

# NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

## Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Nebraska legislature passes an anti-tipping law.

Forty airmen raid four towns in Belgium held by the Germans.

Germany notifies United States that relations with that country are "strained."

After six weeks deadlock the Illinois legislature has elected an avowed "wet" speaker.

The embargo put on potash by Germany is seriously affecting American fertilizer manufacturers.

Pawn shops and loan sharks are to be regulated if a bill passed by the Oregon legislature, becomes a law.

It is reported from Paris that the French troops have retaken two miles of German trenches in Champagne.

German government increases prices of potatoes in order to conserve the food supply, which is admittedly growing short.

British steamer is blown up and sunk off the coast of Cape Antifer, by two internal explosions. Large number of the crew lost their lives.

Fearing death at sea from German submarines, the officers and crew of an oil tank steamer, leaving San Francisco for England, have made their wills.

Oregon senate passes ultra "dry" bill in half hour, one member dissenting. This is said to be the most drastic prohibition measure of any state in the Union.

A prize crew of three officers and 16 men was placed on board the American steamer Wilhelmina at Falmouth. The Wilhelmina is loaded with foodstuffs bound for Germany.

A Dunkirk dispatch says a life buoy inscribed U-12 has been found on the shore at Zuydote, near Dunkirk. It is thought to have belonged to a German submarine, which possibly met with disaster.

Judge Gatens, of the Circuit court of Multnomah county, Oregon, says he "cannot assume ecclesiastical powers" in opening the Taylor street church in Portland, which is closed by a dissection in the Methodist congregation, but if the property is not used for church purposes, it will be subject to taxation.

A dispatch from Bagdad says that in an engagement between the advance guard of the Turkish left wing and British infantry and cavalry, the British withdrew, leaving 17 men dead. The dispatch adds that the right wing of the Turkish army succeeded in advancing as far as the woods near Kono. The Turks, it is asserted, captured 500 camels. Only five Turks were wounded.

The relations between Greece and Turkey apparently are becoming more strained. Although Turkey has offered reparation for the insult to the Greek military attaché at Constantinople, it is reported that the Greek minister has left the legation in charge of a secretary, being dissatisfied with Turkey's attitude. The Turkish minister has also left Athens. This is believed in some quarters to be the first step in the rupture of diplomatic relations between Greece and Turkey, which are said also to have been affected by the Albanian invasion of Serbia.

Canada increases tax for war purposes.

A San Francisco woman has started a jitneyette—for women only.

England declares that more stringent action will be taken against German trade.

Russians in East Prussia are reported retreating before the German forces.

Two hundred and twenty thousand Serbs are now fit for service in the European war theater.

Commissioner Dieck, of Portland, has inaugurated a demerit system against city employees who are negligent about paying their personal bills.

Five hundred workmen employed in the auto-truck building department of the Theodor Kundt plant, of Cleveland, O., went on strike.

German financiers have been summoned to a conference in Berlin with the finance minister, who considers that a new loan of \$1,250,000,000 is required for the continuance of the war, says a dispatch from Amsterdam.

Man tailors in session in Chicago, declaring that economy in dress is necessary, limit \$1005 yearly for clothes, which includes eight walking suits, four overcoats, one full-dress suit and six pairs of trousers. By the same decree women should use only \$250 yearly.

Relief workers find that the Belgians especially enjoy the American brand of "pork and beans."

President Wilson in a lecture before the National Council of Boy Scouts, advised them to develop character by serving others.

The British government has capitulated at last to the insistent demand for more news from the front. Prime Minister Asquith promised that arrangements would be made to publish communications from Sir John French, the British commander-in-chief, twice weekly.

The United States government sends notes to England and Germany, protesting against interference by those countries of American shipping, property and citizens.

Secretary Lane will represent President Wilson at the formal opening of the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco February 20. The President plans to go in March.

Judge Gatens, of Portland, halts trial between warring factions of the Methodist church, in hopes of adjustment out of court, the question of disputation of the Taylor Street church.

## European Tangle Stirrs Official Washington

Washington, D. C. — Germany has notified the United States government through Ambassador Gerard that a state of "strained relations" exists between the two nations.

