Why Mr. Minch Smiled

By CLARISSA MACKIE

3.999339990000000000000000000000 (6, 1923, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.) "Mr. Minch!" whispered a still,

small voice at the tall floorwalker's elbow. "Mr. Minch!" As the big blonde man did not rec-

ognize this "still, small voice" as the voice of his conscience, he bent his head down to observe Lottie Miller, a diminutive bundle wrapper, who was registering great secrecy. "Kin I speak a word to you?"

Bachelor though he was, Donald Minch knew that when a woman asks to say one word she means a score or more, so he led the girl aside to a quiet spot.

"What's the matter, Lottie? Anything been stolen?" "Nothing like that, Mr. Minch. It's

about the picnic." "Aha!"

Mr. Minch, as chairman of the enfertainment committee of the annual picnic and merrymaking of the Smith Stores, Inc., to be held at Holliday Beach next Saturday, listened attentively.

"You know that new girl on the gloves?"

"Which one?"

Lottie sniffed. "Only one worth noticing, Mr. Minch. Name's Mary Smith -I bet that don't tell you anything." "Don't be sassy, little girl!" warned

the floorman austerely. "There is another girl, blue eyes, curly hair and little freckles on her nose. A pretty-" "And he never noticed her!" murmured Lottle, unafraid.

"What about her?" "Mary Smith's been crying off and on all day. She isn't going to the plcnie!"

"Why isn't she going?" "She won't tell; just wants to go and can't. It's just tragic!" sniffed Lottie, who loved the "movies."

Mr. Minch looked disturbed. "Send her to me, Lottie. I will wait here." Lottle sped away on her errand, and Donald Minch looked watchfully out of the corners of fine blue eyes in the direction of the distant glove counter. Presently the dainty form of Mary Smith came toward him. There was timid appeal in her soft glance and a scared look as of one summoned before high justice.

"You sent for me, Mr. Minch?" He nodded kindly and took a notebook from his pocket and polsed a silver pencil. "Let me see, Miss Smith, you are in department 39?" he asked.

"Yes, sir: gloves." "How long have you been with us?"

"Four weeks." He looked at the open page of his notebook. "You know I am chairman the entertainment committee of the picule next Saturday?"

"Yes, sir," in an awed tone. "I am checking the names of those who are going. All employees are expected to attend if able. Your name

is not checked. Why?" "I am afraid that I cannot go, sir." "Er-domestic objection or trouble?"

he asked kindly. Mary Smith smiled sadly and her smile was beautiful. It startled him.

"No home trouble, Mr. Minch. I have no home-my people are all dead. I am quite alone. I would love to come to the picnic, but I am a perfect stranger here and I have no friends, so I thought I would stay at home."

He shook his handsome head. "That will not do at all, Miss Smith. It will do you good to come and get acquainted with the other workers. This is a get-together party, arranged by Harrison Smith-what is the matter?- Are you ill?"

Mary Smith was leaning against pillar, looking white and startled.

"Oh, no. You were saying something about Harrison Smith-it is a common name enough, but I had an uncle by that name."

"Indeed? Where is he?"

"We do not know-we never knew. He and my father became separated when they were quite young men and fost sight of each other entirely. Dad always said he was sure that his brother was dead-he traveled all over the world."

"That is very interesting indeed, and now, Miss Smith, I shall expect to see you at the picnic bright and early Saturday morning. Busses will be at the store to run you out to the park. Be here at nine o'clock."

"Thank you, Mr. Minch. You are very kind indeed," she murmured, her pale cheeks growing pink under his admiring gaze. If Mr. Minch had known that his eyes were betraying him he would have closed them swiftly, for he was a young man who appreclated the responsibility of his position with Harrison Smith, Inc., and a remote manner toward the young women of the company was a noticeable characteristic.

"If you are not there, you will be docked," he told Mary Smith. So Mary Smith went back to her

counter, observed by all her fellow workers.

"You certainly struck twelve with Minch!" remarked Ella Brady, also at the glove counter. "How absurd!" blushed Mary again.

whereupon Ella Brady sent a wink

across the aisle to Lottle Miller, whose kindly intervention had changed the world for one girl-and for one man. What a wonderful Saturday that was. To begin with, it was a perfectly beautiful day. Holliday park had been reserved exclusively for the Smith picnic, and with the fresh green the surrounding water, there was Popular Cloche Is nothing more to be desired for a playground.

As chairman of the entertainment committee, Mr. Donald Minch was here, there and everywhere, directing games, leading the dancing in the pavilion, always finding time to help some one else have a good time; making introductions, seeking out the ionely and the unpopular ones, making everybody happy. Neither did he neglect his own pleasure, for did he not dance repeatedly with pretty Mary Smith until her cheeks were as pink as her frock? For his part, Mr. Minch quite made up his mind that a bachelor's life was dull indeed. Whereupon he sought out Mary and invited her to attend the theater with him one night the following week.

