THE SALESGIRL TALKS.

It was one of those loathly "matching" missions, undertaken, with direful threats in case of nonfulfillment. at the breakfast table that morning, that brought me alongside the ribbon

counter of the great department store. Four women were ahead of me at the counter. None of them appeared to know whether she wanted cerise or alice-blue ribbon. But they all seemed to be perfectly certain that the salesgirl, who had a great many puffs, an uptilted nose, and a certain self-protecting manner of independence, was

trying to put something over on them. Therefore they one and all spatted with her. The spats were unequal, because the salesgirl needed her job. After going over the entire stock all four of the women decided that they wouldn't buy any ribbon.

"I seen you lampin' them four my "matching" sample and studied it with tired eyes. "How would yuh like to stand behind here and let about a thousand of them pills a day heave

Irish confetti at yuh?" "Irish confetti?" I inquired, mysti-

"Half-bricks-yuh're on'y pretendin' that yuh don't get me, ain't yuh? Well, there ain't anythin' in this thing o' sittin' on the mourners' bench; but along about this time o' the afternoon I feel so clawed up by them pillin' cats that breeze in here to take a' inventory o' stock that I get to thinkin' I'm fightin' the inmates of a Bide-a-Wee home.

"Them four dolls didn't skate in here t' buy. They just ambled along t scratch. They've been V-wedgin' through bargain-counter crushes all day, and they've picked up a peeve, doin' that, that they're afraid to tote home t' their men-folks because they are hep that the men, when they hit the hall and hang their kellys up on the rack, are goin' t' be there with grouches themselves.

"They're not keen f'r the kind o' all-hands medicine that the hubbydove'll pull in case anythin' is started. So, just t' get the rough edges o' their peeves sand-papered down, they skid along here a little while before closin' up time and begin t' toss chunks o' loose asphalt at us sunny-natured-lookin' dolls behind the counters. A lot of 'em pick me out because I'm there most o' the time with one o' them grins that got froze on my map by mistake when I first fell intuh this business and before I jerried up t' it that the grinner is pie for them wim-

men that wants somebody t' pick on. "There ain't no use chirpin' about it, m crazy over my own sex. They make it just about as peaceful for me as if I was on a battle field ten hours a day. Sometimes I feel like I'm developin' intuh a white hope. It used t' be that I'd let 'em hand me the harpoon one after the other, just as fast as they could nudge up t' the coun-

"But four years of it has funneled the vinegar intuh my nachully winsome disposition, so that now I take a slant at their wicks as they elbow along; and if they're there with that I'm - goin' - t'-push -yuh-one-in-the-chops glitter in their lamps, I feel myself stiffenin' like somebody that's waitin' for a trolley car t' hit him on the nigh end o' the wishbone, and it's all I can do t' keep from tricklin' back as good

as they shoot in. "On'y I need the eight-a-week, whereas that eight thing isn't gum change for them, so that they've got me sewed up before the gong rings, and they know it. So the best I get for mine is a 'casional little uppercut that I've gotta eat as like as not before the ambulance in the shape of the floorwalker comes up, whereas they can paste me ontuh the ropes and swing on me with both mitts.

"And they're hard t' dope by just lookin' 'em over, if yuh're inquirin' o' me. I get 'em right, as they sail down the aisle, about four times outa five. Then I head-on intuh one that don't run t' her looks, and I'm in Heinie.

"D'ye think you can chart 'em right because they're there with one o' them Dolly Varden smiles? I'm askin' yuh that, because most men do. I ain't never cut the trail yet of a man that wasn't a fall-guy for a smilin' cat. But I needn't talk. I'm a mark for that stuff myself ev'ry once in a while.

"I'll wise yuh t' one of the smilin' kind that waltzed up to my counter day before yestiddy afternoon. She was a nifty-dressed, peachy-skinned dumplin' of about thirty or so, that was togged like she had a man workin' the day and night shifts both ends from the middle t' keep her diked out in all the scenery fit t' wear.

