DAILY NOVELETTE

THE CONFUSING JACKS By Dorothy M. Tracy

Penny of Top Hill Trail : **By BELLE K. MANIATES** Author of "Amarilly of Clothes-Line Alley," "Mildew Manse," etc.

THIS STARTS THE STORY

Jo, a young ranchman, employed at the Top Hill ranch of a Mr. Kingin a western state, takes a busisu trip to Chicago. There he meets at a dance a young girl who calls her-self "Marta." They fall in love with other, but Marta refuses arry him. She confesses herself to a thief and suddenly disappears leaving a note for him that he is going to try to "make good." returns to the ranch where he t by another employe named Kurt o whom he confides his experiences while away. Kurt advises him against any further thought of the girl, but is confident she will again come to him. Kurt, who is acting sheriff of the county, learns from Bender, jailer, that a young woman from Chicago has been arrested for stealng and is in the jail. Her name is

Marta Sills. AND HERE IT CONTINUES

COOR little brat!" he thought. I suppose I ought to give her one. There one person in the world who might a cowboy country, anyway. be able to reform her, and I'd put her "Get in." he commanded curtly. in that person's charge if it weren't for wrecking Jo's life."

All through the afternoon while his head were having a wrestling and when I get rested, you can hit a his scowl. vantage of being underworked.

now, won't you?" "I'll go up and take a look at her." suddenly decided. "Maybe I can tell from Jo's description whether she of this casis of shade that beekoned bad bargain. I'll see it through." enticingly to the passerby. in his Marta or not.

On his way to the jail he was accosted by a big, jovial man.

'Don't know where I can get an extra helper, do you, Kurt? Simpson, a tree. my right hand, has gone back to man that ever run me in. Canada to enlist.'

"How providential !" thought Kurt. "Why, yes; Mr. Westcott," he re-"We're well up with our work, silence. and I could spare Jo Gary for a few one would think you were the prisoner weeks.

"Jo Gary! May beaven bless you ! When can I get him?"

"Going out home now ?" "Yes; on my way."

"Stop at the ranch and take him take it for?" along with you. Tell him I said to go. be all right with Kingdon." Westcott renewed his blessings upon Kurt and drove on. At the jail Kurt looked in on the latest arrival. She was sitting at a

table in Bender's back office, her head bowed in her hands. There was something appealing in the drooping of her ders and in her shabby attire. "Now Jo is disposed of, she shall have her chance, anyway," he de-

Without speaking to the girl, he sought Bender and they held a brief consultation.

"Aren't we going to stop at all, Mr. Sheriff Man?"

A soft, plaintive note in the voice made Kurt Walters turn the brake of an old, rickety automobile and halt in 'Kurt'? No! It can't be." the dust-white road, as he cast a sharply scrutinizing glance upon the atom of a girl who sat beside him. She a dejected, dusty little figure, drooping under the jolt of the jerking lately. Whirling me over sands in that

sighs, changes of position and pleasant like you were going to sit for muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-noted by the man beside her, whose deep-set eyes had remained fixed on the open space ahead, his slim, brown hands ping the wheel, his lean, sinewy

wight, 1919, by The Reilly & Lee Co. | as he poured some water from an im- | glad to try to reform a young, goodlooking girl like me. I am good-lookprovised Thermos bottle into a traveling, honest, if I was slicked up a liting cup.

"Thanks for those first kind words, tle. she exclaimed, taking the cup from him and drinking eagerly.

"Why didn't you say you were he asked in a resentful tone. thirsty?" without looking at her. He had, in fact, studiously refrained from looking at her throughout the journey.

"I'm not used to asking for anything.' she answered with a chuckle 6672 'I take what comes my way. 'Taking your job too jun't it? "To hell with my job !" he broke out

fast. fiercely. "I'd never have taken it if I knew it meant this." "It's your own fault," she retorted.

