

"THE LONG ARM"

By FANNIE HURST

THE long arm of coincidence pokes its way into human destinies and does strange things.

Coincidence undoubtedly played a major role in the lives and destinies of old Colonel Harbor, his son Raymond and a lively young woman named Shirley Lang.

When Shirley was twenty-two, married to a young engineer named Robert Lang, and living with him in a small city in Pennsylvania, she took a short trip to a nearby resort known as Brown's Glen.

They were a quiet pair of weeks and attuned to Shirley's mood which was one of relaxation and a sense of slowly gathering strength in the period of her recuperation.

Even before her marriage Shirley had shown a predilection for the company of old people. She liked them. She was an intelligent, level-headed girl, and the wisdom and repose and mellow experiences of older people interested her.

It was therefore true to form that on her visit to Brown's Glen Shirley Lang should meet and become interested in the gentle and sagacious personality of old Colonel Harbor.

Like most old people, he took an immediate fancy to Shirley Lang. She did not treat him with the usual kind of deference that ground into his consciousness the fact that age had shunted him to life's sidelines.

The wooing and the mating of Shirley and Raymond is not the point of this story.

The long, long arm is! So much for the pattern of the situation. Scarcely the one to catch up the thread of these two lives into the same fabric.

When Shirley's husband came down week-ends, she showed him off proudly to the old gentleman and he in turn never tired of taking her into the confidence of his own story.

It was with real regret that the old colonel and young Shirley saw the placid weeks at Brown's Glen come to an end.

Unfortunately, these well-meant intentions were never to be carried out beyond the two weeks following the visit of the new-made friends to Brown's Glen.

So much for the rather wistful little incident of this friendship between an old gentleman and a young girl which had taken place during a pair of weeks in a quiet old country spot among the foothills of Pennsylvania.

The long arm of coincidence, its moving finger seeming to write, now swings through time and space.

Ten years later, a trim, capable, alert-eyed woman in her early thirties is seated in a restaurant in a busy business section of New York city, lunching with another alert young woman of her same type.

them is Shirley Lang, widow for five years and now buyer for the missus' ready-to-wear department of one of the largest department stores of New York.

Life for Shirley has been a quick panorama since those days which she spent in recuperation at Brown's Glen. Her marriage, which threatened, toward the end, to turn into disappointment, was abruptly spared what might have been disruption by the sudden death of her husband in a motor accident, when his hand at the wheel was the unsteady one of intoxication.

Two tables removed, a youngish man, dining with one considerably older, forces, with a reiteration that is annoying, his bold dark glance against the eyes of Shirley Lang.

Shirley Lang, whose experience along these lines has been a long and bitter one, meets his eyes with a cold glitter in her own. She is annoyed, even a little disgusted.

Her annoyance is so apparent that the young man, laughingly invited by a nod from Shirley's companion, crosses over in the mood of apology.

It was all so simple. Of course, according to the writing finger of the long arm of coincidence, the man was Raymond Harbor. He had heard of Shirley in those two weeks before his father's death.

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Some of the better known constellations of the stars are: Andromeda, the chained lady; Cassiopeia, lady seated in chair, holding up arms in supplication; Aquila, eagle; Auriga, wagoner; Cygnus, swan; Lyra, lyre; Pegasus, winged horse; Sagitta, arrow; Ursula Major, great bear; Aquarius, water bearer; Canis Major, great dog; Crux, cross; Orion, great hunter; Pisces, the fishes.

Red Squill Now Popular Poison

Effective Powder in Control of Rats Does Not Harm Other Animals.

An onion-like plant that grows wild along the Mediterranean coast produces the safest rat poison yet known. It is called red squill, and it produces large bulbs that are made into the red squill powder that has proved so effective in killing rats.

Red squill has been known in Europe for many years, says the leaflet, but apparently its use had not become popular, owing to extreme variation in the toxicity of the products available.

More than a year ago the department published a technical bulletin, "Red Squill Powders as Raticides," giving in detail the results of the investigations. The new leaflet summarizes in popular form the technical bulletin and gives directions for preparing and exposing red-squill baits for rat control.

Dr. Charles Brooks, plant pathologist of the bureau of plant industry, found that about 300 pounds of solid carbon dioxide placed in a refrigerator car loaded with warm fruit will increase the carbon dioxide content of the air sufficiently within an hour to check rotting and softening as much as would a drop of 20 degrees to 30 degrees in the temperature of the fruit.

Round brooder houses have become quite popular in the past few years. This is especially true for small broods of chicks.

Plenty of windows are provided for to allow for proper ventilation and light. The roof is usually from 6 to 6 1/2 feet from the floor at the sides and from 10 to 12 feet high in the center of the house.

Get pepper, eggplant, tomato, early cabbage and cucumber seed started. Don't forget a packet of Italian broccoli. You can grow it easily.

Birds destroy many destructive insects and rodents and devour much weed seed. Sugar sirup, made by dissolving 2 1/2 parts of sugar in one part of water, is a good food for bees.

Try better peas this year than you planted last year. Some of the new types are great improvements. Such weeds as mustard and shepherd's purse will harbor and carry serious diseases infesting cabbage.

Leeks are worth growing as a vegetable as well as for flavoring soups and stews. Try steaming them and serving with melted butter sauce. In order to get the most efficient and economical use of a piece of farm machinery, it is important to keep it working as many days in the year as possible.

