Very Little Cash for Men That Trained Jess Willard

Tex O'Rourke Tells the Inside Story and Hempel and Savage Were Handed a Raw Deal—Johnson Talks About Knockout.

(By Iconoclast.)

NEW YORK, May 22.—"What!" said Tex O'Rourke, when questioned as to the real amount of the gate receipts of the Johnson-Willard fight at Havana. "I thought that the promoters gave out the amount as being up around $100,000. Of course it may have been less, and it might have been more, but it was less."

When told that the exact amount was $59,944, O'Rourke expressed no surprise, but on the contrary, said, "I suppose it was. I do not know if anyone made anything out of the fight. The way the money was divided was enough to show that." And then he warmed up. "O'Rourke is nobody's fool, and he knows when he is getting the worst end of a deal, and he thinks that in this fight deal he came out the little end of the horn.

"This is how it was," he explained. "The Willard people all thought that the fight would be a failure, so far as the money end of it went, and so they refused to give us contracts worth anything. Take the case of Jack Hempel, for instance. He is not particularly bright, and when Tom Jones asked him to come around and help to give Willard his daily workout, Hempel said he would, relying all the time on Jones' good sportsmanship to take care of him.

"Well, at the end of the training period, Jones called Hempel over to him, and asked him what he thought he ought to have. Hempel said that he would take what Jones thought was proper, and so when Jones told him that he thought $150 was about enough, Hempel almost slammed him.

"That meant that Jones was giving Hempel $20 a week to be knocked out every day, and that is no cinch. Well, Jones had Hempel legally, so the boy could do nothing.

"And that was not all. Take the case of Jim Savage. Jones offered Savage a contract when they were in New York that totaled about $75 a week, and that satisfied Savage. But when all things pointed to the fight being called off, Jones went to Savage, and said, 'Now here, Jim, it looks as tho this fight will never be pulled off, and if you want, you can take this fare, and go back to New York, but if you want to take a chance and come to Havana with us, you will have to accept a contract that is a little lower than the one that you have now.'

"Well, Jim said it would be all right, and he signed the contract without giving it a thought, and his surprise can be imagined when he saw that Jones was going to hand him $25 a week to help Willard. Of course Savage can do nothing legally, as he signed the contract, but the point is that that way of doing business is mighty small potatoes. Savage came to me, and asked me if what Jones had said was true. Jones had told us all that if Willard won the fight we would all come back to New York with a nice little bank roll in our pockets.

"I told Savage not to mind anything that Jones said like that, because he didn't mean it, and I knew he didn't. Why, when I got to that camp from New York I found that Willard was eating stuff that would have killed him. Jones professed not to know what Willard was eating, and that is just the point I want to make. Jones is taking all the credit for Willard's success, and by rights he doesn't deserve a bit of it. The man that deserves the whole credit is Jack Curley. He spent unlimited time and energy upon Willard, and when credit is given, Curley is the boy to get it."

Regarding the Willard contract, O'Rourke had the following to say:

"I do not think that the terms of Willard's contract are generall known. The fact is that he and Frazee divide the profits 60 per cent. and 40 per cent. with Willard on the long end. That is not the gate receipts, mind you, but the profits after everything has been deducted. As far as Jones is concerned, he is not Willard's manager any more than I am. Jones works for the corporation that backed the fight, and his money is 10 per cent. of the 40 per cent. that Frazee and his associates get. That's the way the thing is run. Willard's money and Jones' money are entirely different. Jones has adopted the course he has because it is his nature.

"Jones is naturally stingy, and he hates to see the fountain of good money spouting for nothing. That is the policy that has gotten him in bad with everyone with whom he has come in contact. If Willard makes the money this year that they think he is going to make, Jones will also make his little pile. So Jones having a contract doesn't care what he does. He is intoxicated with what is before him."

Having delivered himself of these remarks, Tex proceeded to unload himself of some data that he had picked up while in the south. Among other things, he said that he and the other sparring partners of Willard had mapped out just what round Willard was to knock Johnson out in, and incidentally they came just one round wrong. They figured on the twenty-fifth, and it was the twenty-sixth.

O'Rourke says that Willard was not the calm quiet man that his people would have had him, just before the fight, but on the contrary, that the champion tossed in his sleep, and wondered if he could enter the mule raising business if he lost.

