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Five Cents

What Brought Her Home

By ETHEL HOLMES

John Cook had been married ten years, during which time, except the first few months after the wedding, he had never been away from his wife for more than a few days at a time. But after ten years' living together there came a brief separation. They had not been able to go to the country during the summer, for John's income would not admit of an outing. But all of a sudden his business sprang up, and when August came around it was decided that Mrs. Cook and the children had better spend a few weeks in some rural district where there was pure air. John could not leave his business, which was increasing every day, so he packed them off without him.

Mrs. Cook had exacted a promise from her husband that he would visit every day. The first day after her departure he kept his promise. He wrote the following brief letter:

Dear Ellen—I hope you and the children arrived safely. It's very hot here, but I dined in a hurry last night at a restaurant and went back to the office, where I remained till 11 o'clock. I am obliged to work nights in order to keep up with the rush, so you see that I haven't much time to spend writing any letters that don't pertain to business. To the Kiss Tommy and Nellie for their affectionate father.

"That," said Mrs. Cook, "looks as if he were very busy and that the children are the only ones who can draw from him any expression of affection."

The next day Mrs. Cook looked for another letter from her husband, hoping that it would be signed "your affectionate husband." Instead of "the children's affectionate father." But to her surprise no letter came, nor did she receive one the day following or the next or the next. It was not till a week after the arrival of the first letter that another came. This one was as overflowing with affection as the first was devoid of it. Its beginning was as follows:

Dearest Nell—I see three days since I have seen your dear face or kissed your sweet lips. It seems three years—no, not years, ages. If ever I get back to you I vow I will never consent to be separated from you again. Last night I wrote you twelve pages, which, I presume, you have by this time received and digested. Yours written yesterday in here, and I have read it a dozen times already. I woke up in the middle of the night and got up to read it again.

Mrs. Cook had read thus far when she stopped and shuddered. What did this remarkable burst of affection mean? The newspapers had noted that the thermometer in the city had hovered around 98 degrees and the humidity varied between 90 and 100 degrees. There had been many cases of sunstroke, and several persons had been made insane by the heat. Could it be that her husband had been thus affected?

The letter trembled in her hands as she read on. Skimming over a lot more of this "incoherent nonsense," as she called it, the letter closed:

With a million kisses, your own true love.

What caused the greatest fear in Mrs. Cook's breast was the fact that there was not a word about the children. In this epistle there was surely no reason to be jealous of them. But if he had forgotten them his delirium must surely be terrible. What should she do—telegraph him to ask if he had been dazed—trunk? That, of course, would be absurd. She might inquire of others, but when she came to think over her husband's intimate friends she remembered every one of them was out of town. Besides supposing there was nothing the matter with John or suppose she wrote at the thought that he had written another woman while writing his wife and got the letters in the wrong envelope? No. Whatever she did she must keep the matter from the world. There was but one thing for her to do—go home.

In an hour after this decision she had left her children in care of the landlady and taken a train. She arrived in the city before dark and drove directly to her home. She found the front door unlocked and entered. The table was set for dinner for one in the dining room. She ran upstairs and saw her husband in his bedroom tying his cravat before a mirror. He turned and looked at her in astonishment.

"Great heavens! What brought you home? Anything the matter with the children?"

Mrs. Cook, by this time convinced that the letter she had received had been written to another woman than herself, drew it from her bag and handed it to her husband. He looked at it, and a singular, shiffling expression appeared on his countenance.

"Who is the woman?" cried Mrs. John.

"My dear, did this bring you home?"

"It did."

"Thank heaven!"

"What do you mean?"

"Why, I was so crowded with business that I have no time to write. I found in your desk a bundle of my old letters to you, written when we were first married. I thought I'd make them do while you were away."

It was now Mrs. Cook's turn to look shamed.

"Do you mean," she faltered, "that you ever wrote that kind of a letter to me?"

"Loads of them. And got the same kind from you."

"Oh, John, I was afraid!"

