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A LIVE HOOSIER MAYOR

Has a Scheme to Make all the Bachelors Marry

Is Making it Tropical for What He Calls the "He Old Maids"

Bachelors should get married or get off the earth. This is the belief of an Indiana mayor, and it is getting to be uncomfortable for this species of animal down at Hammond, where he rules. There are more than 300 marriageable women, young, middle aged, and of wears unannounced, in the manufacturing town. There are only 100 bachelors, and everyone of them has his troubles. But these 100 won't marry. The mayor down there has his own opinion about bachelors. The Knotts' name is Knotts—Armanis F. Knotts. The bachelors say it ought to be Knocks. Everybody else says he's a bully good fellow, and knows what he is talking about. Read these epigrams from his pen and know why he couldn't get the bachelor vote again if he wanted it: "The bachelor is an agitator and a constant source of trouble. "The man who shuns marriage isn't half as valuable to a community as an old maid who never had a chance to marry. "Run down a man with a grouch and you'll discover a bachelor. "The bachelor is to the human family what the mule is to the animal kingdom. "The mormon is more of a patriot than the man who won't even take one wife. "I'd rather see a man with a family of seventeen children than a male old maid."

Employers and Bachelors.
These are the sentiments of Mayor Knotts. He's brought the marriage proposition to the front in his town, and if the bachelors won't get married he wants to know the reason why. He has called the employers into conference with him, and if a man is not willing to buy bread and butter for two he is liable to find himself out of a job. The employers think somewhat as the mayor thinks. They declare they have had reason to think that way because, like the mayor, they trace all the labor troubles which have shaken Hammond to the bachelor element. The question has become a labor question for Mayor Knotts is reaching out for new industry. He finds many manufacturers are afraid of strikes, and he thinks he has found a cure, and that cure is to make the single men double up. He has stirred up a pretty mess, but he doesn't mind that. The bachelor is a disturber. That is the argument of the mayor. He believes disturbers are bad for a town, therefore bachelors are bad, and when they make up a big part of the directory as they do in Hammond things often come to a pretty pass. This is the mayor's logic and he is borne out in his belief by the employers who have made Hammond all that it is.

Cause of Unrest.
The mayor sent the first shot into ranks of the army of unmarried men. He wrote to the manufacturers in Hammond, and stated that he believed industrial peace could be secured only when the workmen were all married and had the responsibility of a family upon them to keep them steadily at work. The bachelors heard of the letter almost before the ink with which it was written was dry. They thought it an attempt to coerce them into matrimony. There being few unemployed men in the suburb, this letter of the mayor's hit at the bread and butter supply of almost every bachelor and immediately there went up a howl. The Bachelors' club, an organization composed of a large number of the best-known eligibles in Hammond, met forthwith to protest. They did so and at once sent to the mayor these resolutions:

"Whereas Mayor Armanis F. Knotts of Hammond wishes the manufacturers of this city to discriminate against unmarried men in their employ in favor of the man with a home; and, "Whereas, However willing we are at present to marry, we cannot get wives as we can new shoes or hats, for they are pearls without price, that money cannot buy; and "Whereas, We recognize that the unmarried man does his share in the upbuilding of the community, we look with disfavor upon the idea that we are to lose our jobs because of the prestige of the benedict; therefore, be it "Resolved, That we petition the manufacturers to carefully consider Mayor Knott's proposition before they take action upon it and dismiss us from their employ; and be it "Resolved, further, That we implore the bachelors of Hammond to get a move on themselves and do all they can for the mayor, judges, and justices of the peace in buying licenses and starting homes for themselves; and be it "Resolved, further, That we ask his honor to go back a few years and remember the time when he was childless and wifeless and in no position to take upon himself the burden of making and keeping up a home. Men are Fastidious. The mayor takes very little stock in what the bachelors say about being unable to find wives. There are three times as many single women as there are single men in the town. The mayor thinks the men are too fastid-

Worry

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Dr. Miles' Nervine will cure nervous prostration. It will bring sweet sleep and rest; it will relieve the mind of the tendency to worry; it will make the nerves strong and the patient well. It has cured thousands. It will cure you. Try it to-day.

"Some years ago I was stricken with nervous prostration caused by overwork and worry. I was in such a weakened, exhausted, run down condition that I was unable to do my household work. I felt too weak and tired to even make calls on my neighbors. Frequently when out driving I would become so exhausted that it seemed that I would die before I reached home. I was also troubled with sinking spells at night which left me so weak that I thought I could not live until morning. I was in this deplorable condition when one day Dr. Miles' Nervine was brought to my notice. I had little faith in proprietary remedies but determined to give the Nervine a trial. After the second dose of the Restorative Nervine I was able to sit at the table and eat a meal, something I had been unable to do for many days. I have since taken a number of bottles of Nervine. I consider myself cured. I am doing my own work and give Dr. Miles' Nervine credit for my general good health. My object in writing this is to recommend your medicine but I cannot write as strongly as I feel."—MISS ADDIE B. VARNER, 405 E. Marion St., Guthrie, Oklahoma.