Grain Supplement Is Big Aid for Steers

Produces Bigger Gains and More Tender Meat.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)—WNU Service.

Grain fed as a supplement to grass for fattening three-year-old steers produces heavier gains and somewhat better finished carcasses than those of steers fattened on grass alone. The meat of the supplement-fed cattle is slightly more tender and contains a higher percentage of fat.

Both good and medium grade steers made decidedly better gains when fed grain on grass than similar steers finished on grass alone, the bulletin shows. The feeding of grain also increased the selling price of both grades of steers more than 10 per cent over those fattened on grass alone.

In regard to the cost of finishing the steers with the grain supplement, the experiments indicate that the gains and finish of three-year-old steers on good pasture can be increased sufficiently by the feeding of a supplement to more than offset the additional expense.

Carbon dioxide may prove a possible aid in reducing the spoilage of fruits and vegetables in transit. The United States Department of Agriculture says that the carbon dioxide gas from this refrigeration gives added protection, when supplementing ice.

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Scraps of Humor

SLANDER An orator, warming to his task, took off his coat, which rather disconcerted one of the stewards of the meeting, who thought that a reporter would make a sensation out of the incident.

Toward the close, he said to the speaker, "I don't suppose you knew, when you removed your coat, that a newspaper man was present?" "Yes, I did," was the reply. "I kept my eye on the coat all the time."—Humorist.

Treating All Alike "Do you feel resentful toward the policeman who arrested you for parking overtime?" "No," answered Mr. Chuggins. "He has within the past month arrested every other citizen in our block. None of us felt very guilty, but we think that, according to his lights, he was trying to be fair."—Washington Star.

LET HIM WAIT Bobby—Mr. Jones is waiting outside. Big Sister—Well, tell him to keep waiting. He told me last night he would wait a lifetime for me.

Natural "How does the leading lady act?" He asked the maiden at his side. "In her new aviation play?" "Rather flighty," she replied.

Something Cheaper Ship Owner—We must have government aid! The people must be made to realize the expense of operating ships. Why, barnacles alone cost our ships \$100,000,000 a year.

Efficiency Expert—Well, why don't you cut that figure down? Use a cheaper grade of barnacles—or get along with fewer of them.

My, How Cold! He—I dreamt of you last night. She (coldly)—Really? He—Yes; then I woke up, shut the window, and put an extra blanket on the bed.

SMALL FLAT "So you've been up to see the Browns. Is their new flat very small?" "Well, they've had to exchange all their statuettes for bar-reliefs."

A Passing Parody He drove a golf ball through the air. It fell to earth, he knew not where. Until he heard the luckless yell Of him upon whose head it fell.

Hit Something Cheap "What is the best thing to do when the brakes of one's car give way?" asks a motoring correspondent. Hit something cheap.—Everybody's Weekly.

Most Miserly Man "Who is the most miserly man you know?" "Old Smith. When there's a crowd at the station and the people are standing in a queue waiting for their tickets, he always goes last so that he can keep his money in his pocket as long as possible."

Read All About It Cora—What's the matter? Student—Nothin'. Just a bit dizzy from reading a circular letter, that's all.

Also Braved Dangers Big-Game Hunter—Oh, yes, I've been nearly eaten by lions many times; but life without a little risk would be a very tame affair.

Mr. Subbubs—I agree—I agree! How often when the weather has seemed doubtful have I deliberately gone out without my umbrella!

He Knew Feet! "What do you mean by saying you expect a 'big kick' from this poem?" "Well, didn't you say there were six feet to a line?"

Dragging Days and Restless Nights

Lack of pep is frequently caused by clogged-up systems. Feen-a-mint is thorough, dependable yet gentle in action. Effective in smaller doses because you chew it. Modern, scientific, safe, non-habit-forming.



An Accidental Fall Senator Norris, discussing a statesman's fall, said at a Washington tea: "A hopeless fall, and it wasn't the poor chap's fault, either. The way it happened, it reminds me of a story."

"They were all playing blind man's buff in the parlor round the Christmas tree, and little Jack was 'it.' Finally he made a catch. "Aha, I know who I've caught," he said.

"Who, dear?" laughed his mother. "Mr. Wister. I can feel his beard." "And rich old Grandma Gains cut little Jack out of her will."

Kill Rats Without Poison A New Exterminator that Won't Kill Livestock, Poultry, Dogs, Cats, or even Baby Chicks. K-R-O can be used about the home, barn or poultry yard with absolute safety as it contains no deadly poisons.

Long Skirts Patriotic Australian girls have been asked to wear dresses an inch or two longer than maidens in other parts of the world to help their country.

DON'T LET WORMS TORTURE CHILDREN Children who have worms have not a chance of being healthy. Watch for the symptoms. Gritting the teeth, picking the nostrils, disordered stomach.

Frey's Vermifuge Expels Worms Not Worth Keeping First Golfer (telling fishing story)—He was about as long as that last drive of yours.

Children need not steal your health There should be no health penalty attached to motherhood. There isn't among really healthy women. Expectant mothers who think of the baby's health as well as their own, should take a good vegetable tonic to protect the two lives—Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. All dealers.

Why suffer intense agony of boils or rashes when application of CASBOLL stops pain, rashes and breaks boils clean overnight. Get Casboll today from druggists. Outlines (with names, etc.) Boils—Kearl Co., Nashville, Tenn.

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