

TOO MANY BEAUX

By RUTH BIRDBALL

IT DON'T look well for a girl to have so many beaux. Besides, that Belcher girl's too pretty. 'Tain't right."

Miss Emanda Jinkins, with a determined click of her very false teeth, adjusted her steel-bowed spectacles and sat down.

The Charty Circle was holding its weekly meeting. The town's hair-doon cut-and-dried spinsters, the two Falley widows, old Lizzie Harboid, Sara Tucker, Squire Plashdyke's wife, and Mrs. Worthy, the timid little wife of the village parson, were present and discussing the only summer boarder in the village who had unconsciously become the one stimulant of the season.

"It's a pity she's so pretty," sighed Lida Paisley, soulfully. "She'd make a real nice wife for some good man, or a teacher, but to be only a summer boarder! 'Tain't natural."

"Maybe somebody ought to call and talk to her," suggested Sara. "I ain't hankerin' for the job myself, but I'd go with somebody else, if they'd do the talking. I ain't much on words."

"Hm," snapped Emanda. "If you ain't, why do you use so many? I don't see why I shouldn't go. She don't fuster me. If I'd wanted to curl my hair and wear stiffs for shoes and nothing but lace for undergarments, I could a had beaux myself."

"How do you know what she wears, Emanda?" chirped Lida Paisley.

"I guess I can see folks' washins on the line blowin' right in my face, can't I? Such a show of lace and ribbons flyin'! I shouldn't think Mrs. Bixby'd tolerate it."

"Let us not censure," soothed Mrs. Worthy. "Mrs. Bixby may be trying to do good by harboring this young woman. My husband has seen the young lady, and finds no trace of depravity, but says that she seems most cultivated."

"Cultivated?" shrieked half a dozen throats.

"Maybe it's all right for a man like your husband to talk that way about a girl who's upstairin' our village and has three automobiles lined up in front of her door at once. This afternoon, a 'torential' car drove up and let out a man dressed up like no mother's son ought to be. Half an hour later, a car, low like a lumber pump, came to a quick stop in front of the gate and a chap in white flannels and no hat jumped out. I saw it myself."

"Did you say there was a third auto, too, 'Manda?" asked one of the party.

"Yes, and what's more, it didn't drop one man out, but three of 'em. That Rose Belcher ain't going to be content long before she'll try for our village men-folks."

A shudder ran up every mother's spine, a terrified gasp of last hopes shattered escaped from every spindler.

"Act now, I says," continued Emanda. "Put it to a vote. All the ladies who feel it our duty to send a committee to call upon Miss Belcher and show her the errors of her ways, please signify it in the usual custom. The 'ays' have it. Now, who is going to be the committee?"

A moment of silence, then Emanda. "Mrs. Worthy came to the rescue."

"Ladies, is it not meet that we all go? I propose that we cease our work a half hour earlier than usual, desert from our usual cup of tea, and call at Sister Bixby's house as a body. Many heads are better than one."

Chairs were scraping, spoons dropping, aprons switching when the door opened. Rose Belcher paused on the threshold.

"May I come in? You probably don't know who I am, but I have seen you good women gathering here all summer and I'm dying to meet you all. I'm Rose Belcher, from Mrs. Bixby's house. Dear Mrs. Bixby is always busy."

A stunned silence, out of which Mrs. Worthy, with dignity and a honeyed voice, rose.

"At last, my dear sister, you have come to the fold!"

"Yes, indeed, I'll fold. It is bandages, or—"

"No," snapped Emanda Jinkins, crisply. "Not bandages, bed quilts."

"Bed quilts?" smiled Rose. "My grandmother helped me make one when I was a little girl, and my hubby says it is prettier than any other quilt we have."

"The Judge" — Merely Misplaced



COURT UPHOLDS PATENT SALE

U. S. Suit Against Chemical Foundation Dismissed by Judge Morris.

CONSPIRACY CHARGE FAILS

Conduct of Chemical Foundation Praised in Use of Former German Patents for Benefit of American People.