At this particular moment along came Mr. Harrison Smith, a breezy, opulent gentleman, who shook hands with Mr. Minch and looked inquiringly at Mary,

"A strange face to me, Mr. Minch. This is one of our flock, I suppose?" he asked genially.

"Miss Mary Smith of the glove counter-has been with us a month. She says she has an uncle somewhere in the world who bears the same name as yours," said Mr. Minch, as he presented Mr. Harrison Smith.

"Run away, Minch, while I question Miss Smith-I may be her long-lost uncle, although I have no strawberry mark on my left arm," said Mr. Smith. "Ah, my uncle Harrison didn't have one either, but he did have one on his

left thumb," laughed Mary. his left thumb. "What's that?" he asked.

"Oh!" cried Mary frightened. "Are you my brother's daughter?" calmly asked the successful merchant. "My father was Hobart Henry

"Where is he now-don't answer, my dear. I see it in your face. I did not know what had become of any of his family. I have spent much time and money-" His genial face was overcast with sorrow.

"We are alone-we two," he said after a while. "You must come and be my daughter."

Just then Mr. Minch came along and heard the whole story. "Get all the folks together, Minch. I want to tell them about my adopted daughter." And as Mr. Minch, looking depressed enough over the shattering of his plans for a wife named Mary, Mr. Smith drew him aside with a little slap on the shoulder. "There'll be no objection on my part if she wants to marry a likely young man in my store, say the general manager, eh Minch?" And Mr. Minch smiled.

NEW AIRSHIP LINE PLANNED

Luxurious Zeppelins to Fly Between Spain and South America in Near Future.

Plans for an airship line between Spain and South America have been completed.

The king of Spain is largely responsible for its inception, and the Zeppelin company is reported to have received a commission to construct airships with a capacity of 4,500,000 cubic feet, a length of 825 feet, capable of carrying forty passengers, mails and goods, and having a cruising speed of nearly seventy miles per hour, for this

The details of these vessels, which are given in the English scientific fournal, Discovery, show a luxurious cabin with a social hall and ten four-berth sections somewhat similar to those of a Pullman car. The work of construction is expected to take two years, and the service will probably be inaugurated in 1925.

It is anticipated that the journey from Spain to Argentina will require a little over three days, and the return journey something over four days, the longer time on the eastward course being due to prevailing head winds, says the Living Age.

Seville will be the European terminal and Cordoba the Argentine terminal. Buenos Aires is an unsatisfactory landing point on account of its variable winds,

In Agony.

Everything had gone well with the newly married couple. Directly after their honeymoon they had taken rooms in a hotel and so they had no housekeeping worries to mar their happiness.

Disillusionment came when they took a furnished house at a seaside town. sweet young Angelica undertaking to look after the cooking. It was far from being a success. The pastry was always as hard as a brick and the

puddings-well! One day they had a picnic on the seashore and were sitting watching the waves, when Angelica exclaimed dramatically:

"How the sea moans!" "No wonder," replied her husband pessimistically, "I have just thrown some of your cake into it."

He Knew.

Halfway through the second act the heroine, after having been left starying with a bunch of children, and generally having been "put through it." got tired of this sort of treatment and shot the villain dead,

"What have I done?" she cried in impassioned tones. "What have I done?" "Shot the best bloomin' actor in the show, miss," came the reply from the gallery.

What He Needed.

Sampson-He's bashful, Why don't you give him a little encouragement? Dellah-Encouragement? He needs of the trees and grass and the blue of a cheering section.-Punch Rowl.

in Women's Favor

Small Chapeau Promises to Reign Supreme Over All Headgear.

One of the surprises of the fashion world this year is the persistency with which the small cloche chapeau remains in favor, asserts a fashion writer in the Washington Star.

Millipers seem quite oblivious to the fact that other types might be evolved or that a change in hat fashions might be welcome, for they continue to offer only close-fitting helmet and turban models. The result is that the unsuspecting purchaser walks into a millinery establishment and finds many hats designed for the flapper with close-cropped hair. Knots or coils of long tresses simply can't be poked under the glove-fitting crowns, so the verdict is "bob or be your own milliner."

Although each model varies a triffe from the others; they all follow the rule of the cloche. One, of light Alice blue felt, has several rows of tiny slits cut at the front so that narrow silver ribbons may be run through them in a latticed pattern. Another has folds of wide silver ribbon drawn through openings at each side and draped gracefully against the crown. A third is trimmed with long, drooping sprays of feathers, dyed in con-Mr. Harrison Smith calmly held out trasting color tones, while another depends on the beauty of a soft silver ribbon bow, placed low on one side for its appeal.