There has been considerable discussion regarding the now-famous knockout. O'Rourke says that Johnson told him the following tale the day after the battle:

"I was mighty weak after the twenty-fifth round, and it seemed as tho I could never get out of the chair for the twenty-sixth. I got to my feet when the referee ordered me, and waited for Willard, hoping to last the round by clinching. The blow that finished me was a left under the heart. I knew I was badly hurt, and backed into a corner, crossing my hands in front of me to protect my face.

"I remember thinking how comfortable the ropes felt on my back, and wondered why Willard did not come in and finish me. I also remember wondering who it was I was fighting, and could not decide whether it was Willard or Jeffries. I felt somebody holding my arm and open my eyes as they were leading me back to the corner. The ring was filling with people, and I asked what the matter was.

"When they told me the fight was over, I wondered how they could stop it before I was knocked out, but was too tired and glad for the chance to rest, to put up any argument. I have no recollection at all of the blow that landed on my chin, and which is said to have been the knockout blow, nor have I any recollection of being on the floor and counted out."

"Johnson acted like a true sportsman thruout the whole affair," said O'Rourke, "and deserves considerable credit for staying as long as he did with the champion. Johnson publicly stated after the fight that he believed Willard to be the best of all heavyweight champions, and that he would hold the title a good many years.

"I have always thought that Johnson has been persecuted to an unjust extent, and have suggested to Willard that he organize a movement to take the ban off the ex-champion and guarantee him a fair trial in the States. This would be a sportsmanlike act, and a good piece of advertising."

MONDAY ENTRIES

AT THE WOODBINE.

WOODBINE RACE TRACK, Toronto, May 22.—Entries for Monday, May 24, are:

FIRST RACE—Three-year-olds and up, Ben d'Or Plate, $600 added, six furlongs:

Fenrock	*93	Peggy L.	*94
Ida Claire	104	Tivi	*104
Burwood	*100	Galaxy	105
Miss Gayle	105	J. H. Houghton	*107
Black Broom	109	Kayderoseros	*109
The Busybody	111	Brandywine	*112
Gordon	114	Cuttyhunk	114
Martian	115		

Also eligible:

Videt	*102	Egmont	*102
Commensla	*95	Zindel	100

SECOND RACE—Two-year-olds, Goodwood Plate, foaled in Canada, $600 added, four furlongs:

Armine	107	McBride	107
Good Shot	107	Greek Maid	107
Hecla's Flame	107	Miss Fay †	107
W. A. Wright †	110	Banshore §	107
Thorncliffe §	110	Sweet Colleen ‖	107
Mandarin ‖	110	Old Pop	110
Copper King	110		

†Walker entry. §Davies entry. ‖Seagram entry.

THIRD RACE—Two-year-olds, Juvenile Stakes, $1500 added, 4½ furlongs:

Boneros I	104	Bill Simmons	107
King Tuscan	112	Blume	114
Tom Elward †	117	Geo. Smith †	117

†McBride entry.

FOURTH RACE—Woodstock Plate, 3-year-olds, $3000 added, 1⅛ miles:

Fly Home	109	Valas	109
Reliance	114	Cliff Haven	117
King Hamburg	122	Boxer	122
Commonada	125		

FIFTH RACE—Four-year-olds and up, Athol Selling Steeplechase, $800 added, about two miles, new course:

Bacchante	130	Joe Gaiety	138
Garter	142	Y'ng Morpheus	143
Laomedon	143	The African	148

SIXTH RACE—Three-year-olds and up, Queen's Hotel Cup, handicap, $800 added, one mile and seventy yards:

Privet Petal	102	Fountain Fay	104
Water Bass	120		

SEVENTH RACE—Three-year-olds and up, marea, FashionPlate, $600 added, six furlongs:

Shyness	103	Venetia	103
Recoil	103	Bessie Latimer	112
Ovation	113	Pan Zareta	123

*Apprentice allowance claimed.
Weather clear; track good.

AT DELORIMIER PARK.