'It wouldn't have been 'this' if you We could hadn't been so grouchy. have had a chummy little gabfest, if eyes, now turned from him, were soft. you hadn't been bunging holes in the landscape with your lamps all the feminine and without

way. He made no response but began to examine the workings of his car. "Does the county furnish it to you?"

she asked. "It doesn't seem as if you'd living. You didn't have to steal." What chance does her kind have? pick out anything like this. Was it 'Made in America'? Funny outfit for fully, "I didn't have to."

"Oh, please, not yet." she implored oung-only twenty." 'It's so awful hot, and I won't have all this outdoors for a long time, I sup-

er and over again, but that you were hungry. transacting the business that had pose. I see there's a tidy little bit of hopeless. I-think you are." shade yonder. Let's go there and rest "I think so, too," she acknowledged. brought him to town, his heart and awhile. I'll be good; honest, I will, with a little giggle that brought back "You've got a white elematch, the former being at the disad- faster gait to even up. I get tired just phant on your hands, Kurt. What are the same as honest folks do. Come, you going to do with me?'

"There's only one thing I can do, In a flash she had taken advantage he said glumly. "Carry out a "Oh, Mr. Britling !" she murmured

Traveling libraries evi-

He followed reluctantly. otto voes "This is heaven let loose." she said. 'What did you say?'' lolling luxuriously against the trunk of 'Nothing.

"You're the only nice sheriff the trail to, anyway? Your house?" He sat down near her and looked 'To Top Hill Tavern.' gloomily ahead.

"Gee! That sounds good, A tayern! "Cheer up !" she urged, after a short "It may not be so bad. Any off here? Summer boarders? Will instead of poor little me. there be dances?"

"I wish I were," he said shortly. "Top Hill Tavern," he said coldly, She looked at him curiously. is the name of a ranch-not mine. "Say, what's cating you, anyway" The owners live there." you hate your job so, what did you "And does she, 'the best woman in

the world.' live there?'' "It was forced on mc. I'm only "We must start now," he said, rising tures. worn in as acting sheriff for the coun abruptly and leading the way to the car. ty until the sheriff returns. "I should think," remarked the girl he asked.

"How long you been 'it'?" "Two weeks. You're my secondensually after his fourth ineffectual "Ye effort to start the engine, "that if she said." owns a ranch, she might buy a better

"Who was the first?" buzz wagon than this." "So Long Sam." He made no reply, but renewed his way.' She sat upright. futile attempts at starting, muttering 'Are you the man who caught So ong Sam? Every one has been afraid ords softly the while.

to tackle him. I'd never have thought of you!" "Why?" he asked curiously,

"Do I long second." his reluctance to talk to her. eem such a weakling I couldn't take

one man? "No: you look like you'd take a

red-hot stove if you wanted to; but grow larger and come to the surface they said-Say; is your maiden name only when strongly moved, burned with the light of anger. "Why not?" "Did any one ever try whipping you, "Because they called the man who wonder?

"Because they called the Kurt.' You took So Long Sam 'Kind Kurt.' You "Sure," she said cheerfully. "I was "I took that on you such as any haven't been overkind to me till just brought up on whippings by a-step- thing when you passed the coffee. I mother. But do you feel that way to was like taking candy from a baby. Anger at her nerve and chagrin the

