By RUBY AYRES Author of "A Bachelor Husband," etc. Copyright by Wheeler Syndicale, Inc.

'From Now On'

Is a prison term vestitution enough

for the theft of a fortune—or should it be returned?
I lovely girl in, bu; not of, the underworld solves the problemon Evening Public Ledger

Devoushire; nothing to me that the mere feel of his sleeve beneath my un-

mere feel of his sleeve beneath my ungloved hand set every nerve in my body quivering.

And then we were scated at table, and to my infinite relief I found that Lionel was on the same side of the table as I was, only further down, se that, only by stooping right forward could be ratch by eve.

CHAPTER XXXVIII

A Difficult Meeting

"I did not expect to see you this evening. Miss Slater," he said, and at

longing. I did not know that you knew

the Frasers," I forced myself to an

had to come to town on business to see

"Mrs. Alberry tells me that I am to congratulate you," Mark said, and there was not a shade of emotion in his voice.

We might never have been anything

I felt the color benting into my face.

sure they would have sent kind mes

sages."
"And—and your aunt—and—Nina?"

"Very well, thank you."
With the desperate feeling that I

nust not let the ball of conversation drop again, I went on: "My sister Winnie is here somewhere. Oh, there

he is, next to the man with the sand;

Mark looked across the table to where Winnie was sitting, very pretty and very self-conscious in daffodil yel-

low.

"I am not very good at finding family resemblances." Mr. Anderson said.
"But —no!" And now bis eyes came back to my face. "I don't think she is at all like you." There was a little at all like you."

shape. You see, it's only a little while since I came home—how long is it—three weeks?"

He had remembered, then.

He nodded, gravely.

"A month on Friday," said Mr. An

"It seems much longer," I said un-thinkingly. "At least-you see, I've

things, I suppose; walk over to the

Yes-it's a pretty drive now-the primroses are in flower, and the bracken is all coming up in curiy fronds, you know." I said "Yes, yes." cageriy. I could

Alberrys and drive over into Lang-

picture it so faithfully.

There followed another impossible

ilence, during which I racked my brain

or some safe topic of conversation, but each thought that came to my head began with: "Have you forgotten?" or "Don't you remember?" till I was

without a prompting from mer but aparently he had no such intention.

"Well, if you had asked me that

"Changed?" I echoed as he stopped

Do you think she is like me?"

"And you have altered a great

I forced myself to ask.

"You are not very polite. He raised his brows.

but the merest acquaintances; is sounded to me as if his congratula-

IT BEGINS TODAY

myself to raise my eyes.

of all time and eternity.

a very rich man.

THIS BEGINS THE STORY

Sally disappointed her family, who ented a boy, and she was only a mboy. Escapades lead to shipping w off to a Devon farm. Here she is in love with Mark Anderson, a alls in love with Mark Anderson, a entleman farmer, who proposes to er and then apparently filts her, wing that he cannot afford to marry. Linel Champian, an older man, also groposes to her. He has a mortgage of Mark's property, which he gemises to cancel if Mark marries selly, otherwise she is to marry him. Plaillusioned, Sally returns home to London excorted by Champion. Bitterly she determines to plunge into social gayety to forget her was. She gemises to marry Champion, despite the apposition of her old aunt, who had married unhappily. The aunt lies suddenly, leaving Sally a forwine. From Devon she hears Mark ruined financially, which seems to seplain his attitude toward her. But the is gromised to Champion. Hove-

te is promised to Champion. How-er, she plans to use some of her ency to aid Mark.

AND HERE IT CONTINUES

CHAPTER XXXVII Mark Anderson in London!

HE rest of that week flew. Twice I went round to Mr. Shelter, nearly saids myself with impatience, and each ime he only put me off with evasive inswers, till I began to fear that he said do nothing to help me after all, and then one morning—just a fortuight the me first interview with him. my first interview with him-a typewritten letter came, asking

to call.

I had an appointment with the dress-taker, which I ruthlessly broke, I was reachless with hate and excitement then I reached Mr. Shelter's office, the lawyer—the I reached Mr. Shelter's office, table opposite, a gray-haired man. I well, "I said. "What is it? then I reached Mr. Shelter's office.
Well-well, 'I said. 'What is it? re you done anything? Is it all

He smiled and shook his head. Then a made me sit down while he expanded a lot of dry things to me about to come to town on business to see him, and knowing that I was at a loose end this evening, his sister kindly included me in her dinner party. As a matter of fact, I think she was pleased to have me, as some other me, had made me ist down while he explained a lot of dry things to me about
dinatures and transfers and loans, till
ay head swam. And then I signed my
same to about half a dozen papers,
and Mr. Shelter carefully blotted them
and looked at me with a smile.

