Dazed the Crank.

David P. Barrows, while acting pres ident of the University of Califo one day received a queer visitor. Lean and terribly earnest, the man broke into Barrows' study.

"I am the prophet Micah," he announced, "and I have a need for your service. The world is soon to come to an end. Could you not spread the tidings through the university?"

Dr. Barrows shook his visitor by the hand, collected his thoughts and replied: "I believe that at no time was there such a crying need for prophets. But, unfortunately, prophesying is an art with which I am unfamiliar. I am not even in close sympathy with it and, as I am unable to comprehend what you have accomplished, I confess in ability to participate as a prognosticator.

Whether it was the unexpected reply or the quick fire of so many words that dazed the visitor will never be known. Certain it is the man backed to th door and uttered the inadequate reply, 'Yes."-San Francisco Chronicle.

Gentlemen of Leisure. One of the upper ten thousand, once visiting America, accepted the hospitality of a gentleman in New York. When taking farewell of his host the latter asked him what he thought of

the American people. "Well," answered the nobleman, "I like them immensely, but I miss se

thing. 'What is that?" asked the Yankee. "I miss the aristocracy," replied the

Englishman. What are they?" naively asked his

host. "The aristocracy!" said the nobleman in a somewhat surprised tone of voice. "Why, they are people who do nothing, you know; whose fathers did nothing, you know; whose grandfathers did nothing, you know-in fact, the

aristocracy! Here he was interrupted by the American, who chimed in with, "Oh, we've plenty of them over here, but we don't call them aristocracy-we call them tramps."-Exchange.

Washington's Only Joke.

The only admirable quality in which Washington was deficient was humor. One of the very few jests he ever made-perhaps the only one-has descended to posterity on the authority of his aid-de-camp, Colonel Humphreys.

General Washington rather prided himself on his riding, so the colonel one day when they were out hunting together dared him to follow over on particular hedge. The challenge was accepted, and Humphreys led the way. He took the leap boldly, but to his con sternation found that he had mistaken the spot and was sunk up to his horse's girth in a quagmire. The general ei ther knew the ground better or had suspected something, for, following at easy pace, he reined up at the hedge and, looking over at his enguif-ed aid, exclaimed, "No, no, colonel, you are too deep for me!"

Massaged With Nettles.

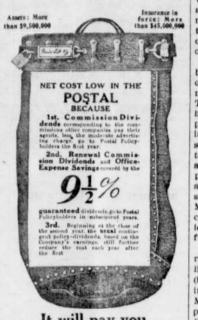
Nettles are said to be an almost cer tain proof that man has lived on the spot. One British species, the so called Roman nettle, is said to be found only where the Romans have been. the seventeenth century herbalist, ex-plains, "It grows both at the town of Lidde, by Romney, and in the streets of the town of Romney, in Kent, where Julius Caesar landed, with his soul dlers, and abode there a certaine time. and for the growing of it in that place it is reported that the souldiers brought te of the seede with them and sow ed it there for their use to rub and chafe their limbs when through extream cold they should be stiff and benumbed, being told before they came from home that the climate of Britain was so extream cold it was not to be endured without some friction." and Coquille Hera'd, both for \$2.00 expressions of disregard for the presi-dent of the company and his lay meth-



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The Wisdom of Nicodemus Railroad Brought to Terms by a Smart Dog.

> By L. H. BICKFORD Copyright by L. H. Bicklon

The Sunrise Limited swept past the lower pasture of Mrs. O'Hearn's No-The husband works hard to provide for them, and o'clock, and Mrs. O'Hearn's dog, Nicodemus, sallied down to the fence and barked at it. He was an unlovely animal of no breeding whatever, a canine

outcast deserted by an emigrant, and his hostility to all railway movements was pronounced and even excessive, although his best effort and longest run were reserved for the flying ves tibuled train that came so fleetingly out of the east and shot by him with

