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THE POPULAR "STING"

Story of Humphrey and the Amusement Resort Which He Purchased.

STRUGGLE FOR DECENCY

How He Drove Away the Saloons, Gave Every Valer for His Money, Kept the Place Decent and Finally Won.

By RICHARD SPILLANE.
Humphrey's father led the farm to him. Some profits in tilling the soil, but hard as he worked, Humphrey made the comforts and opportunities of city life and the more he dwelt on what the city held in promise, the more dissatisfied he became with his lot. Finally he got so tired of "cropping it," as the agriculturist call farming, that he determined to seek a purchaser. Then he moved to town.

One thing Humphrey liked was popcorn. He had a boy and his appetite for it did not diminish as he grew older. When he got to town and looked around for some work which would employ his energies, he did not find so many openings as he had expected. Idleness was abhorrent to him, so more to keep himself engaged he bought a small piece of land and went into the business permanently. He made popcorn on his kitchen stove and sold it to men who had stands along the beach.

No one knows more about the art of popcorn making than Humphrey. The corn should be of a special grade and it should be kept three years before it is used. It should be cooked just so, or it will not have the flavor and delicacy that real popcorn should have. The people who bought Humphrey's popcorn talked about it and the sidewalk vendors developed a trade in popcorn they never had known before. Humphrey made a little money—not much, but thought of making him ambitious to broaden his field. Out at the lakeside was a big pleasure park. It had cost many thousands of dollars to build. The men who started it expected to make a fortune, but had been disappointed. At first it did fairly well, but gradually its attractions faded. Then the owners felt it became a fly paper proposition. Every visitor got stuck.

Made Money and Saved It.
Humphrey sold popcorn to the Beach Park people. That was the only business in the park for which the people got the worth of their money. His popcorn sold so well there and at the stands near the beach that Humphrey thought of other lines. He made old-fashioned candy and sugared peanuts and gradually built up a trade in those articles. He began to add a little to the money he had put in a bank as a result of the sale of a farm.

Although Humphrey prospered, the owners of the park were not satisfied. The reputation of the big amusement place did not improve. Rosterers got to going there at night and occasionally the law was called into the brawls. The bar did the biggest business in the establishment. Every sidewalk had a hallyhoon man and most of the freaks were fakes of the worst order.

stained to do in order to be cooler and more comfortable while they danced, were fighting angry when informed that no one would be permitted on the floor unless properly clad. Long and trying struggle.

Beach Park was a mad affair for the rest of the season because the respectable element would not go there because of its general reputation, and the rough element would not torture itself in such a deadly dull place. Women and children went there on summer days and found relief from the heat of the city and persons who loved boating and fishing continued to patronize it, but the receipts were decidedly less than under the old regime.

Next year Humphrey had a desperate time. Every day meant a loss, and his capital dribbled away steadily. He had to make a lot of popcorn, sold it at a low price and suggested peanuts to meet one week's deficit, but he went about his business as usual and kept his own counsel.

The third year Humphrey was in possession tested his courage to the limit. The days when the receipts equalled the expenses were rare. The days when the receipts were more than the expenses were few. The popcorn man had to rake and scrape and make sacrifices to keep up appearances. His brother, who had taken the force with him, helped him out with money and services, but even with his aid it was the tightest kind of a squeeze to get through without a visit from the sheriff.

It had been proved so conclusively that the public would have nothing to do with business and beach Park never has seen one since. It has increased in popularity year by year, and today is a respectable monument to the worth of honesty and decency in an amusement park. Every palatable "soft" drink is sold there, but to see this show.

Every Visitor Gets Value.
The searchlights drove the saloons out of business and beach Park never has seen one since. It has increased in popularity year by year, and today is a respectable monument to the worth of honesty and decency in an amusement park. Every palatable "soft" drink is sold there, but to see this show.

He Made Popcorn on His Kitchen Stove.
nothing with a suspicion of dope. There is no hallyhooning, no deceit, no loudness. Every visitor gets value. The whole establishment—and it covers many acres—is conducted, intelligently, efficiently and yet most profitably.

Make a big success of the enterprise. All the persons who went to the park are not drinkers of soft stuff. Various gentlemen, who said that crowds were being attracted to the park, wished they could induce Humphrey to let them have the privilege at his newly-made mine. Some approached him on the proposition, but never again. Then they did what they considered to be the next best thing. They opened saloons across the broad highway from the main entrance to the park. Some of those saloons were pretty tough. Humphrey did not like his saloon neighbors. He determined to get rid of them. Rigging up powerful searchlights in his grounds, he directed the rays of the searchlights upon the saloons. Nobody could enter without being truly in the spot light. Decent men didn't like to make exhibitions of themselves, so they dodged those saloons. The liquor men threatened lots of things to Humphrey, but went further than to see out an injunction restraining him from using his battlelike searchlights. That was pie for the popcorn man. The papers made big stories of the fight. Humphrey got more advertising than he could have bought for thousands of dollars. And the injunction was set aside. Thereupon the searchlights came into play again. The crowd at Beach Park thought it highly enjoyable to see an occasional person trying to get into a saloon without being spotted. People went out just to see this show.

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Keating Apples or Vegetables.
Persons who have an opportunity to bury apples or vegetables in the ground will find this an excellent method of keeping them. After removing the soil to a depth of about two feet a platform should be built, and spread straw should be spread over fruit to support the fruit. As the fruit is stored in place it should be covered with straw, and this mounded over with earth and provided with a small venting top, which should be closed during the winter months. The earth mound keeps the fruit and vegetables nice and fresh, but, of course, it is not suitable for persons. It should be covered with a board or earth of from one to two feet, according to locality and contemplated purpose, and the mounds at each side should be covered with straw, protected by boards, to give special protection against the penetration of the snow during the most vigorous winter weather.

Expulsive Extraordinary.
The man of the interior was once criticized for his independence in the following choice sentence: "We are going to build a wall round our house and we want whosoever will come to let our expulsive property alone." We will give a sample of it, for example: "Everybody! Oh, you old fellow, you started your own party, you windy balcony! You crooked corner! For a cent we would knock you out of the middle of next week with the best of a reason."

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ORDER APPOINTING TIME FOR HEARING CLAIMS.

State of Michigan, Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, on the 21st day of November, A. D. 1914, in and to which the following parties were present: **ELMER F. ROCKWELL**, Judge of Probate, **J. A. FRENCH**, Plaintiff, and **J. A. FRENCH**, Defendant.

Dr. E. Mather
Has removed from 46 Warren Avenue East, Detroit, to 228 South Gratiot Avenue, Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Where he will receive patients.

E. Mather, M. D., will make Chronic Diseases and Baths a specialty. Cars sent the door. "30"m

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Appointment of Administrator.

State of Michigan, Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, on the 21st day of November, A. D. 1914, in and to which the following parties were present: **ELMER F. ROCKWELL**, Judge of Probate, **J. A. FRENCH**, Plaintiff, and **J. A. FRENCH**, Defendant.

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ORDER OF PUBLICATION.

State of Michigan, The Circuit Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Court House in the City of Pontiac, on the 21st day of November, A. D. 1914, in and to which the following parties were present: **ELMER F. ROCKWELL**, Judge of Probate, **J. A. FRENCH**, Plaintiff, and **J. A. FRENCH**, Defendant.

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Sale of Real Estate.

State of Michigan, Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, on the 21st day of November, A. D. 1914, in and to which the following parties were present: **ELMER F. ROCKWELL**, Judge of Probate, **J. A. FRENCH**, Plaintiff, and **J. A. FRENCH**, Defendant.

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