"Afraid of what?"

"That you had been made mad by the heat."

WILLIAM R. WOOD



William R. Wood, the Indiana congressman who started the investigation of the peace note leak.

BRIEF WAR NEWS

During the year just closed 178,537 men were recruited in Canada. Severe fighting has taken place around Riga at the northern end of the long eastern front.

An attack by a strong British force against Turkish positions near Inan Muhamed on the Tigris front was repulsed with heavy losses, Constantinople reports.

In response to a unanimous vote of the chamber of deputies, the Roumanian government has ordered that a "declaration of defiance" be placarded in every town.

The French, British and Italian premiers and important military subordinates in several entente ministries held a war council in Rome for consideration of the general situation.

North of the river Ancre, in northern France, British troops in a night attack entered a German advanced trench. Northeast of Verdun a German raid was made into the French lines.

Along a hundred-mile front in southeastern Moldavia the troops of the central powers are slowly pressing the retreating Russians and Roumanians back upon the line of the Sereth river.

Emperor William is quoted as declaring in an order issued to the army and navy that as Germany's offer of peace negotiations had been refused, the war would be continued with a view to an understanding forced by arms.

SHORT NEWS NUGGETS

American Ambassador Fletcher will soon leave for his post in Mexico.

A rural schoolhouse situated between Blocker and Krebs, in McIntosh county, Okla., was blown away by a cyclone. Fifteen children perished.

Peter Osterhaus, last surviving major general of the United States forces in the Civil war, died at the home of his daughter-in-law at Duisburg, Germany.

Edw. M. Hurley, chairman of the federal trade commission, tendered his resignation to President Wilson on Thursday. It was accepted. Hurley's resignation takes effect February 1.

A campaign to include a two-year course in making good roads, in state high school curriculums, was launched when the All Minnesota Development association met in annual session in St. Paul.

Lieutenant-Colonel Harding, of the army engineer corps, now acting governor of the Panama Canal, was nominated by President Wilson to be governor of the Panama canal, succeeding Major-General Goethals.

With the suicide of Bernard W. Lewis, wealthy Pittsburg friend of Grace Roberts, the Philadelphia police considered the murder of the pretty model a closed incident. While admitting that the shot which ended Lewis' life also probably ended the chance of the murder ever being conclusively cleared up, they said the hand of circumstance pointed to Lewis as the man who knew more about the girl's death than anyone else.

Villa Is Seen by Scouts

Chihuahua City, Mexico, via El Paso Junction.—Francisco Villa was going toward Hacienda Las Nieves, southwest of Parral when last seen by Carranza scouting parties, according to private sources here. Las Nieves ranch was the place Villa was trying to reach at the time Major Frank Tompkins and his cavalry column pursued him into Parral.

Harvard Man on Tariff Commission

Washington.—Professor Frank W. Taussig, of Harvard, accepted a place on the tariff commission and probably will be made chairman. The other four members will be announced later.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

There were only 25 cases of infectious diseases in Pendleton last year. Fifty-five banks in the state have unclaimed deposits aggregating \$7,560.90.

The state poultry show is being held in Medford this week, from Tuesday to Friday.

Since January 1, 127 applications for land have been filed at the La Grande land office.

Edward Bartholomew was declared guilty of the murder of John Lind by a jury at Portland.

The state Peppermint Growers' association will hold its annual meeting in Albany January 13.

Approximately 46,000 acres of land have been filed on at The Dalles land office since January 1.

Portland's annual automobile show, the eighth, will be held at the armory January 27 to February 3.

A total of \$119,987.45 will be returned to the several counties of the state from the motor vehicle fund.

Care of the insane will cost the state \$989,817 for the next two years, according to estimated requirements.

Only one insurance company has so far failed to renew its annual license to do business in Oregon during 1917.

During the past month death has claimed seven of the old pioneers of Coos county and in most cases death was due to grip.

No fatal accidents were reported to the state industrial accident commission this week. A total of 188 accidents were reported.