MONTREAL, May 22.—Official entries at Delorimier Park track Monday, May 24:

FIRST RACE—Purse $800, selling, 3-year-olds and up, 5 furlongs:

Santa Marie	102	Inquieta	110
Nila	110	Littlest Rebel	110
Virginia S.	110	Lady Pender	110
Margaret Lowry	110	Wisher	110
Old Gotch	112	Chilton Chief	112
Bursar	112	Sandy	112

SECOND RACE—Purse $300, selling, 3-year-olds and up, 5 furlongs:

Unity	*99	Dr. Cann	104
Spitfire	*105	Little Pete	107
Bulger	107	Big Lumax	107
Lily Paxton	110	Leialoha	110
The Urchin	112	Fustoso	112
Cisario	113	Sinaico	115

THIRD RACE—Purse $300, selling, 3-year-olds and up, 5 furlongs:

Endurance	*97	Elderdown	102
Martre	110	Lamb's Tail	*110
Daylight	110	Ester L.	110
Jewel of Asia	110	Ferrone	110
Buck Thomas	112	Abdul	112
Malik	115	Duquesne	115

FOURTH RACE—Purse $300, selling, 3-year-olds and up, 5 furlongs:

Irish Mary	102	Yankee Lotus	110
Belle Bird	110	Mrs. Lally	110
Tempest	110	Auster	110
Jessup Burn	112	Toison d'Or	112
Lord Wells	112	Little Jake	112
Joe Gaitens	112	Bat Masterson	112

FIFTH RACE—Purse $300, selling, 3-year-olds and up, 5 furlongs:

Kts. of Pythias	104	Hearthstone	*107
Felina	110	Minstra	110
Field Flower	110	Bertha V.	110
Eyewhite	112	Louis Des Cog's	112
John Marrs	112	King Chilton	112
Americus	115	Bird Man	115

SIXTH RACE—Purse $300, selling, 3-year-olds, 5 furlongs:

Golden Lassie	*105	Blooming Posey	110
Lady Capricious	110	Diffident	110
Snip	110	Frokendale	112
Borel	112	Snider's Best	112
Tower	112	Ray R. Miller	115
Blue Wing	115	Skinny B.	115

SEVENTH RACE—Purse $300, selling, 4-year-olds and up, 5 furlongs:

The Governor	*107	Rosemary	110
Jungle	110	Mortgyle	*110
Blue Jay	112	Uncle Dick	112
Inian	112	Viley	112
Lucky George	112		

EIGHTH RACE—Purse $300, selling, 4-year-olds and up, 1 1-16 miles:

Early Light	*107	Mimesis	110
Rose O'Neill	110	Duke of Shelby	112
Yanker	112	Voladay, jr.	112
Ravenal	112	Tony Koch	112
Melts	112		

NINTH RACE—Purse $300, selling, 3-year-olds and up, 6 furlongs:

Black Earl	*95	Euterpe	*105
Nino Muchacho	*107	Col. McDougall	110
Sordello	110	Tankard	112
Sir Dyke	112	Holsington	112
Masalo	112	Spolin	112
Capt. Elliott	114	Gordon Russell	115

*Apprentice allowance claimed.
Weather clear; track fast.

Chicago Daily Racing Form
—ON SALE AT—
IROQUOIS NEWS STAND
Each Morning at 9.15.
712

FAMOUS CRICKETERS LEAVE SPORT TO MAKE BRITISH WAR MUNITIONS

Strudwick and Razor Smith the Surrey cricketers are now making war munitions at the factory of the well known cricket bat makers, Stuart, Surridge & Co. So keen are they on "delivering the goods" that tho they have always refused to play cricket on Sundays, they are now working seven long days a week. A scratch game of cricket during the dinner hour. Razor Smith batting, with Strudwick keeping wicket.

GERMANS SAY BELGIUM WILL BE DESTROYED

Before the Allies Get Them Out They Will Make Thoro Job of Destruction.

ALSO THREATEN TO INVADE HOLLAND

IN HIS latest article, extracts of which have already been cabled the "neutral correspondent" of The Times writes of the future of Belgium and of the firm intention of the Germans to hold the country, or at any rate part of it, as a permanent addition to the empire. The article in full follows:

"There is little doubt among the people of Germany or the military caste about the future of Belgium. In their opinion it is and will be a German province, and if any part of it has to be given up, nothing will prevent Antwerp and a strip of the coast stretching in a line to the German frontier south of the Dutch province of Limburg from belonging henceforth to the fatherland. They agree in some cases to let the rest go, as they say it would take too long and would be too difficult to Germanize the whole of Belgium. Perhaps they now realize that in the case of Alsace-Lorraine they have failed during forty-four years to bring the annexed provinces under their iron heel.

"I heard from a well informed quarter that the whole of the Belgium-Dutch frontier is now hedged by a double row of wire fences enclosing a space several hundred meters wide. Anybody attempting to cross the forbidden ground without permission is instantly shot. Trenches and wire fences have also been erected on the whole of the Belgian coast for fear of an English attack, and elaborate precautions have been taken to prevent its success.