Wilmington, Del.—In a sixty-two page decision which swept away every one of the Government's major contentions as being without basis in fact or law, Federal Judge Hugh M. Morris dismissed its suit to set aside the sale of seized chemical and dye patents by the Allen Property Custodian to the Chemical Foundation, Inc.

The decision rebuked the Government for including in the bill of complaint a series of conspiracy charges unsupported by evidence at the trial and refuted by the defense as well as by documents filed by the Government.

In declining to compel the Foundation to restore the disputed patents, numbering some 4,700 and bought for \$271,000, from the Government, Judge Morris held there was no evidence bearing out allegation of a conspiracy by American manufacturers to "flect a monopoly through the Foundation.

The court ruled that there was no evidence of fraud or deceit practiced on President Wilson, Mr. Polk, Under Secretary of State, Attorney General Palmer and other high officials of that Administration.

Garvan's Course Upheld.—The opinion praised Francis P. Garvan, president of the Foundation, and its trustees, as having met the most severe of tests in their conduct of the Foundation—"the test of actual trial." They were declared by the court to afford, through their high integrity and unquestioned patriotism, a thorough assurance of loyalty to their trust. "It has kept the faith," said the court of the Foundation's work.

Judge Morris found without merit the Government's contention that the criminal laws were violated in that Mr. Garvan, as Allen Property Custodian and thereby a public trustee, sold to himself as president of the Foundation the patents in question. He had acted by direction of President Wilson and his acts, supervised by the President under the latter's wide war powers granted by Congress, could not be brought to court.

While I know of no case where by implication of law the duty of clearing itself from imputed fraud rests upon the defendant, yet the defendant has met even this burden.

act. "Because a trustee with only the usual powers may not ordinarily sell trust property at private sale for less than its fair monetary value, it by no means follows that the Custodian, acting under supervision and direction of the President, may not do so," held the Court. "Obviously, the primary purpose of the act was the protection of the nation, not the benefit of the enemy. The trust was for the benefit of the nation—a public, not a private trust. The statute requires the President to consider the public interest. Public interest is not a synonym for money."

In this relation Judge Morris quoted from President Coolidge's message to Congress on the Muscle Shoals problem, that "while the price is an important element, there is another consideration even more compelling. . . . If this main object (low-priced nitrates for farmers in peace and the Government in war) is accomplished, the amount of money received for the property is not a primary or major consideration."

Referring to German-owned property, the court said: "Much of this property was not innocently held or held solely for trade and commerce. Information acquired by German-owned companies had been transmitted to Berlin, and there indexed and made available to German competitors and the German Government. The files of one company were filled not with business papers, but with pan-German literature. It was a distribution centre for propaganda in this country."

Upholds Confiscation of Patents.—Judge Morris pointed out that when America entered the war she adhered to the international convention for bidding poison gas, "but it soon became apparent that America would be fighting on disastrously unequal terms unless she should make use of all the dread weapons being used against her by the foe. When Germany persisted in her attempts to destroy her opponents with poison gas in contravention of all international agreements, she made it manifest that America's future safety lay in America's chemical independence. The amendment to the act was passed in the darkest days of the war (allowing the sale of seized properties). It was thought Paris was about to fall and the Channel ports be taken. These were the circumstances which impelled Congress to grant the President the broad powers of almost absolute ownership. It was the intent of Congress to subordinate mere property rights to the welfare of the nation."

Of the value of the patents sold, Judge Morris held, in accordance with the testimony, that while Dr. Carl Holderman, a German, asserted the Haber patents were worth \$17,000,000 to the Germans, "the evidence is overwhelming that they were and are without substantial affirmative value to American citizens. Had these patents been sold to Americans at public rather than private sale and only the net proceeds paid to their former enemy owners these owners would have suffered an almost total loss in the value of their property."

