

LIGHTS OF NEW YORK

By
WALTER
TRUMBULL

This may be old, but it was told to me as an unpublished story. There is a man in New York who liked to have people around him, so he used to keep open house on Sunday afternoons. It got so that a good many persons came regularly to eat, drink,

KANSAS GIRL CHAMP



Miss Florence Melchert, twenty-year-old freshman in Kansas Agricultural college, has been declared the outstanding 4-H club girl in the United States. She went from her home in Franklin county, Kansas, to the International Live Stock show at Chicago to receive the trophy given by Senator George H. Moses of New Hampshire.

smoke and talk. The man, while not rich, was pretty well off and, at various times, helped some of his visitors financially over tough spots in the road. He felt that they were his friends. Many of them didn't need any help. Sunday afternoons were gay affairs.

Then came the crash and the man was wiped out. The next Sunday he made a little speech. He said he was embarrassed, but the truth was that he had been caught out on a limb in the falling stock market and was flat broke. He hoped to get back on his feet, but he was broke now.

"But I still have this apartment," he said, "and I hate to see these pleasant Sunday afternoons discontinued. We still could meet here, but—and it isn't easy to say—I haven't money enough just now even to provide things to eat, drink and smoke. I thought, if you each would put in two or three dollars, we could buy some stuff and still continue these pleasant times."

The guests assented with enthusiasm; but the next Sunday none of them arrived. They haven't been back since.

A writer got what he thought was a fine chance to show a new play with an amateur dramatic club, in a town near New York. He induced several well-known producers to attend the try out. One big scene showed a mother discovering a man, who had been her lover, making violent love to her daughter. The mother was supposed to enter in sports clothes, but the woman who played the part had heard that there would

be notables in the audience and, at the last moment, decided that she would be more effective in a negligee. When the time for her entrance arrived, she was making the change.

The pair on the stage sprang apart at the proper cue; but no mother appeared. They made love some more; still no mother. The situation grew strained. Finally, the girl improvised.

"I thought I heard mother," she said. "I'd better go see where she is," and she walked off stage.

The man, left alone, opened books, lit cigarettes and stalled for some moments, but there was no sign of mother or daughter, so he said:

"I must see what has become of them," and he walked off, leaving the stage empty.

By this time the visiting producers were in hysterics and the curtain fell on another play gone wrong.

A man never really is fat until he commences to catch his safety razor in the folds of his double chin.

There is a handsome doorman in front of a Fifth avenue apartment who looks like a German drill sergeant. He spends all day marching up and down, calling taxis and opening automobile doors. The other night an inhabitant of the apartment house discovered what the doorman did with his evenings. He saw him standing stiffly in front of an armory; probably waiting for some one to come out and put a uniform on him, so he would feel free to call a taxi.

To Restore Queen's Toy Village

Paris.—Plans made to be sent to Austria by Marie Antoinette to prove that she was falsely accused of extravagance in building her hamlet of doll houses at Versailles have been found and are to be used in restoring the hamlet to its original condition.

A favorite resort of tourists and students of history has been this fragile, imitation village of peasant houses in which the queen, bored by the formality of courts, used to play at life on the farm. But in recent years its houses, built only to serve as playthings, have been falling into ruin. And had it not been for the Rockefeller repair fund the ruin would probably have become complete.

Most of the interiors are bleak expanses of bare lath, corners black with cobwebs and floors rotting. The thatched roof of Marie Antoinette's own little cottage in the village has fallen in, and the hole is now covered with tarpaulin. Six months ago a fall popular fell on the little imitation mill, crushing an angle of the roof and causing a whole wall to lean.

they may get a proper amount of sleep. They drink no coffee; they use no tobacco; they eschew whatever is said to be detrimental to the growth of an athlete. They read books on how to play the various games in which they are interested and like David they can say "One thing have I desired, that will I seek after."

One of these days you are going to read in the newspapers that Bob is captain of his college football team and that John has broken the record in the pole vault, for what we most desire and constantly seek after we are likely to win.

Repaint Kissing Gates
Rayleigh, England.—Three of the six kissing-gates in Loveland are to be repainted.

Disasters for '31 Are Predicted

Paris.—Mme. Delmas-Fraya, famous soothsayer and confidante of several great political figures, predicts that 1931 will see the end of Fascism in Italy and a violent revolution in Germany, accompanied by economic and material catastrophes in every part of the globe.

"I see," she says, "the violent death of Italy's greatest statesman followed by a complete transformation of the political regime. Germany will be overthrown by revolutions causing economic and financial ruin.

"Argentina and Brazil have not yet completed their political revolutions and there will be several violent changes, without great bloodshed, during 1931. Spain also will be tossed upon the stormy sea of political convulsions."

Madame Fraya prophesies that war is fast approaching in Europe but that 1931 will be passed under the constant panic of war without actual fighting. During this time France will continue to consolidate its position through the efforts of a "young man" whose

political star has not as yet arisen.

"I am afraid," she laments, "that the coming year has many unhappy events in store for the world. The United States will be even harder hit by the economic depression, but will emerge victorious from the struggle. The women of America will play a large part in the re-establishment of financial and economic order.

"Europe will be tested by violent tempests and earthquakes while similar catastrophes throughout the world will take thousands of lives."