"Well, I think that is all." he said.

I started up. "All!" I echoed breathit would never be broken until the end
of all time and eternity. wheat swam. And then I signed my same to about half a dozen papers, and Mr. Shelter carefully blotted them ad looked at me with a smile.

andy, 'You mean oh, do you mean hat it's all done? That Mr. Ander-

"I mean that the farm is quite free ow," he said gently. "And that herough your generosity your friend lark Anderson will be able to begin all over again."
"And does he—does Mr. Anderson mow it's all right?" I asked. "Mr. Anderson was here-in my office

only piece of news I have heard of you I started up, and looked since you left Devonshire, and I must congratulate you heartily. Champion is What would I not have given to have

"You didn't tell him, of course," . "I mean, you didn't tell him it anything to do with me?"

"Not a word. He asked dozens agestions, and I had to refuse all internation. Fortunately, he remembered hat he once had a relative who was apputed wealthy and eccentric, and isally put his luck down to him. I was tankful for such a loophole. Things that I did not really mean," I said flippantly. "But, tell me—how are the Alberrys and the dear old farm? It seems ages and ages since I left there." "They are very well," Mr. Anderson said casually, "Of course, they had no idea I should be seeing you, or I am I asked faintly. "I mean-he

my anything-about anything Mr. Shelter hesitated, then he an-

woner, but that is all." I knew it was silly of me have thought Mark might have mensed me, but there had been a hope my heart that perhaps he had. got up with a sigh.
Well, I must go. . . . Good-

and thank you more than I can Shelter held my hand.

"I hope I have done the right thing." said gravely. "What do you mean?" I asked, but

would not answer. 80 Mark was in London. I am shamed to admit that I walked about ill day long in the hope of seeing him, though I stayed out till after the mt afternoon had closed into gray solow, I never saw him, and I went all and and all went and and displayed.

Mother rated me for breaking my ap-ment with the dressmaker.
"You'll never get your troussens in ine," she scalded.

ine," she scotted.

I said I did not care. I said that I as not interested in my tron-sear. I sawalking out of the room when she alled after me.
"And don't forget that you are dishad such a round of gayety since then."
"I am sure you have."
"And you?" I rushed on. "What do you do nowadays? The same old

at the Frasers tonight. Linel will calling for you at 7, so you had calling for you at 7, so you had "I don't want to go to the Frasers.

hate them !" I said. Alas: I bated every one and every ing that night. My heart was much longing to see the man I had seed, who perhaps was somewhere

If it had not meant staying at home If the evening with Lionel, I should st have gone to the Frasers, but in present mood anything was need. present mood anything was pref. where the present mood anything was prefinible to a tete-n-tete with him, so I ressel with a bad grace and kept him liting hal an hour.

"Aren't you well, Satly?" he asked, a I gave him my check to kiss, "You tok so pale."

"I'm quite well," I said sharply.

And I am always pale." afraid to speak. "Of course, you are not thinking of leaving your farm?" I broke out at last. I wished he would speak of it

And I am always pale." But I relented and apologized as we

Tre got an awful temper, 'I sighed. dipping my hand into his. 'You will dipping my hand into his. You will terer so sorry some day that you

We were late at the France. You had people, Mrs. Fraser said speaking. speaking. speaking. We've positively had to put fess, but daner back for you.

And I looked up into Mark's face, Lionel was some little distance from and had not seen what a shock the

eting had been to me, but my face as white as paper as Mark and I level in the train of chattering wom-

and bored-looking men from the sing room across the hall to dinner.

I had not spoken a word, but I knew thould be spoken a word, but I knew thould be spoken as word.

t to some other person.

greed stolcally.

"Yes. It sounds like a story, I confess, but in this case it is a true one! An old relation of mine died and left "Lionel was late calling for me." I sid maliciously, "weren't you. Lionel?"
"A quarter of an hour late," he me a sufficient sum with which to pay off the mortgage on my property. I say 'my property, but it never was mine until," he hesitated, 'until about "I'm not letting you take Sally in dinner." Mrs. Fraser told him. "It dil be a change for you both to be sparated." We were in the drawing som then, and she turned to a man the stood by the door.

He laughed.

11 o'clock this morning to be exact.' I felt my face glow. There was such happy note in his voice, and it was all due to me! I had been his fairy god-

mother. an stood by the door.