This does not mean war. It does mean, however, that a condition of tension has developed which is of serious concern to the President and his cabinet.

To restore the relations of the two nations to their former state of friendliness, while at the same time assuring protection to American ships and American citizens traversing the high seas, is now the problem of the President and his cabinet.

Strained relations have prevailed many times between the United States and other states. When Sir Lionel Sackville-West, the British minister, was dismissed by President Cleveland, this condition prevailed between the two governments. War, however, did not follow.

The President has no intention to permit war to come with Germany. He is face to face with this situation:

The United States, in a vigorous note, requested assurances from Germany that "American citizens and their vessels will not be molested by the naval forces of Germany otherwise than by visit and search" in the "war zone" around the British Isles, soon to be established.

Germany, in an official communication, declined to grant those assurances, and reiterated the danger from submarines and floating mines to neutrals traversing the "war zone."

So an impasse has been reached. The President and members of his cabinet discussed the entire subject of relations of the United States with Germany and Great Britain with a view to devising a solution which would be generally satisfactory.

So far as Germany is concerned, they determined to do all they could to obtain a declaration by Great Britain with reference to the freedom of foodstuffs not consigned to the German government or to the German military and naval forces.

They determined further to make clear to the British authorities that this government was in earnest in the warning sent against the adoption, predicted by Winston Churchill, first lord of the British admiralty, of more stringent measures to prevent food supplies from reaching Germany.

If Great Britain will comply with the urgent representations of the United States, Germany has promised to cancel all orders for the "war zone." Twenty-seven vessels from the United States, four of American nationality and five carrying passengers, will enter the "war zone" on or immediately after the inauguration of the "new method of warfare."

## Revised Ship Purchase Bill Passed by House

Washington, D. C. — The government ship purchase bill, as an amendment to the Weeks naval auxiliary bill, was passed by the house at 1:20 o'clock a. m. Wednesday, by a vote of 215 to 121.

When Minority Leader Mann said that the Democratic leaders were determined to stop the filibuster, several conferences were held and it was agreed not to keep up the dilatory fight and a few minutes after 1 o'clock a vote began on the final passage of the bill.

The passage of the bill followed a 14-hour parliamentary struggle, which, until long after midnight, threatened to extend interminably, because of a determined filibuster by Minority Leader Mann, who yielded only after administration leaders decided to apply a second special rule to bring the fight to an end.

The bill now goes to the senate.

Nineteen Democrats voted against the bill. They were: Bathrick, Borchers, Callaway, Dies, Donohoe, Fitzgerald, Gray, Gurnea, Jones, Kindel, Kitchin, Morrison, Moss, Indiana, Page of North Carolina, Sanders, Slayden, Whitacre, White and Witherspoon.

All of the Republicans present voted against the bill.

## Illinois Deadlock Ends

Springfield—David E. Shanahan, for many years a member of the Illinois legislature, was elected speaker in the lower house, after a deadlock of six weeks. Shanahan, in accepting the honor, said he did so partly because he was told on all sides that the deadlock would become a scandal if it lasted any longer. As to the conflict between "wet" and "dry" forces, to which the deadlock was in part attributed, he expressed a desire to see the issue fought out on the floor of the assembly. Shanahan is an avowed "wet."

## British Vessel Blown Up

London—A dispatch to Lloyds from Fecamp, France, says the British steamer Dulwich, Captain Dudley, bound from Hull for Rouen, was blown up 25 miles off Cape Antifer by two successive explosions. The dispatch said that seven men of the crew of the steamer arrived in Fecamp. They reported that none on the steamer had been injured and that all of them could have made their escape in the lifeboats. The Dulwich was a vessel of 3289 tons and was owned by the British Steamship company.

## Norwegians Must Use Paint

Christiania—The war insurance bureau has given directions that all Norwegian ships proceeding to or from the British Isles shall have painted as quickly as possible on both sides of the hulls the names of the ships and the word "Norge." Fore and aft of this word the national colors are to be painted in vertical stripes—a blue stripe a half meter wide in the middle and white stripes on either side of it a quarter of a meter wide. On the outside of these are to appear two red stripes, each a meter wide.