The Josephine County Bar association has launched and endorsed a proposal for a separate judicial district for Josephine county.

The total cost for the Oregon soldiers' home for the next biennial period is estimated at \$103,450 in a budget prepared by the commandant.

Between 150 and 200 dairymen, farmers and their wives attended the formal opening of the Stanfield cheese factory at its new plant in Stanfield.

Bend has made a formal application to congress for a new federal building, basing its claims upon the postal receipts of the town and the population.

Thirteen and forty-four one-hundredth acres on Crooked creek in Klamath county has been deeded to the state of Oregon for a trout hatchery.

Governor Withycombe has appointed L. N. Blowers of Hood River as county judge of Hood River county, succeeding E. E. Stanton, who resigned.

The 20th annual winter short course began Monday at the Oregon Agricultural college and will continue until the close of the second semester, February 2.

The state of Oregon will receive this year the sum of \$128,111 as its allotment of the appropriation to aid in the construction of roads in national forests.

A federal commission of naval officers, headed by Rear Admiral James M. Helm, investigated proposed sites for a naval base on the Columbia river last week.

Wasco county is about ready to begin construction work on its system of main highways, for which the people of the county voted a bond issue of \$360,000 last November.

Approximately 1000 iron sign posts, directing tourists along the Pacific highway in Oregon, will be placed just as soon as a truck, loaded with the signs, can get over the road.

Senator Lane will urge an amendment to the river and harbor bill appropriating \$250,000 for further improvement of the entrance to Yaquina bay to give a depth of 20 feet.

The deep snow now covering Klamath county has made it extremely difficult for the mail to exist, so the Klamath Sportsmen's association is taking steps to see that they are fed.

The Oregon naval militia has been authorized to send one officer and four men to the government aeronautical station at Pensacola, Fla., for a three months' course of instruction in flying.

Officials of the Whitman national forest report that government stakes on the higher mountains of the reserve show considerably more snow on the ground now than at this time last year.

Combined, the requirements of Oregon's higher institutions of learning—the agricultural college, the university and normal school—total \$2,298,464 for the next two years, according to the state budget.

The most successful farmers' and homemakers' week ever held at the Oregon Agricultural college closed Saturday, after practically every phase of industry of direct interest to the farmer or housewife of the state had been treated by specialists in their respective lines, through lectures, demonstrations and conventions.

Oregon now ranks first in the United States in regularity of attendance in the rural schools, according to the biennial report of Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill.

Miss Lily Luescher, 18 years of age, was instantly killed, and her sister, Rosalind, 21, was terribly injured when the automobile in which they were riding was struck by an electric train near Portland.

President Wilson has approved the recommendation of Secretary Lane that an appropriation of \$400,000 be made by congress this session to build the Warm Springs dam on the Malheur irrigation project.

Members of the Tumalo Development league have asked that government hunters be sent to their community to assist in killing coyotes which have come to be a source of much loss to stockmen.

Umpqua fishermen are reaping a harvest, receiving double and triple the amount for steelheads and silver-sides they have received in the past. The average steelhead or silver-side brings the fisherman \$1.

Four thousand nine hundred acres of level, fertile irrigated land in the reclaimed bed of Tule lake in southeastern Klamath county, will be opened for homestead entry in the near future, probably by a land drawing.

Four additions to the force of the state board of health for carrying forward more efficiently the work of that body are urged in the seventh biennial report of the board to the governor and the 29th legislative assembly.

Receipts of the industrial accident commission from November 5, 1916, to December 31, 1916, aggregated \$1,789,587.88 and the disbursements \$1,504,857.68. The commission has received reports of 17,459 non-fatal accidents and 938 fatal accidents.

Deputy State Sealer of Weights and Measures Wortman has ordered his field deputies to make a general check in all parts of the state of the weights of flour, as several complaints have come into his office that short weights have been given.