"I wicked her smile when she was 20 feet away. It looked like the sun comin' out from under a cloud and shimmerin' on the water on the day youh're bound for Coney. Some dolls pull that kind of a grin all the time that they're not sleepin' just t' give all hands a chance t' pipe their pearly teeth. But this one's smile looked t'

be on the level. "'I'm goin' t' get along with this cunnin' fatty,' says I to myself, as she swung for my counter. 'She's a chatty little thing that'll be prattlin' to me all about the news of the day and askin' me if I don't find the life of a salesgirl hard, and if I'm engaged, and if not why not, an' all the like o' that. Hi-hum! It's nice t' wait on a cheer-

ful skirt just before closin'-up time.' "That's a bug with most of us, yuh know-t' top off the day by waitin' on

one that don't bark at us. We hate t' break outa the plant and steer for the hallroom with the coyote music in our ears, and that's what it sounds like at the end of a long day when we snag a piller to be waited on just before the big doors are closed and we're due to

vamp. "Well, this one with the dimples and the fine double row o' mother-o'pearl molars and the sunny smirk that looked like the twenty-four carat thing plumped on a stool in front of me, and looked me right in the lamps with a widenin' of her cutey grin; and I wiped the froze grin from my chart and smiled right back at her and it looked like a sure thing that we're goin' t' be little playmates for the time, and get along like as if both of us had been rollin' the same hoop and playin' puss-in-the-corner together ever since we begun t' wear our hair in braids.

"Does she run to form? Does she? Say, honest, I ain't through yet pickin' chiggers and burs that that sunnymapped doll tossed at me from her side o' the counter.

"As soon as she opened her face I had a sudden, chilly feelin' that I'd got her wrong, and that she was goin' t' pills," said the salesgirl as she took add her monniker t' my list o' mistakes in pickin' 'em from their looks. "She had a voice that sounded like a creaky dumb-waiter comin' up when the janitor is sore after one o' them

reg'lar nights. Her voice was no more like her smile than a rubber plant is like a early lilac, and she was out for battle, murder, arson, and collectin' the insurance before she'd been squatted on the stool nine seconds. "And all the time, get me, she

wicked me just like the eye of a cam-

era, and kept that smile workin' her dimples as if she was pullin' down eight dollars a minute for that stuff. "She wanted t' match some mauve baby-ribbon, and I had the thing that answered t' her sample under a microscope and a searchlight. Would she see it? Not so's you could observe it with the undraped optic. She told me, gazin' at me with her homemade, molasses-candy smile all the time, that my goods had a greenish tint, and was no more mauve than diluted water-

melon is Chinese yellow. "Then she added that if I tried t' get a job as a brakeman in a freightyard I'd get the toss for color blindness before I'd got more than one foot

into the examination room. "Smirkin' merrily all the time, with the dimples ripplin' across her chart like little wavelets on a still pond, she asked me how I had ever bunked a reg'lar store intuh stakin' me t' a job that called for color-matchin'." (Copyright.)

WHY POPES NEVER PREACH

Tradition of the Church, That Has Seldom Been Broken, Forbids Presence in Pulpit.

The preparation and delivery mons which impose such a heavy necessary.—The Delineator. burden of toil upon other ministers of God have no terrors for the pope. for the good and sufficient reason that the traditions of the church forbid

his preaching. Of all the many strange restrictions which hedge about a pope, one of the strangest is that he should not be allowed to preach. Only once in 300 years has a pope delivered a sermon, and that was under most exceptional

circumstances in 1846. On the Octave of the Epiphany a celebrated preacher, Padre Ventura, was to have occupied the pulpit in St. Peter's, but was suddenly taken ill. To prevent disappointment to the vast crowd which had assembled Pius IX broke through the custom of ages. and ascending the pulpit delivered a simple, homely sermon that perhaps impressed its hearers more than the finest eloquence might have done, because of its uniqueness.

A Russian Sentinel.

The sternest ideal of military duty is fulfilled by the Russian soldier. An illustration is given by an English officer who has seen service in the East. On leaving an Armenian village, he passed a beautiful green valley, watered by a river that flowed between strong embankments. His Armenian servant told him that, after a great storm, the river had risen in such a flood that the persons living near the bank fled for their lives.

There was a powder magazine near the river. The sentinel who was guarding it prepared to retreat, but the officers who were watching the scene from a mountain forbade him to leave his post. For an hour the sentinel struggled against the rising waters, clinging desperately to the

lock of the magazine door. The water rose to his chin, and then the flood ceased. He was decorated by the government with the ribbon of some honorary order in recognition of his heroic obedience.

Irresistible.

Some nations (of a remote world) were very intent upon living at peace one with another-so intent that they spent enormous sums in making themselves prepared for war. For in that world, curiously enough, the conditions were such that there was no way to keep from fighting except to be

ready to do so at the drop of a hat. But incidentally to these martial preparations it was impossible to prevent war acquiring, potentially, new horrors, and when these numbered several the nations suddenly flew at

one another's throat. They laid it to a natural curiosity. "We simply had to try those new horrors out!" they explained to the astonished onlookers, who had been saying that there never would be another great war.

WAR TERMS NOT UNDERSTOOD

"Forlorn Hope," for Instance, Has Not the Meaning With Which It Is Credited.