## Italy Is Shaken Again

Rome—Another earthquake in the province of Aquila damaged many houses, rendering a number of them dangerous for habitation. The population, greatly alarmed, has even abandoned the undamaged houses, fearing another catastrophe.

## DOINGS OF OREGON'S LEGISLATURE

A Brief Resume of Proceedings of the People's Representatives at the State Capital, Bills Introduced, Passed, Rejected, Etc.

### House Passes New Bank Bill Except Rise in Salary

State Capitol, Salem—Shall the salary of the state bank examiner be increased from \$3000 a year to \$4000? After an hour of snappy debate the house decided that it shall not. With the exception of this detail the house accepted in every particular the banking committee's bill revising the state banking laws to conform with the new Federal reserve act.

Under the provisions of the bill state banks will be placed in position to become members of the Federal reserve system if they so elect.

One change in the present law will prohibit state banks from investing any of their assets in the capital stock of any corporation with the exception of that of the Federal reserve bank at San Francisco.

All state banks acting as reserve agents need carry only 15 per cent of their total demand deposits and 5 per cent of their savings deposits in reserve. The present law places this limit at 15 per cent in cities of less than 50,000 population and at 25 per cent in cities of more than 50,000. No state bank or trust company can be approved as a reserve bank unless it shall have an unimpaired capital and surplus of \$75,000 or more.

The state bank examiner under the new law will need to examine those banks that are members of a regularly organized clearing house association but once a year. Other banks will be subject to the existing semi-annual examination, however. It is assumed that the clearing house banks will be under constant inspection by the clearing house examiners.

With these few changes in the existing law state banks will be enabled to become members of the Federal reserve system without any trouble or inconvenience.

### Bill to Aid Oregon Goods Is Approved

State Capitol, Salem—The senate judiciary committee by unanimous vote decided to report favorably on a bill by Senator Bingham which, the members say, will aid the manufacturers of the state and relieve the unemployed situation to a large extent.

Manufacturers and organized labor leaders, who appeared before the committee, were a unit in urging adoption of the bill, which provides a differential of 5 per cent in favor of Oregon concerns in the letting of contracts for public work and the purchase of materials and supplies for public use.

Senator Bingham explained that under the bill county courts, boards of county commissioners, school boards, city councils and other public boards, and commissionaires charged with the letting of contracts for public work may accept bids of Oregon concerns which do not exceed by more than 5 per cent the bids quoted by competitors of other states.

D. M. Dunne, director of the Manufacturers' association, said the passage of the bill would aid employers by keeping their plants in operation and employes by providing them with work.

### Prison Fund Enlarged

State Capitol, Salem—An additional appropriation of \$25,000 for support of the state penitentiary was voted by the house and senate ways and means committee. This action was due to the representations made to the committee that the "population" of the institution would be substantially increased in the next two years, inasmuch as Governor Withycombe does not propose to practice a policy of wholesale pardoning.

Moreover, a little extra money will be needed owing to the desire of the present governor to place the institution, as far as possible, on a self-supporting basis. The committee again discussed several plans through which the prisoners could be employed. A flax plant and a wagon-making plant are under consideration. If either one or both of these plans is adopted, it is probable that further appropriations will be allowed for the penitentiary.

### Divorce Ad Bill Is Passed

State Capitol, Salem—A bill by Representative Littlefield prohibiting lawyers from advertising for divorce business and fixing penalties for violations was passed by the senate Thursday. Senator Strayer, of the committee on revision of laws, in reporting the measure favorably, said the practice was common in Portland. It was thought an encouragement of litigation should not be allowed.

Senator Littlefield said there was no reason why divorce lawyers should not advertise for business if they desired.

### Senate Delays New County Bill

State Capitol, Salem—The senate has indefinitely postponed house bill 252 by W. O. Smith, amending section 6, chapter 10, laws of 1913, so that a majority of the voters of a new county may have the power of determining the location of a county seat. Under the existing law 60 per cent of the voters is necessary to determine the location. The amendment was declared in connection with the election to determine the county seat of Jefferson county, which was created by a division of Crook county.

