## Why? <br> Prayer for a Man of Deeds

## This picture is not pretty

Rather, it is regrettably ugly. It is lamentably necessary, and will be so until a city not far from here takes a hitch on its trousers. For months past authorities have been serving notice on a municipality, which is claiming its place in the sun, that an emergency might arise.

That emergency has arisen. A school principal has walked the sidewalks of this city, in which everyone is presumed to be happy, from one end of it to the other. First, she searched for a trained nurse, and next for a practical nurse-anyone who could take care of a youngster who was ill unto death with an infectious disease. She found neither. God only knows what she is thinking.

The youngster had been taken to a hospital, supposedly ill of a disease akin to pneumonia. A more dreaded disease developed and the hospital authorities threatened to send the patient out on the street-which is putting it mildly.

Drawing the curtain of charity for a mo-ment-the youngster was taken home to a houseful of his brothers and sisters, and a sick mother. No, it is not pretty. But why spare ourselves the dropping of the curtain. Let us have the harrowing detail.

A nurse who was already looking after one patient in a house declared her willingnëss to look after the sick youngster. Both patients were suffering from the same mortal complaint. A landlord, well within his rights, refused his consent, and it was then the young ster was carted home to his brothers and sisters and a sick mother. And there he is.

Still, this municipality would invite the world.

And to what-a misgoverned city in which God, and civilized methods, and decency are forgotten?

## Strong language?

All right, visit the isolation hospital of this city, for which it is responsible under the law of its state. There are mildewed walls, floors with open cracks-a shack adjacent to a swamp, a building that it is impossible to fumigate. A smallpox patient is lying there. That is the reason the youngster who was kicked out of a hospital was not taken there.

Or for instance-Were there a woman scarlet fever patient dumped in this infamous isolation hospital the same city might easily become responsible for a judgment of many thousands of dollars, many times more than the cost of building an adequate isolation hospital.

But let us go back. That school principal went through the streets of this city, which now rests under moral indictment, praying for a man who would take the lead in securing adequate accommodations for the sick. There will be no rest until those of the self-centered officials who are grasping for pelf shake themselves into a recognition of genuine needs for the rest of humanity. They have the money, they have the power and they must be prodded in the guts by such un-pretty pictures as these.

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Dinner Stories



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## Some Pages from American Histar

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