All druggists sell and guarantee first both Dr. Miles' Remedies. Send for free book on Nervous and Heart Diseases. Address Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

ous. He also says the man who will not marry is a coward, who is afraid to take the responsibility of trying to keep a family. He is willing to do all that he can to help matters along. He has offered to perform marriage ceremonies free of cost, which, of course, isn't very pleasing to the preachers and justices, but they have made no objection to the move. In the end the action of the mayor promises to work havoc in the ranks of the unwed, for he has the manufacturers with him. He sat in his office one day last week with three letters in his hand. "It's working all right," he said, seriously, as he unfolded the letters and read them. Each was from the head of a large manufacturing establishment. Each praised the mayor for taking his stand, and each said that the company from whence it came would do all in its power to carry the project into operation. "They see the thing as I do," said Mayor Knotts. "Any sensible man will look at it in the same way. I put matrimony on an economic basis. I am not looking at it from the sentimental side. I don't go much on this Dan Cupid and affinity business. A man should marry the woman of his choice, but at any rate he should be married. Now, you see I'm married and I have a daughter 15 years old, and I know what I'm talking about. Others say I do not, but that will not prevent me from preaching marriage and keeping at it to the preaching. "We can solve the labor question here by doing away with the employment of bachelors. Go into a factory here, and what do you see?—a lot of flonators from Chicago, Anderson, Indianapolis, and every other place in the region. They come here or go somewhere else, for when a factory here is closed another factory that makes the same article has to increase its output to supply the demand. If anything goes wrong, or if the workmen take a notion they want a little more higher wages, they go on a strike no matter what they may be getting.

The Bachelor-Home Idea. "The mayor says that a home-owner is the best citizen. I agree with him, and all the members of the Bachelor's club have told me that they are willing to purchase ground and erect a house on it so that they may be called property owners, but every man said he was not going to be forced to get married. It is all right if they want us to be property owners in Hammond, but matrimony does not go. That is the decision of the club, and it will stand. If any member wants to get married he may do so, but the penalty will be assessed against him just the same. What that penalty is only the club members know, but it is enough to keep a good many fellows out of the matrimonial net." There is another well-known bachelor who voiced the sentiments of the Bachelor's club. He is Charles B. Corman, and he said:

They are all single men. You will not find the married residents of Hammond clamoring to walk out. They want work, and they want it the year round. The married man is the best citizen, and, that, wherever you put him, and he is the backbone of a city, and especially an industrial city like this. Walk out into the street and see who is doing the hawking, and you will find that every strike agitator is a bachelor, who has either soured on the world or doesn't give a continental. "I don't want to force these young fellows of Hammond to get married. But it is only right that the married man should be given the preference by the employer. Many manufacturers in Hammond will hereafter take that very course, and it will mean much for all concerned. The manufacturer will not have a lot of disturbers around him; Hammond will add to its permanent population of home owners, and new industries will then be sure to locate here. There will be no danger of labor disturbances. "I am satisfied that the solution of the labor question lies along the matrimonial route." There is a club of young men at Hammond known as the McGuires. This club is an outgrowth of the Bachelors' club and is composed of the ruling faction of the latter society. Its members are all close friends of the mayor, but his action has caused consternation among the young fellows and threatens to bring about trouble. The members of the club are all employed at the factories, mostly in important positions. They see that if the mayor's suggestion is carried out they will be deprived of a means of earning a livelihood in Hammond. The moving spirit of this club is Frank L. Susemihl. He is not a very old bachelor, but he has views on matrimony, and here is what he says: "It is preposterous and unfair for Mayor Knotts to try and compel us to rush into matrimony. I do not think he carefully analyzes the traits of human beings. I do not believe there is one of the members of the club that is opposed to getting married, and that does not at the same time expect to wed, but what would happen in Hammond if all the bachelors were either compelled to leave their positions or get married. Not many could afford to leave their positions. "Now, it is true that there are a great many more women than men in this city. Some are very desirable catches. Every bachelor in Hammond would break straight for the best girl, and that would bring about a pretty state of affairs. It would simply result in driving all the young women out of the city. A few of them might get married, but not many would care to be courted by a regiment. Why, the mayor's idea is about as far from reason as anything I ever heard of. "In two years two of the Hammond bachelors have been married. Both of them went elsewhere to find their wives. There are no better than those here, but the action of those two bachelors simply shows that you cannot confine love to any geographical limits. "The Bachelor-Home Idea. "The mayor says that a home-owner is the best citizen. I agree with him, and all the members of the Bachelor's club have told me that they are willing to purchase ground and erect a house on it so that they may be called property owners, but every man said he was not going to be forced to get married. It is all right if they want us to be property owners in Hammond, but matrimony does not go. That is the decision of the club, and it will stand. If any member wants to get married he may do so, but the penalty will be assessed against him just the same. What that penalty is only the club members know, but it is enough to keep a good many fellows out of the matrimonial net." There is another well-known bachelor who voiced the sentiments of the Bachelor's club. He is Charles B. Corman, and he said:

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