was a dejected, dusty little figure, haven to been oversing mo over sands in that aunshine. She was young—in years; young, too, in looks, as Kurt saw when she raised her eyes, which Kurt saw were soft and almond-shaped; but old, he assumed, in much that she should not have been. She had found it a long, hard ride across the plains, and the end of her sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-sighs, changes of position and softly muffled exclamations, gll seemingly un-soft and of posing for 'Just before the state and of posing for 'Just before the state and of posing for 'Just before the state and posing for 'Just before the state and of posing for 'Just before the state are and the soft posing for 'Just before the state and of posing for 'Just before the state and posing for 'Just before the Unbelievingly he followed this lead, battle, mother'? You look so sorry "Not a drop, damn it"" you came." "I am." he said angrily. "I guess "The inst straw with you, isn't it? as some people say. I've been a lot saw two tears coursing down her I heard of sour and Rode. When I heard of sour and Rode. The taxes ?" "Twenty miles. I suppose you ouldn't walk it," he said doubtfully. "Me? In these?" she exclaimed, ou out to me and said he'd got you locked up I thought you were one of they came from physical causes alone. the many young city girls who go wrong thrusting forth a foot illy and most temptious. I am going to tell you, inadequately shod. The kind bred in slums, ignorbetter. ant, ill-fed-the kind who never had walk on, "No," he refused. "You don't put fair show. So I resolved that you one over on me in that way. "What for !" she echoed her mouth should have one. Bender wanted you "What for!" she echoed her mouth should have out of town with the surety that you "Ye outvering into pathetic droops. "For out of town with the surety that you town. "You know I couldn't walk back to

"Did he say I was? Horrid thing! I'm glad I put one over on him and lifted this," and she held up the box.

"What is it?" he demanded sternly. He looked away, an angry frown of "His supper. A peroxided wife his lean, strong face. She gazed at him curiously for a moment and then operation on an emergency case and laid a slim, brown hand on his arm. or won't you partake of stolen now, "Listen here, Kurt," she said. "You goods?

were right in what you thought about "I'll pay him for it the next time me never having had a fair show. I see him.

Everything, every one, including my "Shucks, Kurt! You got such a bad so the doctor thought, but sorrow filled self, seems to have been against me. bargain when you drew me, you ought his heart as he saw one of the young born with 'taking ways.' ouldn't seem to live them down. Lately to have something thrown in. It's all done up in a nice napkin-looks "Jack" as he was popularly called, enthings have been going wrong awfully as if it would taste good. Oh, what I've been sick, and no one acted Pork sandwiches, deviled a feast! as if I were human up to a short time eggs, dills, a keep-hot bottle of coffee, Grayson approaching conversation im-layer cake and pie. Bender knew mediately ceased. Doctor Robert felt ago. I didn't know that was why you took me from Bender's jail. Honest, I'm not so had as I talk."

drink out of? He looked at her skeptically. Her He produced a drinking cup, poured Some weeks later Doctor Grayson some coffee in it and handed it to was filling out a record of a patient's guilt. He wouldn't let himself be hoodwinked. her. *

"Thank you," she said. "Shall we of waste paper bis eye caught a note "No; there's no excuse for you," he make it a loving cup, Kurt?" declared emphatically. "You are edu-

cated. You could have carned an honest He ignored her question and plunged read: greedily into a pork sandwich. He had had so much business in town that "No," she said slowly and thought day he had taken no time to eat The girl partook of Bender's pilfered the ring tomorrow. Love.

"Then why do you? Bender told n uncheon sparingly and without zest. you had a lifelong record of pilfering." "Aren't you hungry?" he asked gaged to Doctor Stewart. "Lifelong! Kind Kurt, I am presently, his temper disappearing as thought Doctor Grayson, "my term of his appetite was appeased. "He said you'd been given a chance

"No; it's a long time since I've been pass out of her life forever." the need of a rest and decided to go to "What did you steal this food for the country before establishing himself. thep?" He selected the little town of Fernson

"I don't know. Yes, I do. It was and registered at the Fernson Inn. He because that Bender woman gave me had been enjoying the beautiful view such a once-over, and decided I was from the broad plazza of the inn and the soum of the earth. Is that the listening to the "town topics," and way your topside tavern woman will feeling generally much rested at the end of his first week when suddenly he look at me?' "No," he replied earnestly. "She's began to wake up the fact that some ex-

made a woman out of worse than citement was astir. Presently an excited man rushed up to him and said, "Are "Thanks !" she said, folding the nap-kin neatly. "I thought you had my can I do for you?" The man contjued, dently don't hit this trail. What is it number for the worst ever. It's won- "There's a little fellow been ruh derful what food will do for a man, by an auto and has had his leg broken.