Congressman Hawley has been advised by the forest service that the fund for the improvement of Oregon roads and trails will not be extended until the state legislature provides for a co-operative plan between the state and federal government.

The municipal water plant owned by the city of Hood River has been a success in every way. The records of the water office show that \$1000 per month has been earned through this source above expenses of operation and maintenance during the past year.

That the institutions under state control be placed under the supervision of the secretary of state so far as the expenditure of money is concerned, is the substance of a bill advocated for passage at the coming session of the legislature, by the state board of health.

Dogs are worth more than cows in a number of counties of the state, according to returns on file with the state tax commission from the assessors of the state. For instance, the average value of a dog in Tillamook county is placed at \$33.75, while the average value of cattle is \$27.72.

An appropriation of \$25,000 will be asked of the Oregon legislature, to match a similar sum from the state of Washington, and \$12,500 from British Columbia for the big joint advertising campaign of the Northwest Tourist association. These sums are to be annual for a two-year period.

The Northwest Grain convention in session at Corvallis went on record as favoring bulk handling of grain as opposed to the present sack handling. Resolutions were adopted, declaring that hereafter all wheat quotations shall be considered as being for bulk unless specifically stated otherwise.

That farmers of the dry-farming districts of eastern Oregon could greatly increase their yearly profits by plowing earlier in the spring and by utilizing the summer fallow by means of crop rotation, is stated by D. E. Stephens, superintendent of the dry-farming branch experiment station at Moro.

With the adoption of a comprehensive programme especially emphasizing needed legislation, the importance of aiding irrigation farmers and encouraging general land settlement, followed by the election of officers, the Oregon Irrigation congress concluded its sixth annual session in Portland Saturday.

A most ambitious plan for a system of state roads connecting every county seat has been brought forward by State Engineer Lewis. It involves approximately 4200 miles of state road and 8000 miles of county roads as feeders to the system. To construct the system would involve an expenditure of \$225,000,000 according to his estimate.

Woolgrowers of Umatilla county and other sections of northeastern Oregon are not taking kindly to the thought of contracting their 1917 clips this early in the year, even though the offers made them are very attractive. Visions of 40 cent wool are more or less general in eastern Oregon sheepland, and until something happens to dispel them there will be but little wool sold until the actual buying season has begun.

INQUIRY INTO LEAK LEADS IN INTEREST

Lansing, Lawson and Tumulty Appear Before House Rules Committee.

Washington.—Congressional interest centers chiefly this week in the hearing by the house rules committee on the Wood resolution for an investigation into the alleged "leak" to the stock market of advance information on President Wilson's peace note.

Through a bewildering maze of intimations and heated colloquies, which turned the hearing into an uproar, the house rules committee wrestled with Thomas W. Lawson, of Boston, to obtain definite information to substantiate the stories of a "leak" to Wall street in advance of the president's peace note.

Representative Bennett demanded that Lawson name the man who he says told him a New York broker, a cabinet official and a United States senator participated in a stock gambling partnership. Lawson at first flatly refused for two reasons, one that he already was cited for contempt and the other that he did not think it necessary to give the names at this time.

Lawson finally promised the house rules committee he would disclose the names of the cabinet official, the senator and the New York banker who he says a member of congress told him were engaged in a stock gambling partnership, if the house ordered an investigation as a result of the rules committee preliminary hearings.

Tumulty Categorically Denies. Backed with an indorsement by President Wilson, Secretary Tumulty made the following statement to the house rules committee:

"I appear before this committee to resent the unjust intimation that I gave information to Mr. B. M. Baruch, in regard to the so-called peace note sent to the European belligerents last month by the secretary of state. This intimation was contained in a statement made to this committee by Representative Wood, of Indiana.

"I wish to deny generally and specifically that I gave advance information to Mr. Baruch or to anybody else in regard to the peace note. I did not know of the existence of this note or that this government contemplated the dispatch of such a note until after printed copies of the note had been given to representatives of the press by the state department. I was not consulted in the preparation of the note by the president or by anybody else. The conferences and communications relating to the drafting of the note and its dispatch were confidential between the president and the secretary of state. I knew nothing of them whatever nor did any other person employed in the executive office."

