

A BUSHEL OF FUN.

By Ryan Walker.



WANTED HIS MONEY'S WORTH.
Mr. Tightwad—Professor, when you give my daughter music lessons don't make love to her. Come around some other night in the week for that.
Professor—Why, sir?
Mr. Tightwad—I pay you \$2 an hour for teaching.



A PATRON OF POESY.
De Rhymer—Have you ever contributed anything to the cause of literature?
De Farmer—You bet I hev. You're the fourth poet that's stayed here all summer an' ain't been able ter pay no board.



THE ABSENT FRIEND.
Jim—Now, don't roast Smithers. He's a man as good as his word.
Jack—True, but his word is good for nothing!



THE JERSEY BRAND.
Hodge—Were the mosquitoes big out there?
Dodge—Big? Why, when one entered the house, it set off the burglar alarms.



A WAR VETERAN.
Miss Swift—Did you have no fear of death when you were in battle?
The Sergeant—No; I was an imbecile; I had been a baseball umpire.



RATHER STRENUOUS.
"Awn will, yes listen to this. A Brooklyn man hugged his wife so tightly on th' golden wedding that he broke two ar her ribs."
"Ah! awn isn't it grand to see such affection after all thim years?"

WICKEDEST CITY

BURNING OF TAFT A FITTING END TO ITS HISTORY.

Three Stores, 50 Saloons—Vice Helgued Unchecked in the Years, When the Dead Men Were Un-counted.

When Taft, Mont., went up in smoke Sunday in the biggest forest fire the west has known, the town, which for two years bore the reputation of being the toughest place on the map of the United States passed into history. Built as it was of pine siding and fat paper, its frail buildings burned like tinder when the blazing brands sort by high winds from the timbered summit of the Bitter Root range fell upon it. Dance halls and saloons, honky-tonks, cribs and gambling joints, warehouses and bunk houses burst into flames and in half an hour what had been a busy, though scarcely thriving, community, was nothing but smoking ruins and blackened timber.

Taft came into being early in 1907, when workmen on the Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound railroad, the last of the transcontinental lines, attacked the summit of the Bitter Root range. Through it ran the Cour d'Alene branch of the Northern Pacific railroad and it became at once the headquarters for the contractors who built the mile and a half long, St. Paul tunnel through which to-day the Milwaukee trains run from Montana into Idaho.

Work opened on the big tunnel in January, 1907, and within six months Taft, two miles away, was made. The rock work on the new railroad which wound round the mountainside 300 feet above the town was very heavy, and before the year was out 3,000 men from the tunnel and the camps which lined the new work were spending their earnings with enthusiasm in Taft because it was the only place to go.

Six thousand single men, Swedes, Norwegians, English, Scotch, Irish, Montenegrins, Italians and Bulgarians, most of them of the toughest and most careless type of unskilled workmen, are prone to seek what they believe recreation in the wildest of debauchery. And Taft gave them the chance.

There were never more than three general stores in the town and there were over fifty saloons. Never more than a dozen residences and as many honky-tonks, as the west calls theatres in which coarseness is at a premium. And every barroom contained its roulette wheel, its crap and faro and poker games.

For more than a year Taft boasted a killing a week. Scarcely a night passed without a hold-up in the streets, whose only lighting came from saloon windows. Never a night in which a dozen delinquent laborers were not "rolled" by the women on whom they wasted their hard earned pay checks, nor in which scores did not pass their money over to the men who ran the games. Everything was wide open and no one dreamed of even raising an eyebrow, much less a hand, to stop the prolonged debauch.

There are few places on the map where it snows more or steadier than on the summit of the Bitter Roots. All winter long Taft drank and gambled under a blanket six feet deep. The trains were stalled, the big rotary snow plow failed when they tried to buck the big drifts which heaped in the town and barred the tracks for miles on either side. When the snow went off late in the spring of 1907 they found these dead men who had lain all winter in the streets. All had been murdered. The next spring, 1908, there were seven dead men in the streets, but the Missoula county officials made no effort to reform. Taft was simply too tough for any use. The deputy sheriff there was willing afraid to tackle the desperadoes the town harbored.