Hope she will let me stay at the top of the hill while I get an appetite. the back road and you are the only one hope it's tiptop as well as tophill. The doctor said I didn't need medicine we can find. So hurry, doctor." Doctor How did you come to build a hotel way -just the right kind of food, rest and Grayson hurried to the little lad's home good air. I wouldn't have got them, and found a much-distracted mother. When Doctor Robert made his ex-amination of the injured little fellow he found his leg to have a compound fracture, which meant very careful maybe, but for you, and I suppose I haven't been very grateful." Her tone was low and wistful. look she hadn't seen before-a kindly,

sympathetic look-leaped to his eyes surgery. After constant care with her sor After constant care with her son, Mrs. Welton, who was a frail little woman, welcomed the doctor with this news one morning, "Well, doctor, my cousin is coming out to make me a visit, and she loves Ted so much and has such wonderful tact with children that the strain on me will be greatly lessened." "That is fine," said the doctor "Now rou much tar and second and softened the barshness of his fea-"Have you been sick, real sick?"

"Yes; clean played out, the doctor "Then I am glad I brought you, We

essened." "That is nne, said the will make you well physically, anyfor a few days' complete rest." When the doctor called two days later he could "And maybe the other will follow? hear laughter and cheery voices, and oh

"It will, if you will try to do right. the voice, whose was it? "Don't be sore, Kurt. I can't help Will you?" because your old ark won't budge. "Sure. I've always tried-most al-

I didn't steal anything off it. Wouldn't ways. I can't be very bad up at the be fierce if you were marconed on top of a hill, unless I get lonesome. proof against the masculine enjoyment it 'be fierce if you were marcooned on top of a hill, unless I of hearing himself analyzed in spite of the trail with a thief who has a life-You'd better tell that 'best woman Ing record ...' If came around the car and stood ing the same as with drinking—if beside her. His face was flushed. His snything you crave is lying around

eyes, of the deep-set somber kind that handy, good-by to good resolutions." tend to settle in this delightful spot?" "Yes," answered the doctor. "I have made many friends and see splendid prospects ahead, but what of you? Will see to that. I'm a sheriff, re-..I.II member. "Look, sheriff !!"

With a mocking smile, she held up a watch. "I took that off you slick as any

tone.

Lady of the Night Wind By VARICK VANARDY Author of "The Two Fared Man," Allas the Night Wind," etc.

tired and wan looking. The house BUT she was in no wise prepared for had thought that he would leave the fully. house by the way he entered it-but Wi doctor at the hospital had been called Her extreme caution in approaching on during the night to perform an and entering had been entirely unnecessary; and, after she was safely inside Belknap, was far too wise for that

thus it came about that Robert Grayson forgiven for laughter. Belknap had discovered another one said. was not his jovial self. Coming suddenly to the turn in the corridor he of the mysteries of the Nest, for, over spied Ruth Turner, the sweetest purse, against the great stone fireplace, within a network of steel wires that extended from beneath the granite shelf straight surgeons, Dr. John Stewart, or Doctor out over him and down in front of. and at either side of him, he was as gaged with Miss Turner is serious consecurely caged and helpless as ever any versation. When the couple saw Doctor wild beast in a menagerie has been. "Will you accept your liberty tonight, instead of waiting longer?" how to pick a partner. What shall we assured Doctor "Jack" was whisper 'Ves.' ing love tales to Ruth.

"It is storming outside, and every body at the house has retired. win you go earlier than 2 o'clock?" illness and in destroying a few pieces "T will go now, if you like, if it i true that all the guests have gone to their rooms," he replied thrown carelessly into the basket. It Katherine was thoughtful for a mo-

Dear Ruth-Your sweet note cam ment, then she said : "It is only fair that I should warn this morning and its contents have made me exceedingly happy. We will select you of something, Mr, Belknap. I am convinced that Myquest is watched.