Lansing Tells History of Note. Secretary Lansing, of the state department, took the stand to assert he had no knowledge of advance information circulated regarding the note. Secretary Lansing related the physical history of the note, how it was prepared, through whose hands it passed, and of his participation in its preparation. He also told of a statement he had given in confidence to newspapermen on the morning before the note was made public, in which he told them to expect a note at 5 o'clock that afternoon. He did not go into details with the correspondents, he said, but did say it was not a proposal for peace nor an offer of mediation.

Senate Backs Up Peace Message. The vote came at the close of an afternoon of dramatic speeches in which Senator Lewis, majority whip, had declared the war could not go on without involving America; that America would accept no more apologies for mistakes and injuries (imposed inferentially by Germany).

Efforts to substitute a minority resolution for Senator Hitchcock's failed. But at last, with the Hitchcock resolution toned down, the senate rushed through its work and many republicans joined the democrats in accepting the measure, as amended by Senator Jones (Washington), republican. Shorn of any idea of indorsing either war or a break with Germany or approving entangling alliance or interference in European affairs, the Hitchcock resolution, approving President Wilson's note to belligerents, passed the senate, 48 to 17.

Head of Chicago Police Arrested. Chicago.—A warrant charging C. C. Healey, superintendent of police, with conspiracy, was sworn out on request of a representative of Maclay Hoynes, state's attorney. Mr. Hoynes alleged that Chief Healey was one of several men who accepted a share of contributions levied on illegal resorts.

Hughes to Head Union League Club. New York.—The nominating committee of the Union League Club has posted the name of Charles E. Hughes as its choice for the presidency of the organization, to succeed Elihu Root.

LUTHER BURBANK



Luther Burbank, the California plant wizard who recently married his secretary.

CHAMBERLAIN URGES COMPULSORY TRAINING

New York.—If the United States does not want to be relegated to the position of China among the nations, training must begin at once of the young men between the ages of 18 and 21 under a compulsory military service law, United States Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, chairman of the committee on military affairs of the senate, said in an address before the Republican Club here.

No man can tell what may happen in the international situation in the next 24 hours, Senator Chamberlain asserted. He criticized the mobilization of the national guard at the Mexican border as "wholly ineffective," adding there was no doubt in his mind "what would have happened had the United States declared war on Mexico." Even if his plan of compulsory military training of young men now were effective, the senator declared, it would take three years to obtain an army adequate to defend the country in the event of a crisis.

OREGON LEGISLATURE MEETS

Presiding Officers Selected Without Contest and Organizations Laid.

Salem, Or.—The 29th session of the Oregon legislature convened Monday morning, and, owing to the fact that there was no contest over selection of presiding officers and organization of the legislature will get an early start toward the business of the session.

The election of Gus C. Moser, of Portland, as president of the senate was assured several weeks ago and he had no opposition, and the election of Robert N. Stanfield, of Stanfield, as speaker of the house was unopposed.

The coming legislature will deal with many important questions. One in which there is universal interest is a measure making effective and otherwise fortifying the bone-dry prohibition amendment to the constitution adopted by the people at the November general election.

There is no question that the legislature will pass such a measure, but there is a question as to how stringent it will make the law.

Paresis Arrested by New Treatment

New York.—Salvarsan, administered directly into the inner cavity of the brain, may be regarded as one of the most advanced and hopeful methods of arresting the destructive process of paresis, officials of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital announced.

Big Steel Plant Wanted by Daniels. Washington.—Because of high prices quoted by American shell makers, Secretary Daniels intends to ask congress to increase the capacity of projectile plants for which it already has appropriated. Hadfields, Limited, an English concern, has underbid American manufacturers, whose prices the government considers exorbitant.

THE MARKETS.