THE WESTERN FAIR.

Good Live Stock Exhibition, Sept. 9th to 17th.

The Western fair, London, Ont., as a live stock exhibition, is becoming more popular each year. Breeders and stockmen always report good results from exhibiting their animals at London. The classification for the different breeds of live stock is well arranged in the prize list and the prizes offered are extra good this year. The cash prizes for the cattle, sheep and swine are all increased this year and a large entry is expected. The dog and cat show will again be a feature this year. Monday, September 12th, will be athletic day. All information will be given on application to the secretary, London, Ont.

Mr. Brodeur in Demand.

Montreal Witness—We hope the general desire of the business men as expressed by Mr. Thom the other day will be realized, and that Mr. Brodeur will be able to return to the active management of the marine department. Mr. Brodeur is the first minister for a long time who has managed this department in the interests of commerce and the country. All others have been obstructionists or political exploiters. Since Mr. Brodeur came to power a very rotten department has been cleaned and worked for the benefit of navigation have shown real and splendid results. We have never known the time when the river did not need to be deepened. It does not require more than ordinary foresight to see that the thirty-five foot channel now asked for will be needed before it can be made. If it is to be made Mr. Brodeur should have the making of it. It is too big a thing and too vital a matter to make a political football of.

Taft Attacked.

Senator Charges Interference in State Fights.

Madison, Wis., Aug. 27.—In a leading editorial in his magazine Senator Robert M. La Follette brands as false a supposedly inspired dispatch a few days ago from Beverly, Mass., in which it was said that President Taft was taking no part in the factional fights within the republican party. He asserts that in the case of Wisconsin the president has taken a personal interest in the campaign to the extent of directing the fight on La Follette and the insurgent congressmen.

A Thief's Excuse.

Syracuse Post-Standard—"It is only what you might expect of a man getting \$25 a week and handling millions. It's the bank's fault."

He says the wretched little swindler who got away with \$600,000 of other people's property, spent it in gambling, and is now en route to oblivion.

"Paying Wider \$25 a week to handle money was, to be sure, foolish. He ought to have been given a position where he couldn't steal, and a salary to match. The men who can't endure the sight of other people's wealth without itching to seize it aren't to be trusted with \$25 a week salary or \$1,000 a week salaries. Their job is milking tricks or carrying off iron or peddling scented soap."

The bank ought to have paid more money to a man in Wider's position, but it ought also to have had the gumption to find out about Wider, and never let him get inside its gratings. His theory that a poor man is entitled to increase his salary by burglary is one of the most dangerous forms of insanity which beset weak minds.

Gallant Rescue.

Alexandria Bay, N.Y., Aug. 27.—W. Miller, the eleven-year-old son of W. Miller, made a heroic rescue of six-year-old Leo Secks, Ogdensburg, who had fallen off a dock in the lower bay recently. Young Miller, playing in the vicinity, heard screams from the child's frantic grandmother, Mrs. W. Graham, and rushing to the scene saw the little girl struggling in the water. Without any delay he plunged in and, being a good swimmer, he brought the little girl ashore.

Sunday Connections for Cape Vincent.

Steamer America, 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m., returning leave Cape Vincent, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. 50c return.

Some men know when they are well off—others go ahead and get married.

If a man's sins are slow to find him his neighbors get busy and do it.

THE SPORT REVIEW.

Notes on Baseball and Other Field Events.

Peterboro will have a team in the junior O.R.F.U. Walter Hope Reeves, a Belleville hockey player, has died from injuries received in a match with Trenton last January.

"Jack" Johnson will be in Toronto the week of September 5th. An attempt will be made to show the fight pictures at the Island Stadium.