In the course of every war one hears a great deal about "forlorn hopes." The term is one of the most misused in the vocabulary of war. It is commonly misunderstood to mean "lost troop"—that is "detached The word "hope" in the troop." phrase is not an English but a Dutch word, "hoop," meaning literally "heap," and secondarily body of troops. The word "forlorn" represents the Dutch "verloren"-lost. A "verloren hoop" was a detached body of troops thrown out in front of the main line of battle to find the enemy and engage them first. This was the regular sixteenth and seventeenth century practice, and though it was one of the more dangerous kinds of service it was not desperate or, in the English sense, forlorn, Nowadays much the same work is done by the detached boules of cavalry which are thrown out before the main line to find

"Capitulation" is another term of war, which is very loosely used. It does not mean surrender, but surrender on terms: in fact, it means the terms, not the surrender. It is from the Latin "capitulum" or "heading" (from which is derived our word "chapter"), and a capitulation is a formal treaty of surrender drawn up under a series of headings or chapters, embodying the terms on each

WRONG TO TEASE CHILDREN

Trick Altogether Too Frequently Indulged in by the Older Members of the Family.

It is not at all unusual to see the older children of a family teasing the younger ones, while the mother often pays no attention or seems to think it of no importance. Yet to one outside of a family circle it is plain that this teasing gives pain and annoyance to the little ones.

A six or eight-year-old boy thinks his two-year-old sister the finest in the world, and he wants to show his affection and good will, but he has no conception of the proportion between his own strength and hers. So he pinches, shoves and pushes her laughingly; takes away her dolls; throws things at her-in short, deals with her just as he would with a boy of his own

He does not understand why she cries, why she is frightened, for he means no harm and is in good humor. Often the mother fails to realize that such conduct is making the tinier members of the household unhappy. This tendency in many older children should be watched, and rebuked when

Nothing to It. The nut was in America. He had run over for a couple of weeks, "just to see the bally country, doncherknow." He didn't see very much, of course, but he was very sniffy about

the little he did see. Just before he left for Britain he was dining with an American, and was giving his views of the country in general with that easy air of quiet dignity that stamps the man who is sure of his

subject. "There'th one thing, though," he said, "that I thimply can't underthand about you Americanth. Your memberth of parliament, or whatever you call 'em ovah here, are thimply impothible perthonth. How on earth can you thand being ruled by a collection of bounderth whom you wouldn't have

to your houthe to dinnah?" The American looked at him in sur-

"Well," he said, "there don't seem to be such a mighty great difference between us, if you come to that. How do you like being bossed around by men who wouldn't ask you to dinner?"

Woman's Logic. You sometimes wonder about the

ogic of the feminist mind. A man was to meet his wife at her office at one o'clock to take luncheon with her. He was 20 minutes late. She had gone out.

He sat down and waited. At 1:30 she arrived. "What are you doing here?" she

asked. "I'm waiting for you." "Didn't you know I wouldn't come back after I'd given you up and gone

out?" "But you did come back, didn't you? You are back now, aren't you?" "Yes, but you might have known that when I did come back I would

have had my lunch, and there would

be no use in waiting to have it with "Well, have you had it?"

"No."-Denver News.

Even Sneeze Alike.

The machine-like character of the German army, of which so much has been heard, did not escape the sarcasm of Bismarck when the relative merits of soldiers and politicians were under discussion. "Soldiers." he said. "have a much easier task than diplomatists; they receive their instructions, and know exactly how far they have to command and obey." The conditions of their life, he added, showed itself in their outward de-"For instance, in the first meanor. guards this is nothing less than marvelous. In society you never hear one of them sneezing differently from the other!"

The blow which knocked out Corbett was a revelation to the prize fighters. From the earliest days of the ring the knock-out blow was aimed for the jaw, the temple or the jugular vein. Stomach punches were thrown in to worry and weary the fighter, but if a scientific man had told one of the old fighters that the most vulnerable spot was the region of the stomach, he'd have laughed at him for an ignoramus. Dr. Pierce is bringing home to the public a parallel fact; that the stomach is the most vulnerable organ out of the prize ring as well as in it. We protect our heads, throats, feet and lungs, but the stomach we are utterly indifferent to, until disease finds the solar plexus and knocks us out. Make your stomach sound and strong by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and you protect yourself in your most vulnerable spot. "Golden Medical Discovery" relieves "weak stomach," indigestion, and other diseases of the organs of digestion and nutrition. It is a

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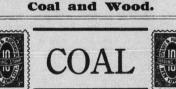
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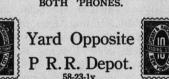
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