Reading for Women and all the Family

The Plotters

A New Serial of East and West

By Virginia Terhune Van de Water

CHAPTER XXVIII.

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Although Elizabeth Wade was determined that Clifford Chapin should have no word with John Butler that night, she had reckoned without her hostess—as she was to discover later.

Clifford did not return immediately to the veranda after his talk with Elizabeth.

He was too much excited to be willing to face his parents and Butler just yet. He was also deeply chagrined. He had been so sure of his ground, so secure in his self-conceit, that his breath had been taken away by Elizabeth's reception of his accusation.

She had not had the grace to be frightened or ashamed. She evidently did not realize that he could make things very painful for her if he wished.

He did not explain even to himself how he would do this. But he went down to the shed where he kept the hired automobile, muttering over and over—

"She'd better look out! She'd better look out!"

The car would serve as a reason for his staying away from the house until he could gain sufficient calmness to appear as usual. He would explain that he had come down here to get the machine so that it would be ready when he wanted it.

As he worked about the automobile, making sure that it was in good order, he thought out his problem.

He Tries to Fathom It

There must be some reason why this girl was so terrified by the danger threatening her. She must care very little for Wade if she was willing to have his reputation — to say nothing of her own — ruined. Perhaps there was another man.

Clifford Chapin stopped short, struck by an idea that seemed to illuminate everything.

Now he understood. The girl had designs upon John Butler!

He recalled trifles to which he had paid scant attention at the time of their occurrence. He remembered how Elizabeth Wade had spoken in a confidential aside to John Butler one evening when Clifford was about to take her driving. The pair had seemed on remarkably good terms even then.

He had it now! He saw through it all. Butler had supplanted Wade in the girl's esteem. Butler was a richer man than was the young physician.

And she had dared to defy and warn him — Clifford Chapin! She was such a fool that she fancied he would let her get away with this kind of stuff! Well, he wouldn't!

Consideration for his parents, and their position with regard to the owner of the farm, made it seem unwise to divulge to them just yet what he had discovered. But he would let Butler understand the whole thing. He would make an opportunity to "put him wise." He would get back at that girl in a way that she least suspected.

So she thought she could afford to defy him, did she? She knew he was going away this evening and supposed that he would have no chance to divulge the truth to the man whom she had fooled as she had tried to fool him. He would show her her mistake.

It might not be an easy thing to get the ear of John Butler without making a scene. The only way for Clifford to do this would be to persuade his mother to help him. She was so unsuspicious that she would do his bidding unquestionably.

He Leaves the Car

Getting into the car, he drove it up to the front gate, stopping there instead of going up to the front door.

"Why did you leave the car down there, Clif?" his father queried, when the young man came up on the veranda. "You might as well have driven it into the yard."

"It's so dry here on the house drive that it would raise a cloud of dust over you people, so I thought I might as well leave it out there," Clifford evaded.

He took a chair close by his mother and, under cover of the general conversation — in which Elizabeth led with an ease that maddened him — he made a request.

"There's a little matter of business I want to talk to Butler about," he murmured. "I would like to get the girl out of the way before I do this, as I don't care to have her overhear what I say. Just before I leave you might call her into the house for a minute. That would give me a chance for a word with him here. I guess you can arrange it, can't you?"

"Is anything wrong?" Mrs. Chapin queried anxiously.

"Oh, no," he assured her. "Nothing wrong. Everything's all right."

His mother sighed with relief. "You're a dear boy not to say anything more about that silly matter you was talking about this afternoon," she said gratefully, patting his hand as it lay on the arm of his chair.

The night was dark, so Clifford did not object to this caress, for the others could not see it. He was always self-conscious and resentful when his mother gave vent to any affectionate impulses or demonstrations in public.

"Oh, that's all right," he rejoined softly. "I did not want to make things disagreeable for you and Pa. But for that, I'd have spoken my mind."

"It's best you shouldn't," his mother observed in the same tone. "It would only have started trouble between Pa and Douglas Wade. Just now Pa wants to keep on the right side of him. I don't see why he shouldn't keep on good terms with him all the time. He's a nice young man."

To this remark her son made no reply. He would not disturb his unsophisticated mother's peace of mind.

(To Be Continued.)