Holland Also Doomed

"I have often heard it said that if Germany does not take a strip of Holland during this war the time will soon be ripe for her to take possession of Flushing and the mouth of the Scheldt with sufficient land on each side. 'These small nations,' say the Germans, 'have no right whatever to restrict the power of expansion of a country like ours. The day of small nations is over.' And Dutch neutrality is spoken of with the utmost contempt.

"Germany is making preparations on the Dutch frontier, and especially on both sides of the Limburg province, in view of possible attack. Several lines of trenches have been constructed in these regions, and troops are kept ready. People living near this part of the frontier have been advised by the military authorities to leave for Dusseldorf, Cologne, and other towns further inland in case hostilities be opened between Holland and Germany, since Germany has not sufficient troops to undertake an immediate vigorous offensive.

"I stayed for two days at a pleasure resort on the Rhine, where I had gone to meet an old acquaintance who had been a reserve officer but had been made a lieutenant of the regular army on the battlefield and had not been out of Belgium until wounded a short time ago.

"'You are neutral he said to me, and an enemy. It is useless to deny it; if you are not an enemy your sympathies are not with us; that is the case with 99 per cent. of the neutrals. For this to be so, there must be reasons which we Germans cannot understand. Perhaps the whole thing comes from Belgium, but, after all, I can assure you that all Germans are very sorry for what happened to the Belgian people; but the fault is theirs.

Won't Leave Belgium

"'If we have to leave Belgium we shall dispute every foot of it. There will be street fighting to an extent yet unheard of. Do you think England and France will risk hundreds of thousands of fine fellows for Belgium's sake? We Germans do not think it will be done; but in any case we are prepared, and the whole of Belgium is now a German fortress.'

"In fact, it is thought in military circles that the fortresses of Antwerp, Liege and Namur, stronger than they have ever been and well provisioned, can never be taken by force. Antwerp is supposed to be capable of a longer resistance than Metz.

"The defences of Liege have been improved, especially during the last four months. It is now a first class fortress in perfect condition, and it is thought that the alterations effected will prove an unpleasant surprise to the Allies if they succeed in getting so far. Large placards tell the population that the town is German, will remain so in future, and is to be called Luttich. On the whole, the Germans are very well satisfied with the behavior of the population of Liege, where almost everybody has started work again, and where the Germans believe their administration is fully appreciated.

"It must be remembered that in the eyes of German military men all preparations in Belgium are merely precautionary. In that way they rank with the methodic distribution of foodstuffs and war material so that nothing may be left to chance.

"The leaders of the German army have not given up all hope of advancing further south in France. The officers I have met believe that the winter has been hampering their advance, but that things unimaginable are being prepared, and will be put into effect before long."

A project is on foot to have every woman who runs her own automobile to contribute to the construction of the great Lincoln Highway which is to span the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Mrs. Mary W. Harper of Atlantic City, N. J., is the originator of the plan.

The British Government's appeal for women workers has brought responses from more than 7000 women already. They are wanted to take jobs driving delivery wagons, milk wagons, to work in the dairies and to act in clerical and secretarial jobs, so as to relieve the men who are desirous of joining the army.

Miss Annie M. Evans of St. Louis has been appointed an investigator of women's rural organizations by the United States department of agriculture. Miss Evans is an attorney by profession.

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Worn Under the Shirt
ALWAYS OUT-Q-SITE
LOOK FOR King ON THE BUCKLES
MADE IN CANADA

Dunlop Athletic Grounds
Queen St. East and Caroline Ave.
SOCCER
MONDAY, MAY 24th
Queen's Park and Caledonians, Selected, vs. Dunlops and Hearts, Selected.
Kick-Off 10.30 a.m.
Admission 15c. Ladies Free.

This Heah Niggah Was Done Married

Just a Little Story of Filmland Told on the Side.

Manager Frank Loomis of the Vitagraph Theatre, received notice that the New York state law forbid his continuance of the service of two uniformed colored boys, under sixteen years of age, whose only duty it was to look pleasant and open the door for patrons between the hours of 7.30 and 9.00 p.m.

Mr. Loomis wished to continue the custom and sent the Theatre's colored porter, "Bob" Allen, to hunt up two boys over sixteen, the uniforms would fit. Now, "Bob" claims to be the best informed gentleman of his color on Broadway, between 42nd and 59th street, and thought his job would be easy, but, this is the time he had one put over on him.