contemptuous roar and shriek. A year after Mrs. O'Hearn's husband had been snatched from the field of toll she lost the companionship and nourishing daily gift of her only cow. That the double calamity distressed her was not phenomenal, but the departure of Michael O'Hearn was within the number of things reconcilable since the movements of Providence are to be accepted without question and are, indeed, but instances of the expected. Mrs. O'Hearn, a faithfully and notoriously religious person, resigned herself to the simple hope that Michael was to be met in another country. The taking off of the cow left no such solace, since its spiritual

future did not concern her. From the day the engine of the Sun-rise Limited swept the animal in all literalness from the face of the earth dit had been rather foolishly investigating the nutritious qualities of cinders) Mrs. O'Hearn faced a world that appeared to be singularly unsympathetic. Where it had condoled with her in her first bereavement it merely smiled over her second. Obviously, in the eyes of the community, the least fitting place

for a cow to browse was in the line of a lightning express. The station agent at Exeter intimated as much when Mrs. O'Hearn called upon him and depicted, with admirable detail, the circumstances of her misfortune. He would, he declared, lay the matter be-

fore the proper officials. A week tater she came again, and her visit left memories of life, color

and action. She demanded to know whether the equivalent had been sent. The equivalent, she had somewhat exactly figured, was \$39.15, this itemization including \$39 for cow and 15 cents for the purchase of milk thrice weekly from a neighbor. Her following visit disclosed fully as close calculation, for the equivalent had mounted to \$39.30. and it was plain to the agent that her arithmetic carried with it rules of interest and equity that would never be accepted by the company even if it leigned to recognize her claim for the ow itself. On this occasion and on many occasions thereafter he, mentally onvinced that his prevarication would not outlive his tenure of office, asserted that only the president of the road had authority in the matter of destroyed

cows and, having made it clear to her that her claim had been duly forwarded, besought her to follow methods less spectacular and to exercise some patience.

Having so frankly thrown himself on her mercy, he nade a personal truce with the indy, but each week a new

is his dog's comprehension, was some- firmation, calculated to impress, was A. J. SHERWOOD, PRES. thing tangible, something not only to cut short by an exultant cry from the bark at, but to bite. The venerable gentleman dropped the flowers he had gathered and turned unsteadily to the fence, but made such poor progress cow this t'ree months," proceeded that Nicodemus, with terribly gleam- Mrs. O'Hearn. "Ye"ing teeth and a bounce like a kangaroo, ran into his legs. There was then a

fall of dog and man, with a singularly and anger. active display of man, considering age and lack of recent athletic training, and as the venerable gentleman came upright he did the only thing that seemed to his bewildered mind of rational purpose. The fence was still a great way off, and the speed of the dog had impelled that animal on a few

feet, but he was even now reversing himself. Nearer than the fence branched a tree. Two comforting knobs, within easy reach, projected from the trunk. And before he quite knew how he did it the venerable gentleman, with amazing agility, was seating himself on a lower branch of the tree, while the dog was making earnest and savage efforts to reach his dangling legs. The incident naturally served to interest the men at the car wheels. They came to the fence in a body, calling out to the dog to desist, and one. braver than his fellows, mounted the rails in an effort to distract Nicodemus from his prey. He put one foot down

on the opposite side as if he would come into the pasture. It was withdrawn almost on the instant, for the dog, now animated by a desire to engage all comers, sprang at the would be intruder, and his white teeth closed on a boot heel. The man of courage, giving way to profanity, fell back into the arms of his companions. The three stood in doubt and conference, but made no new move, while Nicodemus returned to guard the tree with now and then sudden sportive excursions in their direction.

Into this excitement, after some minutes, came Mrs. O'Hearn, her arms bared to the elbows and a rolling pin n one hand. She waddled down, red and breathless, her flour smeared apron telling of baking day, her bearing that of ponderous surprise. She came to a halt just beneath the branch on which the venerable gentleman was perched, and the dog wagged her a welcome and made another dash for the fence describing, as he returned, a circle. The man in the tree viewed her advent with positive pleasure. He at once connected Mrs. O'Hearn with the ownership of the dog, and he was also impressed that his position was absurd, so, although his tones were pleasant, chagrin was somewhere apparent.

