileges of the United States in the British North American fisheries.

1825-Final completion of the Erie canal

celebrated at Albany ... First boat on the Erie canal arrived at Buffalo from Albany. 1841-Santa Anna entered the City of

1845-The United States naval academy was formally opened. 1847-Jerome Bonaparte returned to France after an exile of thirty-two

years. 1849-A remarkable meteoric stone fell near Charlotte, N. C.

1850-The Northwest Passage discovered by Capt. McClure of the Investiga-1851-Southern cotton planters met at Macon to devise a plan to prevent fluctuation in the price of the staple.

1852-Fire destroyed a large section of the city of Sacramento, Cal. 1861-Gen, Hunter superseded John Fremont in command of the western

department of the army. 1862-Confederate cavalry under Gen. Stuart entered Chambersburg, Pa. 1864-Maryland proclaimed a free State

by Gov. Bradford. 868-Gen. Ulysses S. Grant elected

President of the United States. 1874—Episcopal conference in session in New York adopted a resolution opposing ritualism in the church ser-1880-James A. Garfield of Ohio elected

President of the United States. 1883-Henry Irving made his American debut in New York City. 1886 Bartholdi's Statue of Liberty, in

New York harbor, dedicated by Pres-1888-The first Legislature of the North West Territories opened at Regina.

1891-The Provincial act abolishing separate schools in Manitoba declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of Canada. 1893-An electric car went through a

persons were killed ... Steamer City of Alexandria, from Havana for New York, burned at sea; thirty lives lost, 1804-David B. Hill, for the third time, accepted the Democratic nomination

draw at Portland, Ore., and twenty

for Governor of New York. 1895-The trial of H. H. Holmes for murder began in Philadelphia. 1899-First contingent of Canadian

troops for South Africa sailed from 1900-The statue of Queen Victoria was unveiled at Montreal.... Census bureau announced the population of the

United States to be 76,295,220, an

increase of over 13,000,000 in ten 1901-The ship Perseverance, with four-

teen men, lost in the Arctic region. 1902-Canadian-Australian cable completed from Vancouver to Fanning island, a distance of 3,455 miles. 1903-New Irish land act went into op-

1905-President Roosevelt sent Secratary Metcalf to San Francisco to investigate the anti-Japanese sentiment on the Pacific coast.

No Spender. Binggs-How have you spent the

summer, Jinngs? Jinngs-Haven't spent it: my wife and the girls have looked after all the spending this se ison.-Toledo Blade.