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**GETTING THE FACTS**



HE YOUNG woman with the curly hair and appealing eyes did not have the air of really seeking information. She seemed to be after confirmation of facts already in her possession.  
 "Tell me, truly, Bert," she began, twisting a button on the young man's sleeve, "did you ever care as much about any other girl as you do about me? Tell me the truth now!"  
 "Of course not!" said the young man, promptly. "How could I?"  
 "Of course," went on the girl with the curly hair, "I'm not so foolish as to think you've never been in love before!"  
 "It wasn't the same," declared the young man, earnestly. "I just liked them—her—oh, really, I never knew what it was to care for any one girl I met you!"  
 "You speak as if there had been simply swarms of others!" said the young woman, leaving the button to its fate and bending on him a glance which was reproachful as well as searching. "I didn't dream—"  
 "Not at all!" broke in the young man. "I'm not such a universal fascinator as that!"  
 "Tell me," insisted the young woman sternly, "how many?"  
 "Oh, I don't know!" said the badgered young man. "What's the use—"  
 "I suppose you can't count them," said the young woman in a pained voice, "because there have been such crowds of them. You have gone about falling in love with girls as fast as they came along and I just happened to be in line! Still, you have the assurance to say you never cared much about any of them and you expect me to believe it! I'm not such a silly as all that. I'll warrant that you were desperately devoted to all of them and I don't see how you escaped marrying some one of them. Did they throw you over?"  
 "Marie," said the young man in a hurt tone, "I can't imagine what's come over you! I never was engaged before in my life; I—"  
 "That's not saying you didn't want to be!" flashed the girl with the curly hair, looking about for her handkerchief. "I suppose they wouldn't have you!"  
 "I never wanted them to have me!" insisted the young man.  
 "Wasn't there one, just one of the whole lot, that you'd have got engaged to if you could?" persisted the girl with the curly hair. "Don't try to deceive me!"  
 The young man had a hunted expression, but he was naturally honest.  
 "Well, I was dreadfully young," he said, "and you know fellows sometimes get a foolish streak and—"  
 "I knew it!" wailed the girl. "I was just sure of it—and you've been trying to conceal it from me! You've tried to make me think I was the only girl you ever loved. Was she pretty?"  
 "Well, I should say—no, no!" cried the young man. "Not at all. And I know now I wasn't in love with her a bit."  
 "But you thought you were," said the pretty girl, burying her head in the sofa cushions, "and that's just as bad! Did you think you liked her then as well as you say you like me now? Oh, but you didn't know me then, so you can't tell! Maybe you liked her lots better—and there's no way for me to find out!"  
 "Marie," said the young man, "of course I didn't like her as I do you! How absurd! It was just a boyish infatuation, an episode, a shadow! It was nothing! Not worth thinking about!"  
 "Then why," persisted the pretty girl, "did you make me miserable by telling me about her? If I had never known it wouldn't have mattered so much—I could still have been happy!"  
 The young man took a turn around the room. "You made me tell you," he expostulated. "I didn't want to and there wasn't anything to tell anyway! Say, we'll be a great deal happier if we just drop it! You're the only one, and that's all there is to it!"  
 "Do you mean it?" asked the pretty girl, drying her eyes.  
 "You know I mean it," said the young man. "We'll never mention her again, will we?"  
 "No," agreed the pretty girl softly, as he sat down beside her. "We'll leave her out of consideration."  
 Then there was peace for a brief moment until the pretty girl had time to think. Then she looked at him accusingly and suddenly.  
 "But are you sure, Bert," she said, tremulously, "that she was the only one of all those others you cared that much about? Wasn't there some one else? Now tell me truly!"—Chicago Daily News.

**Fight the Gypsy Moth.**  
 It is costing Massachusetts \$1,000,000 a year to fight the gypsy moth. This includes public appropriations, state and local, and expenses incurred by individuals in the warfare. This estimate does not take into account the loss through the destruction of trees in the great wooded areas, which is heavy economically and not less serious aesthetically.

**Confidence**

when eating, that your food is of highest wholesomeness—that it has nothing in it that can injure or distress you—makes the repast doubly comfortable and satisfactory. This supreme confidence you have when the food is raised with

**ROYAL Baking Powder Absolutely Pure**

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There can be no comforting confidence when eating alum baking powder food. Chemists say that more or less of the alum powder in unchanged alum or alum salts remains in the food.

