Continued from Page 241. ments to Let" card into small pieces. "I've changed my mind," he re-

marked. "What!" cried Mrs. Pakes, doing her best to look as if she had not overheard the whole conversation. 'You've sent away ten shillings a week?

"I tell you I've changed my mind," reiterated Mr. Pakes. "We'll do without a lodger."

"Well, you are a funny man!" said Mrs. Pakes. "And such a nice fellow as he was, too!"

Her husband glanced at the clock, cut a large slice of suet pudding, hastily wrapped it in a piece of newspaper, and bolted out of the house.

Mrs. Pakes, after brewing herself a cup of tea, sat with her toes on the fender, sipping it luxuriously, and chuckling softly at the reflection that she had killed two birds with one stone. In her own unspoken words, she had "put the pot" on the lodger idea, and had got rid, for good and of the pertinacious sewingmachine canvasser who had pestered her every Monday afternoon for the past five weeks!

Why is a Plumber's Bill.

The plumber had a rush order for 9 a.m. at No. 3343 Elm street. There was a leak in the water supply pipe to the kitchen sink.

He took a car that enabled him to reach his destination by transferring twice. Time was charged from the minute he left the shop.

After leaving the car, he leisurely in the direction of No. 3343, stopping here and there to point out to his helper the budding trees and plants, for it was a bright spring

"There is no hurry," he observed to the helper, "for our time is going on

just the same.' The helper checked his pace to accord with the plumber's, for he was

a very young man and enthusiastic. "I wonder if I forgot that small wrench," mused the plumber, as they

neared No. 3343. "Let's look in the kit," suggested the helper. "If its' not there, I'll hur-

ry right back and get it.' The plumber frowned. "How many

times have I told you to cut out that word 'hurry?'" he said crossly.
"I forgot," explained the helper in an

apologetic tone. A good plumber never forgets anything-except his tools," declared the plumber proudly. Whoever has paid a plumber's bill will know he was

speaking by his card. Eventually they reached the back door of No. 3343 and the maid admitted them. "The water's leaking all over my floor," she explained in some anxiety. She said "my" floor because she was the maid, and it was hers for

that week, anyway. The plumber, apparently, was not much interested, for he filled his kettle and lighted a little fire in a kettle he carried in his hand. Over the top of the fire he placed a number of tongs and pincers. Then he lighted his pipe and leaned over the kitchen table, where the sporting page had been used

as a table cover. "Young Jenks'll put out 'Silver' Jones in two rounds," he observed to the helper, while the maid put another dish towel compress on the leaky pipe. "The leaks' getting bigger," said the

maid. "Of course it is," agreed the plumber.
They always do."

When he had finished with the sport-

ing page he opened the kit.
"It ain't here," he observed.
"What?" said the helper. "The small wrench," said the plumb-

"We've got an adjustable wrench in the cellar that will fit any pipe," said the maid gladly. The plumber check-ed her with a dark frown. "I can't put none but my own tools on the job," he said sternly. "Go back to the shop and bring the little wrench, Jimmy." The helper started on the run for

the door. "Jimmy!"

The plumbers tone was ominous. Jimmy reduced his speed to plumber's rates.

The plumber blew up his fire and found a pink sheet in the coal scuttle. He moved a chair over by the stove and read placidly. The drip of water did not disturb him, for he was used

"What do you get for plumbing?" said the maid timidly.

"Seventy cents an hour," responded the plumber gruffly. "And for waiting?" suggested the maid.

The plumber scowled. "I ain't waiting here because I want to," he muttered. "I'm waiting because I have to.
The kid forgot some of my tools."

The kitchen clock ticked off the minutes at a little over a cent apiece. The maid wrung out another dish towel with which to poultice the leak. The plumber yawned and dropped the pink sheet. Then he knocked out his pipe on the floor.

"Would you like to look at the leak?" inquired the maid.

"Naw," said the plumber. "I've seen more'n a million leaks. I've stopped more'n a million of 'em, too."
"Absent treatment?" suggested

maid, who was a pert thing The plumber did not dignify the observation with an answer. But his frown boded ill for the bill.

Jimmy returned with the wrench at 11.45. The plumber took it leisurely, gave the pipe a twist, dabbed on some solder and sizzled it with a hot iron. Then he spilled some bits of hot

solder on the floor and stepped on them for the maid's benefit.

Jimmy gathered up the paraphernalia and they started back for the shop. When the bill went in it read: 5 hours' services, plumber ...\$3.50 5 hours' services, helper 1.25

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