### No Postal Saving Limit Wins

State Capitol, Salem—The senate, by a unanimous vote, adopted the joint memorial of Senator Dimick asking congress to remove the limit on postal savings deposits and to use the deposits as a basis for establishing a system of rural credits. It also is provided that interest to depositors be increased from 2 to 3 per cent, and that the provision for depositing the postal deposits in national banks be abolished.

### Fair Display Wanted in State

State Capitol, Salem—Senator Day has introduced a bill providing for an appropriation of \$17,500 for returning the Oregon exhibit at the Panama-Pacific Exposition to this state and making a permanent display of it.

### Judiciary Committee Has Bill for New Districts

State Capitol, Salem—Four new judicial districts are provided for in the plan reported to the house by the judiciary committee by substitute house bill 308. This plan will give the state a total of 17 judicial districts and will supersede entirely the system proposed by President Thompson, of the senate. It also disposes of the numerous independent district division bills introduced by various members of the house and the senate.

The new plan, as worked out by Chairman Olson, and other members of the judiciary committee, moved up a notch when the house passed Senator Thompson's bill creating the Fourteenth judicial district by detaching Lake county from the present Thirteenth district. This leaves only Klamath county in the Thirteenth.

Create the Fifteenth district to consist of Lane, Lincoln and Benton counties, by detaching them from the Second district.

Create the Sixteenth district, comprising Coos county, by detaching it from the present Second district.

Create the Seventeenth district by detaching Curry county from the Second district and Josephine county from the First district. Jackson county alone then will embrace the First district, with Judge Frank M. Gains in charge.

This plan will leave Douglas county alone as the Second judicial district and the bill provides that Judge J. W. Hamilton shall remain the circuit judge of that district.

### Voters to Register but Once

State Capitol, Salem—House bill 191 providing for permanent registration was passed by the senate without argument. The law provides that as long as an elector resides in the precinct in which he registers and votes at one election held throughout the county within the biennial election period ending November 30 following the regular biennial general election, he shall not be required to register again.

If the elector fails to vote as stipulated he shall re-register or notify the county clerk in not less than 30 days nor more than 60 days after the regular November election that he resides in the district from which he registered and requests in writing that his name remain on the register of electors.

This is the second permanent registration law that has been passed by the Oregon legislature, one passed at the session in 1913 having been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme court. The new law provides that the county clerk shall use the card index system in keeping his register of electors. Each elector shall sign a card giving his name, age, political affiliation, etc., and shall take an oath that he is a citizen of the United States. The cards shall be public records and shall be kept in the office of the county clerk as other public records are kept.

### Trading Stamp Bill Dies

State Capitol, Salem—By agreeing to the indefinite postponement of Representative Forbes' bill to levy a heavy tax on trading stamps, those members who are opposed to the use of trading stamps in the state are centering their efforts on Representative Tom Brown's bill which probably will be up for final passage soon. The mail of every member of the legislature has been flooded for the last few weeks with letters from constituents who represent either side of the question. The bill promises to arouse considerable debate.

### Road-Merger Act Passed

State Capitol, Salem—By provisions of Senator Hawley's bill passed by the house the Southern Pacific company will be enabled to proceed with the consolidation of its subsidiary companies, plans for which already have been completed by the railroad affected. The bill amends the present law so that one road may own and operate a competing line. The Southern Pacific plans to consolidate the Portland, Eugene & Eastern, the Corvallis & Eastern, the Salem, Falls City & Western and several other minor roads it owns for the purpose of reducing expenses and promoting efficiency in operation.

### District Road Plan Loses

State Capitol, Salem—One more road bill was defeated in the house, but another is on its way. By a vote of 41 to 17 the house defeated Representative Sam Browne's bill to provide a system of state, county and district co-operation in road-building. The measure carried a half-million tax levy and it was this feature to which the house seemingly took objection. The good roads enthusiasts are not discouraged, however, and have prepared another bill to be submitted through the roads and highways committee.