The dusky custodian of the Vitagraph's portership, returned after a half hour's absence accompanied by a diminutive colored man, who looked as if he would fit one of the suits, and who could not possibly be mistaken for a person under twenty.

"Did 'Bob' explain what I wanted?" asked Mr. Loomis.

"Yessah, but he didn't state de salary." On being told what the position paid, he shook his head. "Ah couldn't possibly s'port mah family on dat salary, Mistah Loomis. Ah done guess yo' wants mah son. He am oyah sixteen an could use de money fo' chicken feed."

"Mistah Loomis," exclaimed "Bob," "Ah sure didn't know dat man was married."

Business League Season Averages

The averages of the Toronto Bowling Club Business Man's League to hand will be found to be the most evenly divided crop in many seasons. Fast drives of the tournament brand are responsible for this, no one roller having the edge thru any long acquaintance to either alley, making possible the team competition that is bound to result and which in the end tends to put the ten-pin game to the fore of all other indoor pastimes. As will be noted Charley Boyd, the five-pin champion, is also king of the big pin boys, having gone nearly the entire route of games scheduled for the fine average of nearly 187 in 48 games rolled. Bob Spence is a close second with almost 183 in 53 games, the City Hall crack being an ideal anchor, who has pulled his team out on many an occasion. Third on the list is Harry Davey, who has been claimed by some of the good-natured joshers as being the father of the game, but nevertheless that didn't stop Harry, who topped the Brokers with nearly 181 in 39 contests, and so the list goes on with Walter Armstrong of the champion Boyd Storage outfit finishing fourth and high for his team with the big average of 180 and a fraction in every game scheduled, and down to the last concrete man the going has been close, with the late Frank Law being credited the best performer on that team with the good average of 154 in 27 games.

Following are the averages, standing of the T.B.C. Fivepin League and final standing of Rogers Coal Fivepin League, and games scheduled for next week:

	Games.	Av.
Hayward, Boyd Storage	9	190.8
Glendinning, J. Curry Co.	15	189.9
C. W. Boyd, G. A. Stitt Co.	48	186.19
Spence, City Hall	53	182.41
Davy, J. Curry Co.	39	180.29
Gallagher, Wm. Davies Co.	33	180.4
Armstrong, Boyd Storage	54	180.4
Egan, Bigley Mfg.	36	179.30
Steele, J. Curry Co.	36	179.28
Tolley, City Hall	54	179.44
Oliphant, Wm. Davies Co.	39	179.3
W. Williams, World	51	178.10
Findlay, World	51	178.9
Stewart, Bigley Mfg.	36	177.34
Wilson, Boyd Storage	51	177.27
Gordon, Boyd Storage	45	177.31
Dolan, Liggetts	12	177
Carruth, Boyd Storage	24	176.9
Vick, City Hall	12	176.2
Queen, Boyd Storage	33	175.22
Ryan, G. A. Stitt & Co.	48	175.35
Dey, City Hall	46	175.23
Dedman, Bigley Mfg.	15	174.11
Pointon, City Hall	51	174.36
Earle, Wm. Davies Co.	39	174.1
Reid, G. A. Stitt & Co.	38	173.21
C. E. Boyd, Boyd Storage	40	173.13
H. Williams, World	48	173.9
R. Curry, J. Curry Co.	24	173.1
Bromfield, City Hall	35	172.25
McAusland, Wm. Davies Co.	33	171.21
Stitt, G. A. Stitt & Co.	51	170
Crottie, G. A. Stitt & Co.	36	168.34
Stanley, Liggetts	42	168.20
Wilson, Acton Pub. Co.	12	168.3
Newton, Liggetts	36	168.8
O'Connor, Bigley Mfg.	36	167.1
Adams, J. Curry Co.	21	166.11
Beer, World	48	166.28
Patton, Wm. Davies Co.	9	166.4
Phillips, World	48	166.5
Helston, Wm. Davies Co.	24	165.4
Steckel, Wm. Davies Co.	30	165.8
Scott, Acton Pub. Co.	18	165.12
Smith, Liggetts	48	165.3
J. Curry, J. Curry Co.	29	164.4
Elliott, Acton Pub. Co.	27	163.9
Bigley, Bigley Mfg.	33	163.11
Bacon, Liggetts	45	162.13
Park, Wm. Davies Co	24	160.0
McCoubrey, Liggetts	9	155.6
Lowe, Acton Pub. Co.	21	156.17
Fleming, City Hall	15	156.8
Abel, J. Curry Co.	21	155.17
Martin, Acton Pub. Co.	12	155
Law, Johnson Concrete	27	154.2
Ballrick, Acton Pub. Co.	15	153.13
Bell, Johnson Concrete	21	153
Turpin, Liggetts	15	151.7
Johnson, Johnson Concrete	27	148.1
Reeve, Johnson Concrete	15	146.1
Nightingales, J. Concrete	12	134.3
Hulse, Johnson Concrete	18	131.13

T.B.C. Fivepin League.