**Canadian Postal Rates Reduced**

Upper Michigan newspapers hereafter can be sent to subscribers in Canada at the same rate that papers are forwarded to subscribers in the United States. An order made public recently by the postmaster general announces a reciprocal postal agreement between the Dominion and the United States. The reduction in postal rates will give American publishers near the border an opportunity to compete with Canadian newspapers. Magazines published in the United States raised their subscription rates to persons in Canada last year because the Dominion parliament added to the postal burden of American publishers. It is likely that these rates will be reduced to their former status.

Soo the other morning thawing a five-inch water main which, upon investigation by the water department was found to be frozen for a distance of over two hundred feet. While the thawing of an ordinary three-fourth-inch water pipe to a residence by electricity has been quite a common occurrence for several years, the thawing of a five-inch water main has never before been attempted at the Soo. The trial was perfectly satisfactory and this part of the water system of the city is again in commission. As it would have required a small army of men to perform this work in the ordinary way and as only two were engaged on the job, the comparison is readily seen. Three transformers of 15-kilowatt capacity each were used, connected in parallel, the current demanded being from 800 to 1,000 amperes. The lighting company was one of the first, if not the first, to apply electric

**Record Thawing Job**  
 The Edison Sault Electric company was engaged but three hours at the

city to the thawing of frozen water pipes, the first work of the kind being done in the winter of 1895. Superintendent Peel is quite elated over the showing made on this job, and now thinks he can thaw any pipe. On the fact of the returns it would seem that this feat holds the record for thawing frozen water pipes.

**High Price For Beets**

What is said to be the highest offered anywhere in the United States will be paid for beets this year by the Menominee River Sugar company. This price will be \$5 a ton on the cars at the grower's home station, an increase which means from \$3 to \$10 more per acre compared with the farmer's revenue last season. For beets delivered at the factory, a flat rate of \$5.25 will be paid. Seed will be furnished free to the extent of eighteen pounds to the acre, and in addition pulp will be gratis to all who call for it. Beet pulp makes an excellent food for stock, and at some factories in the West it is dried and pressed and sold for \$15 to \$20 a ton.

**"Making The Dirt Fly"**

This is the record down to date of excavation at Panama:  
 In 1904, under the old French methods of work, average for the month, 30,434 cubic yards.  
 In 1905, under Mr. Wallace's improved methods, average for the month, 92,893 cubic yards.  
 In 1906, under Mr. Stevens, energetic direction, average for the month, 412,374 cubic yards.  
 In July, 1907, for the month, 1,072,627 cubic yards.  
 In August, 1907, for the month, 1,274,404 cubic yards.  
 In September, 1907, for the month, 1,517,412 cubic yards.  
 In October, 1907, for the month, 1,868,729 cubic yards.  
 In November, 1907, for the month, 1,838,496 cubic yards.  
 In December, 1907, for the month, 2,200,539 cubic yards.  
 Last six months of 1907, monthly average, 1,628,699 cubic yards.—New York Tribune.

**Offer Cash Prizes**

Ishpeming Ski club directors, it is announced, have decided to offer cash prizes, instead of only trophies for the annual February 22 tournament. In this way it is believed the better riders of Minnesota and other states will be induced to come and compete. The older and most successful riders are opposed to trophies.

**BIG FIRE SALE**

ANOTHER Big Sale of the North Star Clothing Co's stock which was slightly damaged by fire last December, will be inaugurated next week. Our entire

**\$18,000.00 STOCK**  
 will be placed on sale at 9 o'clock a. m.,

**Monday, Feb. 17th.**

This is the chance of a lifetime to secure seasonable goods at about one-half their former cost. The Stock is strictly high class—nothing better in the city. The bulk of our mammoth stock was only slightly damaged by smoke, but we are placing everything in the store on sale at

**ROCK - BOTTOM - PRICES**

Stock consists of Ladies and Gents Furnishings, Clothing, Hats, Shoes, Rubbers, Dry Goods, Ladies' Cloaks, Linen Goods, Dress Goods, Muslin Underwear, etc., etc.

It will pay you to visit this store when making your purchases as we can save you money.

One Dollar Will do the Work of Two

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