Baby Large Income Tax Payer



Eulalia Tasso Gonzalez, an Argentine infant, who possesses a fortune which brings her \$1,200,000 per annum. It was revealed by a recent government report that she is the biggest income tax payer in the Republic.

Current Wit and Humor



HAND HIM A FAN

Sam, who had just fulfilled a lifetime ambition and bought a fur coat, went strutting down the street. He met a poor friend, shivering with cold, who said:

"Say, Sam, it's pretty cold today, ain't it?"

"Is it?" said Sam, peering out from the depths of his fur collar. "Now, you know, I really haven't looked at the paper today."—Wall Street Journal.

Weather

"Rain falls more frequently between the hours of three and eight in the morning than at any other time," Los Angeles Weather Man Hershhey told a group of reporters the other day.

"For once you're right," agreed one of the reporters. "There's always a storm at my house when I come home between those hours."

SHE'D BE HAPPY



She—I could be happy with you if I only had a crust of bread.

He—You'll like my crust.

Permanent Question

As men contend for pelf or power they never leave at a loss. As to the questions of the hour, which is, "Who's going to be boss?"

Thoughtfulness

"There, darling," said the bride of a few months. "I made a hand-embroidered penwiper for your anniversary."

"But, sweetheart," sighed the young husband, "you don't need penwipers for the modern fountain pen."

"Oh," said the bride, "but I bought you a leaky pen to go with it."—Chicago Daily News.

Broad Vocabulary

Mrs. Streetham-Smythe (staging her first reception)—And, Mary, from 7 to 8 o'clock I want you to stand in the drawing room and call the guests' names as they arrive.

Maid—I'll do my best, mum. I suppose just the first thing that comes into my head about 'em will do.—Humorist.

NEW KIND OF PLUMB



She—Have you noticed Jane's piomb?
He—What kind of a plum?

A Classic Confession

Diogenes remarked, "Ah, me. On earth there is no honest elf. For, to speak truthfully and free, I'm something of a bluff myself!"

Search Him

Seeing a foreigner emerge from the bathroom in his barber shop, minus his collar and with his coat on his arm, the proprietor demanded sternly, "Did you take a bath?"

"I no take da bath," said the new arrival meekly. "I leave it in da tub."

A Painful Thought

Visitor (at film studio)—How do you make your star weep so realistically?
Director—I just remind her of her income tax.

One Never Knows

Spivvens was attending his first opera and was puzzled.

"Is she singing in English?" he whispered to his neighbor.

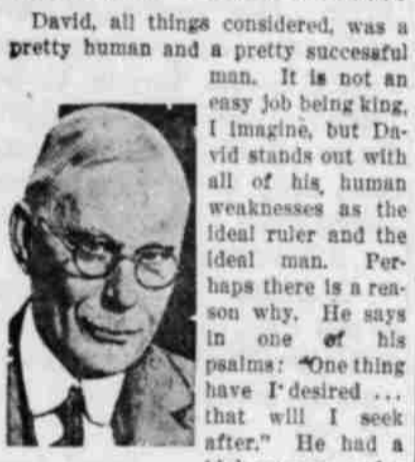
"How do you expect me to tell?" replied the old-timer. "She's a soprano."—American Legion Monthly.

Cause for Complaint

Prison Governor—You say you have a complaint to make? Well, what is it?
Convict—There ain't enough exits, sir.

WHAT WE MOST DESIRE

By THOMAS ARKLE CLARK
Dean of Men, University of Illinois.



David, all things considered, was a pretty human and a pretty successful man. It is not an easy job being king, I imagine, but David stands out with all of his human weaknesses as the ideal ruler and the ideal man. Perhaps there is a reason why. He says in one of his psalms: "One thing have I desired... that will I seek after." He had a high purpose and a determination to accomplish it. Most of us want too many things and so often miss getting or doing much of anything worth while.

Story, whom I have known for some years, has a good mind, I think, and husky, healthy body. He has, in addition, a college degree which should have given him some balance and some training. He has drifted from one thing to another, however, for the last ten years and always with enthusiasm. When he joined church I

thought he would be a power for good among our young people, but he has scarcely been inside of the church since. He is too busy. He was going to be a teacher when he entered college—economics or accountancy or something like that. Then it was business, law, the consular service, a half dozen other things, and up to date it has really been nothing permanent, for he no sooner is possessed of one desire than he is seized with another. He has the desires, but he does not seek after them very long and so realizes nothing.

I have watched my young nephews just getting ready for high school with a great deal of interest. They are strong, healthy, active young savages full of desires of all sorts. Eating and play and adventure and new experiences all take their attention and fill up their time. But since they were ten they have been hero worshippers. They have had one idol and one great desire. Their idol is an athlete, and their one great desire is one day to gain athletic glory, to be in the game, to carry the ball, to clear the bar, to make the long plunge in the water, and then to see their pictures in the metropolitan paper the following morning and to read all about it. They train constantly, they practice winter and summer in doors and out. They run and jump and hurdle wherever and whenever they may be. They have scales in their sleeping room to weigh themselves at regular intervals to see how their physical development is coming on. They go to bed early in order that

The Truant

A BOY MAY MENTALLY STAY OUT OF SCHOOL AND YET RECEIVE 100% FOR REGULAR ATTENDANCE.



SUCH IS LIFE--BZZZZZ



By Charles Sughrue