### Labeled Eggs Demanded

State Capitol, Salem—War has been declared by the legislature on the Chinese egg. The house has passed Representative Allen's bill requiring every dealer, restaurant keeper and hotel keeper to label the containers of eggs imported from foreign countries. Wherever imported eggs are sold, signs announcing that the eggs are foreign must be prominently displayed. Manufactured products containing eggs also must be labeled. The measure is expected to benefit the Oregon hen, said Mr. Allen.

### No-Party Bench Act Is Out

State Capitol, Salem—Representative Tom Haney has consented to the indefinite postponement of his bill providing a non-partisan judiciary. The measure had been endorsed by the State Bar association. The attorneys in the house generally favored the bill, but they were opposed to passing it at this session, for the reason that the people defeated a similar measure at the recent election.

# OLD LADY NUMBER 31

## By LOUISE FORSSLUND

AUTHOR OF "THE STORY OF SARAH," "THE SHIP OF DREAMS," ETC.

SYNOPSIS.

Aunt Nancy's advice and "saw a button on the lips." Fortunately, too, the February thaws had already set in, and the remainder of the winter passed without any severe strain on the "buttonholes." And at length the welcome spring began to peep forth, calling to the old folks, "Come out, and grow young with the young year!"

With the bursting forth of the new springtide the winter's talk seemed to drop as a withered and dead oak leaf falls from its winter-bound branches; and the old folks stood once more alive to the blessings of renewed approval.

Angy went out of doors with Miss Abigail, and puttered around among the flowers as if they were her own, thanking God for Abe's increasing popularity in the same breath that she gave thanks for the new buds of the spring.

The anniversary of the Roses' entrance into the Home drew nearer, and Blossy suggested that the best way to celebrate the event would be by means of a "pink tea."

Neither Angy nor Abe, nor in fact half the sisters, had any clear conception of what a tinted function might be; but they one and all seized upon Blossy's idea as if it were a veritable inspiration, and for the time jealousies were forgotten, misunderstandings erased.

Such preparations as were made for that tea! The sad-and-dumb gardener was sent with a detachment of

### CHAPTER VII—Continued.

At night, however, she was obliged to admit that he could not be coming; and then, quivering with honest anxiety for her old friend, Blossy dipped into her emergency fund, which she kept in the heart of a little pink china pig on a shelf in her room—a pink china pig with a lid made of stiff black hair standing on end in the middle of his back—and sent a telegram to Captain Darby, asking if he were sick.

The answer came back slowly by mail, to find Blossy on the verge of a nervous collapse, under the care of all the women in the house.

That letter Blossy never showed to Brother Abe, nor to any one else. Neither did she treasure it in the sentimental trunk beneath the attic eaves. The letter ran:

Dear Betsy Ann: I never felt better in my life. Ain't been sick a minute. Just made up my mind I was an old fool, and was going to quit. If you change your intentions at any time, just drop me a postal. As ever,  
SAM'L DARBY, ESQ.

"This, Captain Darby, makes your rejection final," vowed Blossy to herself, as she tore the note to fragments and drowned them in the spirits of lavender with which the sisters had been seeking to soothe her distracted nerves.

### CHAPTER VIII.

The Anniversary.

About this time Blossy developed a tendency to draw Brother Abraham aside at every opportunity, convenient or inconvenient, in order to put such questions as these to him:

"Didn't you say it is fully thirty-five years since you and Captain Darby were on the beach together? Do you think he has grown much older? Had he lost his hair then? Did he care for the opposite sex? Was he very brave—or would you say more brave than stubborn and contrary? Isn't it a blessing that I never married him?"

Fearful of the ridicule of the sisters, Blossy was always careful to conduct these inquiries in whispers, or at least in undertones with a great observance of secrecy, sometimes stopping Abe on the stairs, sometimes beckoning him to her household tasks on the pretense of requiring his assistance. On one occasion she even went so far as to inveigle him into holding a skein of wool about his clumsy hands, while she wound the violet worsted into a ball, and delicately inquired if he believed Samuel spoke the truth when he protested that he had never paid court to any other woman.