Sally, let me introduce Mr. Mark Lionel sat, and found his eyes upon the same of the same o me. Jealous eyes, they were, filled with a vague suspicion, but I did not care. I had got to marry bim, but just for tonight I meant to have my dance of death.

And I looked up at Mark Anderson, as I said with deliberate intention: That mortgage was very nearly paid off on another occasion. Oh, yes, lad not spoken a word, but I knew long ago, and all ended and done with, and at the table, and in my mind you and I were to be married." The was arguing and reasoning with my last words came with a rush. I felt like a horse who takes a difficult fence like as nothing to

t was nothing to me that we had sain! It was nothing to me that looked just as dear and boyish as in I had first known him down in

THE GUMPS-Uncle Bim

ME GUMPS RECEIVED A TELEGRAM FROM UNCLE BIM SAYING THAT HE WOULD ARRIVE AT FIVE O'CLOCK -HE DID NOT MENTION THE TRAIN THAT HE WAS TO ARRIVE MOT MEET HIM

THEY HAVE KILLED THE FATTED TURKEY AND PREPARED A MARVELOUS DINNER AND NOW ARE THE ARRIVAL OF THE DOUGH KING-

AT THE TRAIN-



HELLO! OLD HEPHEW- HOW ARE YOU? - NO - NO - I CAN'T GET UP TO DINHER THIS EXEMING - I JUST GOT IN AND AM STOPPING AT THE HOTEL. DIDN'T WANT TO PUT YOU OUT-I HAVE AN IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENT THIS EVENING - BUT I'LL CERTAINLY SEE YOU TOMORROW-GIVE MY THE DING LING

HOW DID I KHOW HE WASN'T COMING HERE? HE NEVER DID ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE OH YES- GET A MICE SUPPER READY FOR HIM-HE NEEDN'T COME OUT A GUMP IS A GUMP THAT'S ALL YOU CAN SAY FOR THEM INVITATION YOU GET TO HE NEEDN'T COME OUT HERE TOMORROW EITHER- I DON'T WANT HIM IN THE THE HARNESE ON A HOUSE -

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Bu Sidney Smith

By Hayward

entch my eye.

I had not dared to lift my eyes to Mark's face after that one look, but I knew that I should have to: I knew that it was impossible to sit through a whole dinner without addressing a single remark to the man who brought one in, and when presently he spoke, I nerved myself to raise my eyes. SOMEBODY'S STENOG-Exploded Hopes

JUST THINK' ONLY

EIGHT DAYS 'TIL

THAT'S A GOOD SIGH! THE OLD SLAVE DRNER IS HIT WITH CHRISTMAS SENTIMENT ' IF HE'S SO BUSY HIMSELF GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS HE'LL UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY WHEN



THE TIME TOU SAID SURE IS SHORT. A WAD. ISN'T IT BOSS! KID

EVEN NOW WE'LL ALL HAVE TO WORK EVERY NIGHT TO GET THROUGH TAKING STOCK BY CHRISTMAS EVE ! A-E-HAYWARD . 17

The Young Lady Across the Way

sounded to me as the sounded to me as the said: "Yes—thank you. If you mean that I am engaged to be marmean that I am engaged to the marman that I am engaged to be marmed of you

The young lady across the way says she doesn't see how any woman can bear to wear an egret when she knows it cost the life of one of these lovely botanical specimens.

QUICK WORK ON DAD'S PART By FONTAINE FOX .:-HAVE AMYTHI ARE OUT IN DADDY IS GLAD NOW THAT HE BOUGHT

THE OVERCOAT WITH THE

BELT IN THE BACK

SCHOOL DAYS By DWIG LET'S SEE HOW BIG YOUR HAND IS , FRANK. AUNT MARY'S MEASURIN HIS HAND SOS SHE I WANT TO SEE IF IIM'S GROWIN AS FAST AS YOU ARE d MITTERS-HE THINKS SHE'S MY MY! THINK O'THAT! FIR ONE THING-FOOLING FOOLERS

since we last met," he added PETEY-He's Done "Have 1? I'm so glad! I was at awful baby in those days, wasn't 1? I'm grown up now. It's wonderful how soon London knocks anybody into



- COME ON BE MUCH CHEAPER FOR THE LOVE AFTER XMAS T OF MIKE -! LET'S GO TO THE TOY DEPT

- THESE OUGHT TO



By C. A. Voight OH DEAR - DOESN'T ALL OUT! THE TIME FLY " - STORE'S - ONE CLOSED. CAN'T SEEM TO GET A THILL DONE

GASOLINE ALLEY-Walt Favors Instrumental Recitals





HANDEL STARTED YOUNG





By King