He smiled genially, conscious that he had put the case concisely at least, 1

squat figure beneath him. "Thin ye aire the same wan that's been kapin' me out uv the price uv a

She cast about for an expression that would at once convey her contempl

"Ye murtherer!" she concluded. The trio at the fence, now enjoying the exclusive attention of Nicodemus, since it was obvious that the woman commanded the situation at the tree, resorted to missile throwing. The venerable gentleman looked perplexedly about him.

"Upon my soul, my good woman," he ventured, "you surprise me. 1 know nothing of your cow. You have surely mistaken me for some one else. I do not recall that I have ever before been in this locality."

"Ye'll remimber it, thin, from this j'yous dhay, for it's not from the place ye'll be sthirrin' till I've me equivylint an' me reshtitition for the evil ye've done me. 'It's the prisidint of the road,' says the station agent. 'that considerin' your claim. Mrs. O'Hearn, an' it'll be all roight in toime, but he's a very busy man.' 'Ye're not so busy but ye can put your hand to yer pocket an' projuce the \$39 for the "e've murthered in cold blood COW along uv your ig'narant injine dhrivers she doin' no harrum to thim or an' anny wan. An' it's the extra money I want for the milk I've bought since m

bereavement'" The situation seemed clearer. "You do not, then, accuse me o driving off your cow?" asked the ven-

erable gentleman. "Dhrivin' her off?" repeated Mrs. O'Hearn, striving to 'compass he scorn by raising her voice to its highest pitch. "It's makin' mincemeat uv her an' wid no sthoppin' for an apolo gy that I claim ye to be the ridhanded assassin ye aire."

do not run the engine," asserted the venerable gentleman uselessly. "If you have lost a cow, Mrs. O'Hearn, through any carelessness of the em ployees of the road you may be sure your claim will receive due consideration You can hardly expect to ad vance it, however, by keeping me here. And you have been misinformed. The president of the road does not adjust these matters that come out of thethe misfortunes of cows. Your claim has probably been delayed."

Mrs. O'Hearn glared, while Nicode mus, rushing past her in gleeful pur suit of a rock thrown by the engineer ame wiggling back, licked the rolling pin and returned to the fence.

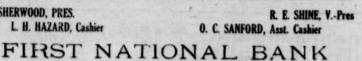
"Consideration!" exclaimed the lady "It's today that me equivylint comes to forty dollars and eighty cints, an it's in the three ye'll sthay an' ye're hired murtherers lookin' on from the fence beyant like gorillas in a cage before I sthir from the sphot or call off me dog, an' luck to him for knowin' a thafe whin he sees wan."

The venerable gentleman started to parley, looked bewildered, sighed and fumbled in the breast pocket of his coat. He finally withdrew a some what worn pocketbook bulging with papers. From these he extracted two greenbacks. Then he searched as well as he could in personal safety the pockets of his tronsers. He finally gave up in dismay.

"I am sorry to say that I haven't the amount you ask. If you will accept \$20 I assure you the remainder will be forthcoming. Mrs. O'Hearn raised the rolling pin.

'It's the equivylint or not one cint," she declared.

"But, as I have told you, I do not possess the amount. I rarely car'y with me any ready money," he added,



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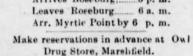
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bill was presented with its accumula Portland Semi-Weekly J urnal tion of figures, together with verbal ods of business.

At first the efforts of Nicodemus amused the freight crews, who threw iumps of coal at him This was to the

idvantage of Mrs. O'Hearn, since coal was a luxury, and the daily performance resulted in a small measure of the precious fuel to add to her store of wood. She began to wish, indeed. that the attention of the passenger engiveers might be equally attracted and that their resentment might take the same form. After a time, however, and from long familiarity the sport ceased to interest the passing trainmen, and but for an occasional missile