A snappy costume suit is rather unusual, for it consists of a one-piece frock, severely plain, and has a narrow coat so long that it comes well below the kneeline. The fabric is called chenille and has a soft, velvet-like raised surface that follows a striped



Afternoon Costume Suit of Beige Chenille and Sable Squirrel.

pattern. Sable squirrel is used to trim it, forming an exceptionally high choker collar and banding the lower part of the coat. A plaque of dull blue adds a touch of color contrast to the costume and serves, besides, as fastening for the collar. The sleeves are interesting, for instead of being cuffed in fur, as might be expected, they are finished with wide circular folds of self-material.

White Wool Spats Are Worn Under Thin Hose

Many of the leading manufacturers of hosiery in an attempt to cope with fashion's requests have produced marvelous results in combination with wool, which satisfactorily meet coldweather demands. There is on the market now a new idea in spats-not a visible spat. It is patterned of finest white wool and when worn under the thinnest hose cannot be detected.

The matter of gloves is quite important in extending the right hand of good fellowship. Sleeves are either long or not at all, and sleeves are the dictates for the glove world. There are times when gloves are ignored. but they are bound to be heard from in the winter season. An air of distinction can be created most decidedly through the hand. The gauntlet cuff is the predominating note with most as many variations as straps in the shoe kingdom. The elaborations of insets, beads, embroideries and stitchings are too numerous to mention. Fashion declares the glove, and that a gauntlet. The individual must direct

the rest. Many a glove carries with it a strap and in this, a bit of chiffon, a silk lace or voile, riotous in color and sheerest of sheer in texture, another extravagant whim,

For Lace Curtains, Starch rots lace curtains and should a skirt of silver net. not be used. Use gum arable instead. one-half pint of boiling water, strain broldered in silver. and hottle, keeping it will corked,

a pint of cold water.

Coat of Leopard Skin Very Soft and Warm



This very smart street coat of South American leopard is very seft and warm.

Novelties Will Help Add Cheer to Outfit

If you are ill, feeling low and unhappy, a new frock or even a new tag of trimming somewhere about your costume peps up your spirits most wonderfully and makes the sickness seek cover. And, if a lowness of energy puts itself upon you just as one season is passing into another, why not look to the state of your clothes to see whether or not you can make regenerations in that direction to the end of saving your own soul?

Haven't you often heard a girl say. just at this special season of the year, "Oh, I'm so tired of my clothes; I just hate to put on the same old things when I get up in the morning?" And haven't you felt for her then because your own case had shown symptoms of that very essence at so many times?

Well, one knows perfectly well that a girl can't always afford a whole new frock or coat just for the purpose of reviving her sunken spirits-and just on a chance at that. But she can have a new fol-de-rol or fixing for a dress that is only monotonous and not old.

She can add a luster in this manner, and with very little expense, so that she can take a chance a least on the process of her own home doctoring. She can in this manner take a little excursion of her own into the methods of modern nerve treatment, and who knows but she may be establishing a precedent-at least for herself, which is her most important concern at any rate.

Vouth the Keynote

The keynote of the new modes is youth, distinguished, however, by a dignity that is immensely attractive. The season promises to be one when luxury will be the dominant note of fashion. This is the result of using materials of extraordinary richness and beauty and embellishing these with costly fur trimmings and embroldery done with a most artistic appreciation of its value as a decora-

Brief Fashion News of Interest to All Women

Slanting lines are smart in millinery. wraps and gowns. Ribbons lace up the broad brim of

smart Paris tricorn. Drapery, tiers and bouffant effects re fashion's favorites.

Bands of bright green suede trim a coat of cornflower blue suede. The straight, tubelike beltless frock is the latest word from Paris.

A motif of black vulture is used at the side of a black velvet cloche. At present printed fabrics seem to have stepped out of the limelight.

Quantities of rich lace drip from the

brims of picturesquely large hats. Embroidery of rhinestones on lace or velvet is exquisite for evening wear. The rolled brim of the large hat

usually ends in an ornament at one

Bands of Pompellan red embroidery trim a blue serge dress in Russian style.

Bronze buckles are effective on

Spanish-heeled slippers of brown Shirred brown satin laces the upturned brim of a hat of brown hat-

ter's plush. Motifs of silver-edged val lace are used on the bouffant skirt of a frock

of vellow faille, Over a slip of coral crepe de chine is posed a silver-brocade bodice and to the first mixture with the vinegar

Motifs of brown grosgrain ribbon roll too thin. When using add a dessertspoonful to are used at the back of a small hat of sand-colored velvet.

Puddings, my friend, do a mission They add to the dinner and also the

They cause men to wish, with ardor they may, That the neal which foretells them came three times a duy.