Portland. Wheat—Club \$1.54; bluestem \$1.62; red Russian, \$1.50; forty-fold, \$1.57. Barley—No. 1 feed, \$39 per ton. Hay—Timothy, \$21 per ton; alfalfa, \$18.

Butter—Creamery, 37c. Eggs—Ranch, 35c. Wool—Eastern Oregon, 36c; valley, 35c. Hops—1916 crop, 6@8c.

Seattle. Wheat—Bluestem \$1.63; club \$1.55; forty-fold, \$1.56; red Russian, \$1.53; fifty, \$1.55; turkey red, \$1.64. Barley—\$38.50 per ton. Butter—Creamery, 33c. Eggs—40c.

GERMANS CAPTURE FIVE MORE TOWNS

Russians Expelled From Dobrudja and New Operations Are Begun.

Berlin, by wireless to Sayville.—In addition to Braila, five more towns in Roumania have been taken by the Teutonic troops, which have reached the Sereth river at two points. New operations have been inaugurated in Dobrudja, following the expulsion of the last of the Russians and Roumanians.

Field Marshal Von Mackensen's drive against the Sereth line in southern Moldavia continues to gain ground and the Teutonic thrust against the Moldavian frontier mountains in the flanking operations now under way likewise is showing progress.

Pushing northward from Pokashani, the fortress position captured southwest of the Sereth and near the center of the line, Von Mackensen's troops have driven the Russians across the Putna and are now hammering at a new position they have taken up there.

Further southeast, toward the Danube, the Russians are now beginning to yield again, according to Berlin, losing another town which the Austro-German forces held against counter attacks.

It was indicated that the report as quoted did not convey a true view of German-American relations, which have commonly been described as strained through the recent submarine activities.

The dinner at which Ambassador Gerard is reported to have uttered his ill advised sentiments was given in Berlin by the American Association of Commerce and Trade, of Berlin, in honor of Mr. Gerard.

MEANING OF SPEECH AT BERLIN IS ASKED

Washington.—The report that Ambassador Gerard at a public welcome back to Germany had said that "never since the beginning of the war have the relations between the United States and Germany been so cordial as now," were officially inquired into by the state department through a cable to the ambassador personally.

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Members Are Said to Favor More Stringent Liquor Laws. Olympia, Wash.—The 15th Washington legislature met at noon Monday for a 60-day session. There was no contest over the organization of either house, the republican senators having agreed upon Senator Ralph Nichols, of Seattle, as president pro tem, and the republicans of the house having accepted Representative Guy E. Kellogg, of Tacoma, as speaker. Liquor legislation probably will be taken up at once.

Many of the members favor a bone dry law, similar to that adopted recently in Oregon, which will prohibit all importations of liquor for drinking. There is some opposition to such a bill, and in any event the measure would be required to pass the referendum test. The legislators are said to be unanimously in favor of laws to make the sale of liquor more difficult.

A joint memorial to congress in support of a national prohibition amendment to the federal constitution was passed the opening day. The senate gave the movement unanimous support and only two votes were recorded against it in the house.

RUSSIANS ACTIVE AT RIGA

In First Assault in North They Occupy Teutonic Positions.

London.—The Russians are preparing to launch a great new offensive in the Riga sector, according to a Copenhagen dispatch.

The Russians attempted a surprise attack near the Riga bridgehead. Great masses of the attackers, with white shirts over their uniforms, succeeded during a violent snowstorm in entering the German trenches on a front of 1000 meters.

The Germans, seeing the danger, sent all available reserves into the battle, which reached a pitch of tremendous fury.

Mrs. Astell on Federal Commission. Washington.—President Wilson has nominated the following members of the Working Men's Compensation Commission to administer the federal employees' liability law, at salaries of \$4000 a year:

Dr. Riley McMillan Little, of Swarthmore, Pa., republican, for six years.

Mrs. Frances C. Astell, of Bellingham, Wash., progressive, for four years.

John J. Keegan, of Indianapolis, democrat, for two years.