JACK. "As to that"-be snapped his fingers This was evidence. Ruth was en "Well. "so am I. I will take care of that part of it." "Very good." She stepped to the end service ends here next week, and I will of the shelf and released him. He felt As he stepped free she moved swiftly across the room, and, as if by magic door swung open while she walked and he was not able to see how she did

At the opposite side of the room she stopped and faced bim. "Go," she said. "The way is open. I have kept all of my promises to you; expect that you are still man enough to keep yours to me.

will," he said. "May I----" "What the dickens-"No. You may do nothing more. ou may not address me again ; otherthe self-asked question he had thrown off his coat, vest and shoes and was vise, I will relent. Go. He went. in the water.

Katherine relapsed upon a chair as on as the doorway had closed after him.

Belknap's Prepared Getaway

T WAS exactly twelve minutes, according to Bingham Harvard's watch, after Katherine entered the Nest, when Conrad Belknap came out of it.-

He descended the first steps swiftly, was lost sight of along the winding path among the boulders, could be seen made on the sly: but it was a daring again in his descent of the second stairs, method. and then-to the astonishment of those dam to the jagged rocks below was who watched-he started rapidly to sixty feet, as Harvard well knew. ward the house.

"By Jove," Bing muttered to him-He encountered nobody. The house self. had not been closed up, nor the lights And he will, if he reaches the bottom extinguished. He entered the musiccoom at one of the windows. He stopped, fascinated by what he As directly as the needle of a com-

pass points north, he went to the corner The block of wood into which the Mrs. Wen. behind the piano and secured the "scrubby old cane." Welton spikes had been driven, that had been vedged into the masonry of the dam.

trembled; it was coming loose He lifted it, examined it attentively orked at the knob on top, found it tically. pleased Ted was when he exclaimed, "Say, Ruth, you know my doctor?" The weeks sped-by and Robert Grayson made more calls at the Welton home secure, tried the ferrule and loosened it held it if he could, and saved the as far as it would unscrew. Then he life of the man he had been pursutried the knob again, and opened it. ing. than were necessary, professionally when one day Ruth said, "Do you in-He turned white to the lips when e discovered the object wrapped in foil and tissue inside. He extracted it. He loose before he could seize upon it. held it worshipfully in the hollow of and disappeared across the top of the one hand and stared at it. His other dam. During an instant, which seemed prospects aneau, but what of you? Will you continue in your present course or marry?" "Me! marry, laughed Ruth, "I shall have to wait until Prince Charming asks me?" "Ruth," said Doctor Grayson quietly, "may I ask hand moved as if to unwind the wrapthat was wrapped in foil and tissue below; only a dull thud, a subdued Katherine exclaimed. crash, and silence.

He went out of the music room like They found Belknap half an hour a flash. It was wonderful how quickly later. It was apparent that he had library, they did not knew what she he could move when he wanted ----like been killed instantly. His neck was

Copyright, 1919, by the Macaulay Co. opyright, 1919, by the Public Ledger Co. then, and could not follow. They the guests at Myquest slept peaco-fully.

Within the larger garage, to which the body of Belknap was carried, a Cranshaw Belding, otherwise Conrad group of people was gathered. There were several strangers there who went sort of thing. outside, presently, at the request of "We have lost him," Tom Clancy Carruthers, for they were the men who

had been assisting him. Rodney Rush-"Go around to the rear, Tom," ton was there, and Tom Clancy, and Julius. Roberta was there, clinging Bing replied, and darted away without Julius. imparting his own intention

close to Katherine. Senator Maxwil-ton was there, he having still been Harvard, as it happened, having so often been in the position of fugitive deep in the discussion of genealogy himself, presaged Belknap's movements with Roberta when Katherine sumwhat he would have done himself moned her. Bing Harvard was there, by under like circumstances, and his ideas very silent and very still. were well assumed. He went to the When Carruthers sent his men away. ower, from which he could watch

he closed the door and turned to face the side entrance. those who remained ; but-Belknap appeared at last, moving As he made the turn he swept one cautiously. He darted among the