Alas, Blossy's frequent tete-a-tetes with the amused but sometimes impatient Abraham started an exceedingly foolish suspicion. When, asked the sisters of one another, did Abe ever help any one, save Blossy, shell dried beans or pick over prunes? When had he ever been known to hold wool for Angy's winding? Not once since woeing time, I warrant you. What could this continual hobnobbing and going off into corners mean, except—dirtiness!

Ruby Lee whispered it first into Aunt Nancy's good ear. Aunt Nancy indulged in four inches of snuff in rambling times, and then acidly informed Ruby Lee that she was a "jealous cat" and always had been one.

However, Aunt Nancy could not refrain from carrying the gossip to Miss Ellie, adding that she herself had been suspicious of Abe's behavior from the start.

"Oh, no, no!" cried the shocked and shrinking spinster. "And Angy so cheerful all the time? I don't believe it."

But whisper, whisper, buzz, buzz, went the gossip, until finally it reached the pink little ears at the side of Miss Abigail's generously proportioned head. The pink ears turned crimson, likewise the adjoining cheeks, and Miss Abigail panted with righteous indignation.

"It all comes of this plagued old winter time," she declared, sharply biting her thread, for she was mending a tablecloth, "that the widens on summer, an' yew ketch the tail of slander in the latch every time. Now, ef I hear one word about this 'farnal foolishness comin' to Angy's ears, or Brother Abe's, or Blossy's ether, fer that matter, we'll have to eat off'n old-cloth Sundays, the same as week-days, until I see a more Christian sport in the house."

She gave the Sunday darning across her lap a pat which showed she was in earnest; and the rebuked sisters glanced at one another, as if to say: "Suppose the minister should walk in some Sabbath afternoon and find old-cloth on the table, and ask the reason why?"

They one and all determined to take

The old ladies nodded their heads in approval of this, every face beaming; but as the speech went on the others perceived that Abe had singled out Blossy for special mention—blind, blind Abraham Blossy, who had first proposed admitting him into this paradise; Blossy, who had given up her sunny south chamber to his comfort and Angy's; Blossy, who had been as a "guardian angel" to him; Blossy, who as a fitting climax to all her sisterly attentions had given him today this wonderful, wonderful pink tea, and "this five hound pup of Virginia terrier."

He held the parcel close to his bosom, and went on, still praising Blossy—this innocent old gentleman, —beardless Angy's gentle tug at his coat-tail; while Blossy buried her absurdly lovely face in the pink flush of a wild-rose spray, and the other old ladies stared from him to her, their faces growing hard and cold.

When Abraham sat down, aglow with pride over his oratorical triumphs, his chest expanded, his countenance wrinkled into a thousand guileless, grateful smiles, there was absolute silence.

Then Blossy, her head still bowed as if in shy confusion, began to clap her hands daintily together, whereat a few of the others joined her half-heartedly. A sense of chill crept over Abraham. Accustomed as a rule to deferential attention, did he but say good morning, by no means aware that his throne had toppled during the winter, he was still forced to perceive that something had gone amiss.

As always when aught troubled his mind, "father" turned to Angy; but instead of his composed and resourceful little wife he found a scared-faced and trembling woman. Angy had suddenly become conscious of the shadow of the green-eyed monster. Angy's loyal heart was crying out to her mate: "Don't get the sisters down on yer, Abe, 'cuz then, mebbe, yew'll lose yer hum!" But poor Angeline's lips were so stiff with terror over the prospect of the county house for her husband, that she could not persuade them to speech.

Abraham, completely at sea, turned next to her whom he had called his guardian angel; but Blossy was rising from her seat, a baffling smile of expectancy in her delicate hand as if to the measure of some music too far back in youth for anyone else to hear. Blossy had worn that expectant look all day. She might have been delightedly hugging to herself a secret which she had not shared even with the trusted Abraham. She was gowned in her yellow lace, the beauty and grace of which had defied the changing fashions as Blossy's remarkable elegance of appearance had defied the passing of the years.

"Brother Abe," in her heedlessness of the mischief she had wrought, Blossy seemed almost to sing—"I never shall forget your speech as long as I live. Will you excuse me now?" She swept out of the door, her skirts rustling behind her.