the dog barked without purpose, although he never relaxed his endeavors. The flight of time brought no spirit of charity to overcast the bitterness of erable gentleman, preparing to descend, but eyeing the dog warily, "al-Mrs. O'Hearn. And it was quite by way of coincidence that on the day though you must confess that either she had prepared her weekly statea botanist or a railway president would ment-which now had \$1.80 added to the principal-something entirely un- tion such as I have found myself-a usual in railway equipment should en-gage, although tardily, the attention of had a sense of humor, "that I pover had a sense of humor. "that I never Nicodemus. This was an abbreviated thought possible out of the pages of edition of the despised "flier," for the a comic weekly." engine drew but two cars, the last a wonder of luxurious construction and ed, as changes the face of nature unpainted a bright yellow. der the sudden burst of the tempest. The train had stopped, and around one of the sets of wheels stood three men variously engaged in drawing terance was one long inspiration. a slight questioning inflection, and her

cotton from an aperture, poking it about with a stick or dousing water upon the steaming mess. A venerable gentleman who had descended from the gorgeous car to watch the operation finally strolled over to the fence and, attracted by some wild blossoms, somewhat awkwardly scaled the barries and ambled pleasantly about the green fields, lost in contemplation of the simplicity of nature's wonders. Nicodemus came into action by a spring in the air, a shrill bark and a series of contortions that brought his haunches almost to his chin. When he felt the ground after the first flight he had made two yards, and his bair swept the wind as he rushed on. Here,

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tative, "be shut, now," forced Nicode-

"Ye're bein' wan of these flower

pickers that preserves them in schrap-books, mebbe." ventured the lady, in

spirit of conciliation, as she grasped

Nicodemus by one ear and shook him

roughly, "or p'raps wan of these pro-

fessors that can till ye the varieties

uv the posies by the schmell uv thim."

appear equally out of place in a posl-

"The manner of Mrs. O'Hearn chang-

again at the tree trunk, and her ut-

"Oh, ho-o-o-o," she emitted, with

olue eyes showed the glitter of steel.

Arms akimbo, she looked up at him,

The venerable gentleman, reconsider-

ng his determination to come down.

lutched the tree branch firmly and

alled out a warning to the engineer.

who had again sought to climb the

fence and again found himself beset

"That." he answered, "is my office.

He wondered why the woman was so interested in this fact, but his af-

Business Directory

L. FOLK & CO., SEATTLE

nd banking point complied by

"Oh. ho-o-o-o-o-o-o!"

railroad?

by Nicodemus.

Nov

"I am not a botanist." said the ven-

'80 YE

ilrium.

that regard. "You can git it." asserted the amazon AIRE THE PRISIDENT UV THE RAILBOAD?" inflexibly.

The venerable gentleman sighed again vhile Mrs O'Hearn, with an authoriand called out to the engineer: "I say, Hawkins, do you happen to mus to lie down, although his pody have any money?

still quivered from the exertions of the "A few dollars, sir." "I have a little change," supplementchase and the consequent canine de-

ed the tireman, while the conductor reached into a pocket.

"If the three of you could make up purse-the thing is absolutely absurd, but we cannot remain here arguing with this woman. I shall ask you to loan me \$20."

"An' 80 cints," interrupted Mrs. O'Hearn. "Exactly," acknowledged the vener

able gentleman, although not agreeably, "and 80 cents."

There was a search of overalls and blouses, and in the moment of sus-pense the president considered that it would not be at all unlikely that the ridiculous situation would be further complicated by the discovery that the combined wealth of the crowd did not make up the meager sum required. He was consequently relieved when the balance was forthcoming to the final ten cent piece, a contribution from She released the dog, which sprang the porter. This, by direction, was thrown over the fence, to be guarded by Nicodemus. The two bills fluttered from the hand of the president, and Mrs. O'Hearn, picking them up, turned them over carefully. Then she moved over to the second collection, and, sat istied with the accuracy of her count "So ye aire the prisident uv the and she was not quick at coin values. called the dog, grasped it by one en and ambled back toward the house with no concluding word. But she evidenced her faith by tocking Nicodemus in the barn, whereupon the venerable gentleman descended. When the dog was released and shot off down the pasture to renew the sport the special had gone. He shiffed at the tree and,

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presumably living over the late adven-

ture in his imagination, barked in a

paroxysm of joy

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