Praises Work of Foundation.—As to allegations that the sale was not to obtain a fair value, but to promote the interests of the chemical and dye industries and that the transaction was in legal effect granting a subsidy to private industry, the Court commented, "this challenge to the motives of the officers making the sale is supported, I think, neither by the facts nor the law. Mr. Polk determined the public interest would be best served by a wide use of the inventions covered by the patents. If the property was sold under terms and conditions that assured its being devoted to the public use it matters not what benefits or detriments may have flowed as incidents therefrom."

"The property is in the keeping of men who have in its management no selfish interest to serve and whose devotion to the public interest has been established," continued the opinion. "No better plan for devoting the property to public use has been suggested. The plan has stood the most severe of all tests—actual trial. The defendant has kept the faith. This it has done, not only by granting licenses in furtherance of the purposes for which it was chartered, but also at its great expense, by distribution of books and pamphlets showing the national necessity for practical development of chemical science in America."

It is, perchance, those heretofore engaged in the industries have derived an incidental advantage from the plan, that incidental result cannot invalidate a transaction lawfully consummated in the public interest. The same charge would lie against the validity of every tariff act. . . . The sale was in effect to America and its citizens, not to those then engaged in chemical and allied industries."

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

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A. D. Webb, 77, of La Grande, was killed when he was struck by the tip of a falling tree.

The Corvallis school census has increased 109 during the past year and has now passed the 2000 mark.

The number of births in Lane county during 1923 far exceeded deaths. Births were 388 and deaths 242.

William Clemons, 38, was instantly killed at Bend when his skull was fractured by a log rolling from a flat car.

Martin Perry of Hood River was the last person to obtain a 1923 motor vehicle license. His plates bore the number 167897.

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Portland
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Hay—Alfalfa, \$17@18 ton; cheat, \$18.50@14.00; valley timothy, \$19@20; eastern Oregon timothy, \$21.50@22.50.
Butterfat—50¢ lb.
Eggs—Ranch, 32@35c.
Cheese—Prices to jobbers, f. o. b. Tillamook: Triplets, 27c; longhorns, 28c; loaf, 25c per lb.
Cattle—Beef steers, medium grade, \$8.50@7.
Hogs—Medium to good, \$7.75@8.50.
Sheep—Medium, good and choice lambs, \$11@12.
Seattle.
Wheat—Hard and soft white and Big Bend bluestem, \$1.01; western white, \$1.03; hard and soft red winter, northern spring and western red, 99c.
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Curious Umbrella.

It was a French inventor, with a tender heart for bicyclists, chauffeurs, fishermen and wandering artists, who contrived a form of umbrella for protection against sun or rain, which can be easily and solidly attached to the shoulders so as to leave the arms and hands absolutely free. When not in use it folds up in a conveniently portable form.

MAIN STREET BARBER SHOP MORO, OREGON Joe Truitt, Proprietor SHOWER BATHS

A. M. HICKS Plumbing and Heating Sells and installs the famous Mueller pipe or pipeless furnace. Wasco, Oregon

WHEN IN THE DALLES EAT AT Royal Cafe Open Day and Night

Webber's Cleaners & Tailors

The Dalles, Ore. Opposite Black and White Mail Orders Given Special Attention

Bank Hotel Formerly the Albert The Dalles' Newest and Best Hostelry CENTRALLY LOCATED Sherman County Headquarters J. P. RATH, Manager The Dalles - Oregon

NEW HOTEL PERKINS FIFTH AND WASHINGTON STS. PORTLAND, OREGON SPECIAL RATES Room with privilege of bath, single, \$1.00 up; double \$1.50 up. Room with private bath, single, \$1.50 up; double \$2.50 up. Auto Meets Trains. Street cars from Union Depot pass our doors. Transfer at 5th and Gilliam streets from North Bank Depot. J. M. Wilson, Administrator.