Abe collected himself so far as to bow in the direction she had taken; then with lamblike eyes of inquiry met the exasperated glances cast upon him.

Not a sister moved or spoke. They all sat as if glued to their chairs, in a silence that was fast growing appalling.

Abe turned his head and looked behind his chair for an explanation; but nothing met his eye, save the familiar picture on the wall of two white kittens playing in the midst of a huge bunch of purple lilacs.

Then there broke upon the stillness the quavering voice of Aunt Nancy, from her place opposite Abe's at the head of the board. The aged dame had her two hands clasped before her on the edge of the table, vainly trying to steady their palmed shaking. Her eyes, bright, piercing, age-defying, she fixed upon the bewildered Abraham with a look of deep and sorrowful reproach. Her unsteady head bobbed backward and forward with many an accusing nod, and the cap with its rakish plume bobbed backward and forward too. Abe watched her, fascinated, unconsciously wondering, even in the midst of his disquietude, why the cap did not slide off her bald scalp entirely. To his amazement, she addressed not himself, but Angy.

"Sister Rose, yew kin leave the room." Implacable purpose spoke in Aunt Nancy's tone. Angy started, looked up, going first red and then white; but she did not move. She opened her lips to speak.

"I don't want ter hear a word from yew, nor anybody else," sternly interposed Aunt Nancy. "I'm old enough ter be yer mother. Go upstairs!"

Angy's glance sought Miss Abigail, but the matron's eyes avoided hers. The little wife sighed, rose reluctantly, dropped her hand doubtfully reassuring on Abe's shoulder, and then went obediently to the door.

From the threshold she looked wistfully back; but an imperious wave from Aunt Nancy banished her altogether, and Abe found himself alone—not with the sisters whom he loved, but with 28 hard-visaged strangers.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)



Was Careful to Conduct These Inquiries in Whispers.

small boys to fetch from the wayside and meadows armfuls of wild roses for the decorations. Miss Abigail made pink icing for the cake. Ruby Lee hung bleeding-hearts over the dining-room door. Aunt Nancy resorted from the bottom of her trunk to a white lace cap with a rakish-looking pink bow for an adornment, and fastened it to her scant gray hairs in honor of the occasion. Blossy turned her pink china pig, his lid left upstairs, into a sugar bowl.

Pink, pink, pink, everywhere; even in Angy's proud cheeks! Pink, and pink, and pink! Abe used to grow dizzy, afterward, trying to recall the various pink articles which graced that tea.

But most delightful surprise of all was his anniversary gift, which was slyly slipped to his place after the discussion of the rose-colored strawberry gelatin. It was a square, five-pound parcel wrapped in pink tissue paper, tied with pink string, and found to contain so much Virginia tobacco, which Blossy had inveigled an old southern admirer into sending her for "charitable purposes."

After the presentation of this valuable gift, Abraham felt that the time had come for him to make a speech—practically his maiden speech.

He said at the beginning, more suavely at his ease than he would have believed possible, secure of sympathy and approbation, with Angy's glowing old eyes upon her prodigy, that all the while he had been at the Home, he had never before felt the power to express his gratitude for the welcome which had been accorded him—the welcome which seemed to wear and wear, as if it were all wool and a yard wide, and could never wear out.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Wanted a Little Praise Himself.

Following a disastrous fire in a western city, many men and women gathered to look at the ruins. Some of the men, seeing that a wall near which they were standing was tottering, made haste to get out of the way, and narrowly escaped being crushed.

Johnny Brabson, a good Irish citizen, was so near the wall that he could not escape with the others. So, whirling about, he made for a door in the wall, burst through it, and came out on the other side safe, and evidently very proud of his exploit. Women who had shut their eyes and shrieked when they saw his danger now gathered round him in great joy, and cried out:

"Praise heaven, Johnny Brabson, down on your knees, and thank heaven!"

"Yis yis," said he, "and I will, but wasn't it injanevous inn me, now?"—Youth's Companion.

Futurist Window Display.