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SHORT STORIES.**WHEN TO STOP.**

A countryman who visited London lost his gold watch. He trotted off to Scotland Yard, and told them about his trouble. With their usual politeness they informed him that they would leave no stone unturned in their endeavour to find the watch.

A few days later he went through some the leading thoroughfares, and saw street after street turned up, and was told that a few miles were in the same condition.

Running to Scotland Yard, he said: "I didn't think I was giving you all that trouble. If you don't find the watch by Saturday, you need not pull up any more of the road."

WELL DRUGGED.

A doctor was summoned to a police station to examine an unconscious prisoner. The prisoner, very muddy and dishevelled, lay on the floor of the cell. The physician bent over and examined him, and then, rising, said, in a loud, stern voice:—

"This man's condition is not due to drink. He has been drugged."

"A policeman turned pale, and said, in a timid, hesitating voice:—

"I'm afraid ye're right, sir. I drugged him all the way—a matter of a hundred yards or more."

NOT A CASE FOR WORRY.

They met at a dance.

He was tall and stalwart, she—oh, so sweet.

They jazzed, they one-hopped, they two-whirled, they—well, they did just what everybody's doing now.

After the seventh dance with his charming, the young fellow stopped suddenly and glanced suspiciously round.

"It's funny, Mabel," he said. "See that glum-looking chap over there. He's been following us about all the time. Who is he and what's he after?"

"Who—that miserable, half-starved fellow in the spotted tie?" remarked Mabel, casually. "Don't worry about him; he's only the fellow who paid for me to come in."

GETTING OUT OF IT.

Mr Knowall was the sort of man who, if he doesn't know, will never say so. Thus, when his wife asks him a question to which he doesn't know the answer, he does his best.

"Herbert," she said recently, "what is a canard?"

"Surely you know that?" he replied snappily, thinking hard. "Why, the word itself conveys its own meaning.

"Does it, dear?" said wifey soothingly. "Still I don't see it. Do please explain it to me!"

"Well, a canard is something one canardly believe, of course!"

HITTING BACK.

Early on Monday a smartly-dressed woman entered the big draper's.

"I am sending back those coats you let me have during the sale," she told the manager blandly.

"I find that none of them really fits me."

Then, with a gracious smile she sailed out of the place.

But she didn't smile so broadly that night, when she received a little parcel and a letter, which read:—

"Madam, we are returning the pair of gloves and the handkerchief which you inadvertently left in the pocket of one of our coats which didn't fit!"

Explosive shells, which were fairly successful, appear to have been used by the Dutch as long ago as 1588.

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Printed by the Southland News Co., Ltd., for the Publishers, The Invercargill Returned Soldiers' Association, by Frederick George Blake, 93 Lewis street, Gladstone, Invercargill.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1920.

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