hand across his face. As if by magic the hideous scar that shrubbery, and kept himself amid the deepest shadows ; but Harvard had seen had so distorted and changed his every him lift his head and point, as a huntfeature, was torn away, and he stood revealed to all as Roderick Maxwilton. ing dog points, in the direction of his Katherine, who had been a long time COULSE. Harvard caught sight of him again in consultation with Julius, was, in

as he went out upon the platform at a half measure, prepared for it ; neverthe boathouse. theless she started forward with a Belknap secured a paddle and lifted quick cry of joy and threw her arms

cance into the water. He got into around her brother's neck, to the utit and paddled out upon the lake, making his way directly toward the dam.

- chalet

He

ter amazement of Bing. It was the senator (who, gddly, seemed not surprised at all) who step-ped to Bing's side quickly and whered the three words that explained the sit-If it had been possible to approach the Nest by that route, Harvard would have thought that he was returning to the uation

was not. He paddled directly to, "It is Roderick," he said ; then, after the dam at the opposite end from the a moment, he added : "I knew yester day, Bingham. He took me aside and Nest, and Harvard, running like a hare. told me. Then, tonight, after dinner, followed , along the shore of the lake. we went together to his mother; and-But when Bing Harvard got near Bingham-she is as happy now as she enough to the dam he could see only an was on that day, years ago, when she brought him into the world." empty canoe that was hugged against

"Roberta," the senator went on, "come here." Then: "Katherine, Ro--" he began to ask himself, but before he completed berta is a Maxwilton. She is a cousin, many times removed. She is even closer kin to your wife, Tom, added, turning to Clancy. "They had the same great-grandmother. She is, I am proud to state, a Maxwilton." "You bet she is!" Roderick anhe He swam quickly to the canoe where it was hugged against the dam-and then he discovered that three big spikes had been driven securely into a block sounced, reaching out and clasping one of her hands. "And she is going of wood which, in its turn, had been

of her hands. ingeniously wedged into the masonry of to be a Maxwilton by name as well as the dam itself; and that a hemp rope by nativity." no larger than a clothesline was knotted "This is not a moment nor a place

around the spikes-a knotted rope, to for rejoicing," Katherine announced, facilitate descent, Bing had no doubt. so, although it is late, I want you all to come with me to the library. It was Belknap's prepared getaway. have something of interest to tell. The fall from the top of the

"One moment," said Roderick. "Before we leave the silent member of this party, I have something to tell. He has been as bad as bad could be, but there was an explanation for it, if not an excuse. He is dead, now. In his possession, when his clothing was searched, we found quite an assortment Some of them related to of papers. the hiding places of certain engraved plates which the United States Government will now secure, and destroy. Others referred to matters connected with me, and are proof sufficient of my innocence of certain acts with which I was once charged, if, happily, it were not the fact that we already been acquitted of it ... my own department. So I shall suggest that no further reference be made to his misdeeds, and in making that proposal I know that I will have the approval of my chief. He is dead. Let him rest." "And he died without knowing that cry came up to him from the depths he did not possess the Eye of Nadja,'

"I am very glad of that. Yes, I am glad of it." And, until she fold her story in the

The End

DREAMLAND ADVENTURES--ByDaddy

ody bending slightly forward. His tenseness relaxed ; a startled. rehe saw two tears coursing down her They were unmistakably real tears-though, as he was well aware, Still, they penetrated the armor of unncern with which he had girded him-

"What for?" he asked curtly.

of course. You may be used to would never come back. this kind of locomotion, but I'm not very well upholstered, and I'm shaken take you off his hands and bring you car. bits. Fact is, I'm just all pegged out, old man. Have a heart, and stop for repairs. What's your rush, my? I can't get loose hereabouts, and I haven't anywhere to go, anyhow. Didn't mind getting 'took' at all, at all. "How many more miles is it to the and of your trail? This is a trail, isn't

"A great many miles," he replied. "and it was on your account more than

"Jail," she answered supinely, as he hesitated.