	Won.	Lost.
Paragons	19	5
Stanleys	15	9
Canalites	16	11
Millionaires	16	11
Senators	16	11
Olympics	14	10
Flying Post	13	11
Rexalites	10	11
All-Stars	12	15
Norways	10	17
Colonials	10	17
Sewer Pipes	2	25

Ellas Rogers Co. Fivepin League.

	Won.	Lost.
South	14	7
Sales	13	8
Collect	12	9
Executive	12	9
West	11	10
Account	9	12
North	7	14
East	6	15

—Highest Team Score.—
Executive, 7069.

—Three High Men.—

	Total.	Ave.
Stone	2781	132 3-7
Shiels	2568	122 2-7
Mayor	2567	122 5-21

Games Scheduled This Week.
Mon.—Colonials v. Millionaires.
Tues.—Sewer Pipes v. Olympics.
Wed.—All-Stars v. Flying Post.
Thurs.—Canalites v. Rexalites.
Fri.—Stanleys v. Senators.
Sat.—Norways v. Paragons.

BIG MOTORCYCLE MEET ON MONDAY

All Local Pros and Amateurs Will Be Seen in Action

At the big spring meet of the Toronto Motorcycle Club, which is being held on the Exhibition track tomorrow afternoon, a long existing contention as to the supremacy of two superior dirt track men will be settled for once and all. This contention, or rather friction has existed between the Canadian champion Joe Baribeau, idol of the Toronto motorcycle fans, and "Blount" Burtchell, who hails from Atlanta, Ga. Burtchell, who has still fresh in his memory the defeat administered by Baribeau last year, when Burtchell met him, contrary to medical advice, owing to his physicial condition, has been waiting for the opportunity which will present itself tomorrow afternoon. Smith, Mortiz, Henikman, McIntosh and three from New York State, who are expected, will also prove formidable opposition, and with any kind of luck on the corners, which have been specially prepared, are considered to have brilliant chances of coming thru. There are also three amateur events, a side car race of three miles, and as an added attraction a novelty race, which proves a scream, will be staged.

CENTRAL HANDICAP MEET.

Central Y.M.C.A. athletic handicap meet at Varsity Stadium on Saturday, June 12, is already causing considerable interest. The proceeds of this meet will be given over for Red Cross purposes. All the events for men will be open to all athletes in the city. Word was received from Jack Tresidder at Sparrow Lake that he will be in fine shape for the events on the 12th. George Goulding will also take part in the 20-mile hike, which is sure to be a popular event. All the walkers of the city are getting in good shape. This race will start and finish at the Varsity Stadium. It is hoped that Rochester and Buffalo athletes will take part.

While the athletics are being conducted the regular soccer football games will be in progress, and a most interesting afternoon is assured.

The Central Y. regular weekly handicaps will be conducted on Thursday of next week, instead of Tuesday, because of the holiday.

GRAND DUKE HAS A WONDERFUL WAY

THE Grand Duke Nicholas, like Father O'Flynn, "has a wonderful way wid him," when he has dealings with army contractors. Recently he issued an order to the effect that all army contractors were to appear before him on a certain morning at a station on the Polish frontier at nine o'clock, as he had an important communication to make to them. Punctually to the minute the contractors lined up on the platform before the saloon train which is the headquarters of the commander-in-chief. Out stepped the Grand Duke, and, glancing at the mixed gathering, remarked, "Gentlemen, what I have to say to you is of the highest importance, and is contained in a few words. 'Do not thieve, or I'll hang you all.'" With that he turned and went back to his carriage. Up to date none of the contractors have been hanged, so it is presumed that they have amended their thieving propensities.

Before the present war broke out the average German maiden was sent to a school of housekeeping for from six to twelve months and strictly prepared in whatever intricacies of housekeeping her careful mother had not previously instructed her.