A beautiful cup as special prize for the motor boat races has been presented by the Duke of Westminster to the Thousand Islands Yacht Club.

No many applications have been received for Blue Bonnets fall meeting, at Montreal, that the stabling limit has been exceeded, and the committee will meet to consider what can be done.

Hamilton Tigers are looking forward to a championship football year. Many changes will be witnessed this fall, both in the personnel of senior and of the executive in charge of the club affairs.

With Hans Wagner walloping the ball at a 400 gallop, it won't be long before the Pirate swatter will be pushing Snodgrass, Ty Cobb, Magee and Lajoie for the leading position for the major league batting honors.

It is being insinuated that Cy Young, the veteran pitcher of the Cleveland Americans, intends to make this his last year in baseball. Cy, however, denies having made any such announcement, nor does he care to state what his plans are for the future.

R. P. Williams, formerly physical director of schools in New London, Conn., now at Berkeley school, New York city, in an exhibition at Natick, covered 100 yards in nine seconds flat, according to timers. For standing back jump with weights he made 13 ft. 2 in.

Before a gathering of police officials, theatrical men and newspaper reporters, moving pictures of Jeffries-Johnson fight were shown in the Theatre Francis, Montreal, after the regular performance. Excellent pictures, but a poor fight from a sporting man's viewpoint, was the impression conveyed by the exhibition. Jeffries couldn't fight, and Johnson didn't have to.

The Harvester, son of Walnut Hall, is the fastest race horse on a track to-day. The new record, made by The Harvester, at Buffalo, is 2:02, a quarter of a second less than the record held by Cresco for nine years. Thursday he won in straight heats at New York, his times being 2:08 and 2:03. Driven by Geers, The Harvester now holds the world's record for five-year-old trotters, a world's third heat record for stallions, mares or geldings, and a world's race record for stallions. The track, horsemen said, was two seconds slow. Although Ulian made better time at Cleveland, it was purely an individual trot against time and not made in a race where conditions are different.

Bought Sweetheart With Beer.

Niagara Falls, N.Y., Aug. 27.—"Why, no, he let me have her for a quart of beer," Isadore Heinrich, German brewery worker, told Judge Piper, when asked if he had not stolen Joseph "Seibold" sweetheart, Lena Webber. Isadore wanted to swear out a warrant, charging Seibold with assault, but the judge placated him.

Church Life is a weekly newspaper issued for \$1 a year, at the Whig office in the interests of the Canadian Anglican church. It is thoroughly up-to-date. A sample copy can be obtained by writing for it. The Ontario Churchman, at 40c a year, is a sixteen page monthly with a large circulation. A sample copy of it, too, is available on application.

Robert Kirkpatrick, Tamworth, recently purchased Irvine Glass' farm from Mr. Brown, and William McKeown, Crofton, purchased Cyrus Miller's farm on Little Creek. Just arrived, a large shipment of rubber goods, containing hot water bags, combinations, syringes, atomizers, and comforts. You take no chances buying these goods at Gibson's Red Cross Drug Store. They are all guaranteed.

J. S. Galbraith, Camden East, left on Monday for a trip through the western provinces, going as far west as British Columbia and Vancouver.

Next time you need a shaving brush try Gibson's Red Cross. We carry a large assortment.

Mrs. J. Hunkins and Miss Amy Gilliland, Lyndhurst, are visiting friends at Hermon, N.Y.

Best value in Kingston, \$1.50 corsets for \$1. Dutton's, 309 Princess street.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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COBALTS

During the past few months I have refrained from advising clients to purchase Cobalt stocks on account of liquidation in outside markets and the disposition of the public to throw over everything Cobalt, regardless of intrinsic merit. I believe the time has now arrived to reconsider the Cobalt list.

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KINGSTON MONDAY SEPT. 5th

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Mr. and Mrs. James Webster, of Lyndhurst, have gone on a visit to Clayton, N.Y.
Some orators seem to think that only big words have weight.

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