

Problem No. 5 (solutions of which appear this week).—“A. and B., who work in the same office, have been life-long friends. A. discovers quite accidentally that B. is tampering with the office funds. A. knows that if he reports the matter to the manager B. will be dismissed promptly without a reference, and may be prosecuted. As B. has a widowed mother wholly dependent on him, A. finds it hard to decide whether loyalty to his manager or loyalty to his friend should come first. Should A. do anything? If so, what?”



VERY many of us are in agreement about the problem. It would never do for A., having made the discovery, to stand aside and do nothing, or “leave the matter in the hands of Providence,” as one competitor suggests. For one thing, by so doing he would become a party to the crime; and for another, he would be watching his friend rushing headlong to disaster.

Nevertheless, he will be feeling very exercised in his mind as to the best course to take. He should think twice before divulging the state of affairs to the manager, both for the sake of his life-long friendship and the widowed mother. His best course, is, I think, that suggested by many correspondents, viz., that he should go to B. and tell him of his discovery and ask him, in as friendly and sympathetic a manner as possible for an explanation. Probably B. has got into debt, or, possibly, is the victim of a blackmailer. In any case, he should be given his

Invitation to the Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. “B” in Further Trouble

PROBLEM No. 7.—“Miss A., Mrs. B. and Mrs. X. move in the same social circle. Miss A., whose marriage is approaching, asks Mrs. B., who has already received her invitation, to lend her as many dishes as possible for the occasion. Mrs. B. agrees to do so, and rings up Mrs. X., asking if she will also lend some dishes. Mrs. X. says ‘Yes,’ but in rather a hesitating manner which Mrs. B. notices and says, ‘Of course, you have received an invitation?’ Mrs. X. replies, ‘No, and I am wondering why?’”

“Mrs. B. insists that the omission is accidental, and says that she will ring Miss A. about the matter. She does so, and Miss A. replies that although she has no quarrel with Mrs. X., she has purposely withheld the invitation because Mr. X’s conduct often leaves much to be desired, and she cannot risk it at her wedding. What explanation can Mrs. B. give to Mrs. X?”—Suggested by “Nemo.”

Answers must be postmarked not later than June 26, 1930.

chance, for, as “Fanny” says, “Often to know all is to forgive all.”

A. should, however, make it perfectly clear to B. that it is the duty of one or other, or perhaps both of them, to inform the manager, if the state of affairs cannot be rectified. If they are not too serious for restitution to be made, I do not think that A. should insist on B. confessing, providing he ceases the offences. Further, he should, if possible, assist his friend to make restitution. But if B. has gone too far for the deficiency to be made up, or accounts have been falsified, or there is any risk of another person being involved or suspected, then A. should tell B. that he must “make a clean breast of it” or A. will feel compelled to inform against him.

Many admirably expressed answers were received, notably “Fanny’s” “Vivat’s” and “Viator’s.”

“B. must promise A. faithfully that there must be no repetition of the offence, and it will be wise to watch carefully, in the firm’s interest, without seeming to do so, to see that there are no further defalcations.”—“Jean.”

“Where it is part of a man’s duty to report pilfering or fraud in any form, he must report the matter as he would if the culprit were not his friend.”—“Bab-el-Mendeb.”

“A must give B. the option of restoring the money and resigning his position on any excuse he cares to give, or going to the manager and confessing.”—“Nemo.”

“A. should convey to B. that he has detected B.’s misdeeds, and point out to him the foolishness of his acts. He should implore him to refund the money and abandon the enterprise.”—“Oneeny.”

“A. will be constrained to inform the manager if the money is not returned within a limited time. The fact of B.’s widowed mother and his friendship for B. cannot be allowed to stand in the way of duty. A. himself may be able to aid B. in his difficulties. He should do all in his power to save B.’s good name.”—“Viator.”

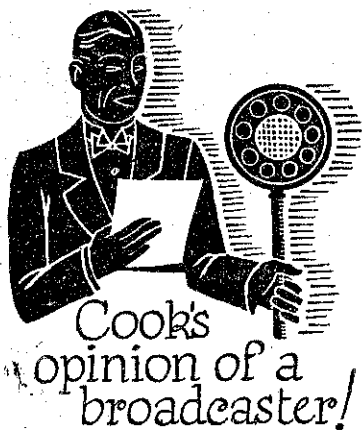
Marks Awarded.

Anon, 2; Amaryllis, 2; Anice, 0; Artful, 2; Apple-pie Mary, 5; Alfa-joy, 4; Bibi, 5; Bab-el-Mendeb, 5; Ben, 5; Miss Rachel Baker, 5; Bonza, 0; Barbara, 4; Babette, 5; Clara, 0; Clericus, 2; Campfire, 0; Viator, Don Chesman, 5; Duplex, 0; Diabolo, 0; Devon, 2; Eenan, 4; Effie, 5; Equity, 0; Fanny, 5; Frances, 0; Flirt, 0; Flora, 2; Grace, 3; Gunga-din, 0; Haven, 0; Heather, 2; Hopscotch, 0;

omi, 4; Vivat, 5; Viator, 5; Viola, 2; Verity, 0; Wynward, 2; Weaver, 0; Waterway, 0; Watchful, 2; Xerxes, 0; Xylonite, 2; Yum-yum, 2; Youngster, 0; Zenobia, 2.

Slaughtering by Electricity

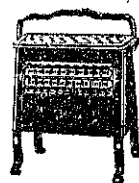
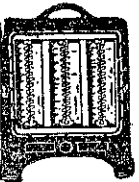
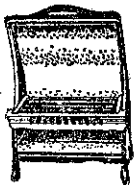
AN electrocuting apparatus has been installed at a meat packing plant in Germany. By its use one man, who attends to the mechanism, and controls the current, can dispose of about 200 hogs per hour. From an elevated cage the animal is discharged into a trap where it is instantly electrocuted, and dispatched to the cleaning boards. The apparatus appears to be worthy of investigation by interested firms in a country like this, where the necessary electric power is so readily available.



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