"No." he said grimly. "I was going CR44. take you home-for tonight, any-

didn't know there was any of those home-stuff places left except in the movies. I never was much stuck on me, so you needn't be afraid to call it 'igil' for fear of hurting my feelings "You can't work on my sympathy that way," he said coldly.

"Dear me !" she replied with a silly, little giggle. "I gave up trying to work the sympathy racket long ago. ery one's too smart nowadays. Hon-I've no longings for home. I feel sorry for any one who's tied down to Why don't you kick over the es and come off your trail and see 's on the other side of your hills? ate to take root here. Say, Mr Man, you look a good sort, even have played you were deaf and durab for the whole of this awful ride. Let's widetrack the trail and go-home mlight."

is eyes remained rigid and relent-but there was a slight twitching of est feature, the wide, mobile

looked at his watch. can wait for a few minutes." id in a matter of fact voice. Plense, may I get out and stretch?' asked pleadingly. iking silence for consent, she red out of the cur.

'Do you want a drink?" he asked

"I felt sorry for you. I offered to "Some one might come along in "Wouldn't you trust me if I gave out here among the hills, where the best woman in the world would teach you my word to wait for you?"

"The word of-"" "A thief," she finished. "All right. you to want to be honest. Do you suppose I'd have done it if I'd known the kind you are-a bright, smart bret I'm in no hurry. What are you going away. who is had because she wants to be to do?"

"We'll wait here until some one and boasts of it? There is no hope for comes along." your kind."

It was the longest speech the acting , "Then let's go back to the trees sheriff had ever made. He had been while we wait," she proposed, climbing scarcely conscious that he was talking, out of the car and taking a small box but was simply voicing what had been in his thoughts for the last half hour. "Didn't Bender have one tiny good

any other that I was hurrying to get in his thoughts for the last half hour. "Didn't Bender have one tiny good "How old is this 'best woman in the word for me?" she asked as they sat world'?'' asked the girl, seemingly un-concerned in his summing up of her "He said stealing was th

"He said stealing was the only ofwife? If she is either one, you'd better guessed you couldn't help it. What was way." "Home! Oh, how you startle me! I take me back to Bender or spill me out your little game in making him think in yew re getting dissipated and reck-

DOROTHY DARNIT—Burglars Don't Scare Dorothy!

ater the little baby daughter was named turning your ticker," she said in abused Jacqueline.

"I never knew but one other person. The next complete novelette-Old not to blame, though. If you he said coolly, "that affected me as un-

"Who was that?" she asked inter-"A cow-puncher-Centipede Peter."

"Some name! Why don't you ask me "But you can because it doesn't sound like me. It's Penelope.

"Oh !" he exclaimed, with something like a groan in his voice. "Nobody can help her name

"Don't you like it? complained. kind of thought it would suit you, because it doesn't sound like me. Sort

of suggests respectability, don't you think? "It was my mother's name." he

plied tensely, as he walked a few paces Night that comes so fleetly in

ountry dropped like a veil.

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

The Echo's Reply

"Father, can I go to the circus to night?" asked the farmer's son. Father-No. Tain't more'n a month

since yer went t' the top o' the hill to

- 2-

trains .- Smart Set.

(Peggy, Billy and Rollo, the monkey, go to the rescue of a girl shut up in a tower by her perfectly prim and proper Aunt Prue, who has never let her have any fun or play.)

Thinks Birds Use Reason

The Escape Do birds reason? Watching them losely in their activities in their bird PEGGY was a bit doubtful over Billy's wink when Penelope, the girl in the tower, said she would go with

bath affords opportunity for the answer. Witness the following: A few nights ago one bird after anthem because the fairies she had read other tried the hard bread crusts we had about were always perfectly prim and placed on the concrete ledge of their proper. Peggy thought that Billy's bath in our back yard. Finding these wink was mischievous and she knew crumbs not to their liking, they pro- there were times when Billy was far reeded to drop them in the pool to soak from being perfectly prim and proper. I and then pick them out and ate with But she knew, too, that while Billy liked jokes and a good time, he was a great relish.