WHAT TO EAT

The daily problem of thinking up something sensonable, reusonable,



thing a housewife has to do in planning her meals. Some cooks find the breakfast a hard meal to plan; others, depending upon the tastes of the family, find it the ensiest of meals. However, it should be a reasonably simple meal, easy to prepare, digestible and wholesome, suited to the individual as to age, health, and occupation. In general the favored breakfast menu may

economical, and

with a minimum

amount of work

is not the easiest

stead of toast. For luncheon baked potatoes and creamed codfish, popovers, canned fruit and cookies with tea or cocoa. Another-Sliced cold ment, scalloped

be fruit in season, cereal with cream

and sugar or without sugar, eggs, toast

and coffee. Omitting the eggs, sau-

sage may be served with hot cakes in-

potatoes, muffins, peaches and cookies with tea. Dinner-Vegetable soup, roast beef, spinach, lettuce salad, potatoes browned with the roast, baked apples and whipped cream, served with a small

Another-A codfish chowder, cold slaw or cabbage salad. Johnny cake, and for dessert

cup cake frosted with chocolate, cof-

Banana Lomon Whip.-Boil together two cupfuls of sugar, two cupfuls of water and the grated yellow rind of a lemon until the sirup hairs. Soften one-half of a package of gelatin in cold water and add to the hot sirup. Stir until dissolved, then add the sifted pulp of four ripe bananas, mixed with the juice of two lemons. Pour all into a large bowl to cool and when the edges begin to harden, beat the mixture with a large-sized. Dover egg beater, continuing to beat until the whole is creamy, then it may be poured into a mold and chilled, or serve piled into sherbet glasses.

Caramel Bread Pudding,-Caramelize one-half cupful of sugar and add four cupfuls of scalded milk. When the caramel has dissolved add two cupfuls of stale bread crumbs and let soak thirty minutes. Beat two eggs slightly, add two-thirds of a cupful of sugar, one half (easpoonful of salt and one tablespoonful of vanilla. Add to the first mixture, turn into buttered pudding dish and bake one hour. Serve with whipped cream sweetened and flavored with vanilla.

The art of puttering consists of doing for yourself, slowly and inefficiently, what you can pay some one else to do for you, quickly and well. It is hard work that you do not have to do, strenuous loafing that invites the soul .- Atkinson

FOR THE COOKY JAR

Small cakes and cookles that will keep are most desirable at this season, when much entertaining is done. A wellstocked cook jar or cake

box gives the housewife a comfortable feeling of assurance. Ball Cakes .- Sift all together, two cupfuls of pastry flour, one teaspoonful of baking pow-

der, two teaspoonfuls of cinnamon, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of cloves, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of nutmeg, add one cupful of sugar, three eggs unbeaten, onefourth of a cupful of citron chopped, the grated rind of half an orange, and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Mix well and with well-floured hands make the

mixture into small balls the size of

a walnut. Bake on well-greased cooky

sheet one-half inch apart in a quick

oven. Caraway Nibbles .- Take one cupful of raised bread dough, two tablespoonfuls of butter, one teaspoonful of salt. Scald one cupful of milk, add the butter and salt to it and when cool add the sponge with a cupful of sugar, one well-beaten egg and one and onehalf tablespoonfuls of caraway seeds. Add flour to knead, let rise until double its bulk, knead and roll into a halfinch sheet and cut into small biscuits. Place in a greased pan two inches apart and let rise until double its bulk : bake, remove the biscuits, split open and return to the oven split side up to brown.

Soft Molasses Cookies.-Take one cupful each of shortening, brown sugar, Porto Rico molasses, sour milk, two tenspoonfuls of soda, one tenspoonful each of salt, ginger, cinnamon, one tablespoonful of vinegar, with about five cupfuls of pastry flour. Cream the shortening, add the sugar, molasses and sour milk. Sift three cupfuls of the flour with the dry ingredients, add and the remaining flour; mix and let A bouffant dance frock of rose faille stand over night to chill. Roll out in Dissolve one ounce of gum arable in has a scalloped two-tier skirt em- the moraing and cut into desired shapes. Bake fifteen minutes. Do not

lellie Mixwell



Philosophical but True "Did you win any money on the races?"

"No. I've given up betting."

"That so? Why?" "Well, I've found that if I want money I have a better chance to get it by depending on myself to earn it. Trusting to other fellows to win it for me is too doubtful a way."

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Saving Trouble.

Motorist (after hitting pedestrian) -You were trying to cross in the middle of the block.

Pedestrian-What difference does It make? If I cross at the corner you will knock me into the middle of the block, so we might as well begin there -Boston Transcript,

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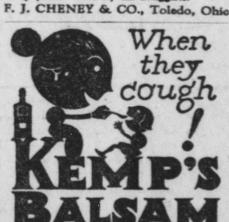
Value of Experience. Mother-Are you really sure that

you love him? Daughter-Don't be so naive, moth er. When a girl has had the experi ence of three engagements, as I have she should know the symptoms.-Box ton Transcript.

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