Another instance : A cathird captured fine, splendid chap who could be trusted juicy bug near the bird bath and laid to do what was fair and right, and she carefully down by the pool. Holding felt that a taste of fun and play would go below and hold the ladder steady

the bug captive with one foot, the bird do Penelope good instead of harm. It while you and Fairy Peggy come sonked the bread crumbs, then hungrily was awful to think of any one growing down." Again he winked at Peggy, up to eighteen years of age without a and before she could even frown at levoured its meat sandwich.

This is no camouffage growing out of single frolic. fisherman's license. It's a statement of So Peggy. So Peggy, after a moment's thought, ground. fact. If any one doubts it, let him concon-He like the fairy Penelope thought her to her face grew pale. It surely did struct an inexpensive bird bath. thereby will confirm this story, help out our little friends, the birds, this hot weather, and incidentally highly entertain himself while acquiring a new ap-Penelope glanced at her wrist watch, and proper, Fairy Peggy?" she whis-

reciation of birds .- Elmer N. Powell, "I have just an hour," she said, pered. "This is the time when Aunt Prue and "Do in the Kansas City Star. the entire castle household take a per- At that Penelope set her teeth firmly

Seats of the Mighty

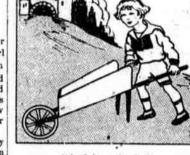
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fectly prim and proper afternoon nap. together, shut her eyes tight, and swung There are two kinds of girls-pretty must be back when she awakens. girls and those who stand in crowded

"Then hasten," cried Billy, leading ened, but brave, and went down step her to the dangling rope ladder. "I'll by step until she reached the solid

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"A fairy chariot'

the brook. "Oh, I can't walk through there. .It wouldn't be perfectly prim and proper," objected Penelope. Billy agreed with her. It was pretty hard for a boy to walk through the cold water and over his joking, he swung himself to the the pebbly bottom, much less a girl, And he couldn't carry Penelope the way he had Peggy, for Penelope was eighteen Penelope looked at the ladder, and years old, and altogether too large.

Glancing around, Billy's eyes chanced upon a wheelbarrow, left at the edge of the lawn by the gardener, who was now taking his afternoon nap in the bay-"Don't be afraid," answered Peggy. loft.

"A fairy chariot !" exclaimed Billy, wheeling the barrow to the entrance of the tunnel. "Step in, fair ladies, and out upon the ladder. She was frightwill whisk you away to freedom.

he parted the curfain of leaves to show

the tunnel-like path along the bed of

"Do you think it would be perfectly arim and----- " Penelope started to object, but Peggy gently pulled the girl down beside her in the barrow, and Billy plunged into the tunnel. By Chas. McManus

"My. my. I feel so thrilly-so thrilly," whispered Penelope. "I wonder what is the matter with me?"

Peggy smiled wisely-she felt thrilly herself. It was so much fun riding through the tunnel in a wheelbarroy Penclone was having fun and didn't know it.

Rollo, the monkey, was waiting at the great stone wall. He had carried rope ladder over the treetops, and the now it was hanging ready for them to ascend. It took but a few minutes for them to climb over and down to the bank of the rippling river. Here Billy was puzzled again. He couldn't carry Penelope, as he had carried Peggy? What should he do?

Away off in Birdland sounded familiar voice: "Hee-haw! Hee haw! I'm off for a lark. Prince Billy and Princess Peggy, where are you?" Billy gave a glad shout,

Balky Sam! Come here !"" Sam ! Balky Sam heard, and in another

ainute the army mule stood on the opposite shore waving his big cars in greeting to them.

(Tomorrow will be fold how Penel- | ope laughs for the first time.)



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"THE GIRL IN THE TOWER" earth. Peggy, scarcely less frightened, followed, and then Rollo, the monkey,

"the fellow deserves to get away

Harvard reached out for it fran-

The block of wood came entirely

But he was not quick enough.

He would have grasped and