Bringing Up Father

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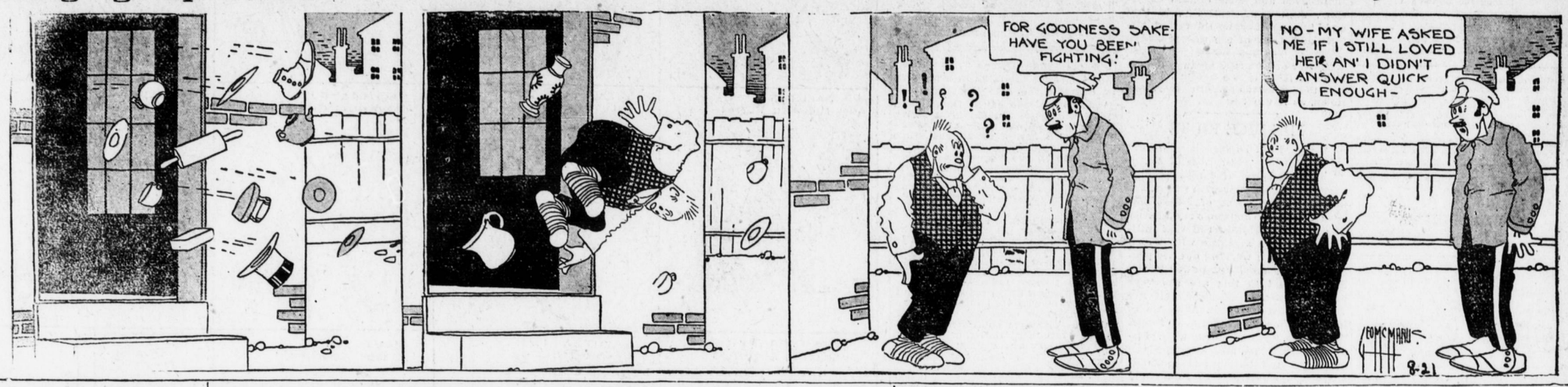
By McManus



THE KAISER AS I KNEW HIM FOR FOURTEEN YEARS

By ARTHUR N. DAVIS, D. D. S.

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(Continued)

A German U-boat had sunk a British vessel upon which were some of the relatives of the crew of the Baralong. The crew of this U-boat was subsequently captured by the Baralong, and according to reports in Germany they were harshly treated. Then it was reported that the Baralong had been captured and that her captain and crew would be summarily dealt with.

"I hear that we have captured the captain of the Baralong," the Kaiser declared to me at that time. "If we can prove that he's the man, we'll fix him!"

The manner in which the Kaiser spoke left no doubt in my mind that the direst punishment would be meted out to the unfortunate British captain.

Booty is undoubtedly a legitimate incident of war, but it is legitimate only as an incident. Otherwise booty becomes loot. In any event, when invading troops seize private property it is customary to pay for it. That the Germans were good takers but poor payers is revealed by two incidents which the Kaiser narrated to me, and the keen enjoyment he derived from them can be fully understood only by those who know how much the Kaiser appreciates getting something for nothing.

"Rumania wanted our gold for food products," he told me. "They demanded pure gold, and they set enormous prices on their wares; but we needed what they had to sell and we were ready to pay even the outrageous prices they demanded. And then they foolishly declared war on us, and we got it all for nothing! When I spoke to Hindenburg about the contemplated campaign against Rumania he said, 'This will be a very interesting campaign.' It was. We got all we wanted and din't have to pay a penny for it."

The Kaiser beamed all over as he contemplated the results of Rumania's entry into the war.

When the German troops entered Tarnapol, Russia, at a later time, they captured vast quantities of American-made supplies.

"We were just figuring what this seizure amounted to, and my army doctors were strutting around as if they owned the world," declared the Kaiser, "when one of my officers was approached by a group of long-haired, greasy Jews, who claimed that these supplies belonged to them. 'They are our private property; we bought them and we should be compensated if you take them,' they contended. 'Did you pay for them?' my officer asked. 'No, we didn't pay for them, but we gave our notes,' they replied. 'Then, said my officers, 'when you take up those notes we'll pay for these stores; in the meanwhile we'll just take them.' We secured bandages, serums—everything in fact that we needed so very badly, and we got them all for nothing!'"

I did not know at that time that the German army lacked medical supplies, but later I saw paper bandages in use.

I have previously referred to the Kaiser's defense of the use of Zeppelins against Paris, London and other nonmilitary cities. He declared that it was proper to make war on civilians, because England was endeavoring to starve Germany. On one occasion I pointed out to him that in 1870 the Germans had besieged Paris and had starved its population.

"The cases are entirely different," he answered, hastily. "Then we were besieging a city, and the civilian population had plenty of opportunity to evacuate it before the siege began. England is besieging a whole nation, and trying to starve my women and children, who have nothing to do with war."

I couldn't help thinking of the "whole nations" which had been absolutely crushed under the Kaiser's heel—of Belgium, Servia and Poland.

The Kaiser never admitted that the destruction of the Lusitania was a result of special instructions from him to the U-boat commander, but in discussing the general subject of submarine warfare he asked:

"What right have Americans to take passage on these vessels, anyway? If they came onto the battlefield they would not expect us to stop firing, would they? Why should they expect any greater protection when they enter the war zone at sea?

"Don't ever forget," he went on, "a bullet from a pistol would be enough to sink one of our U-boats. How can we stop and board vessels we encounter to ascertain whether they are neutral and not carrying contraband? If what appears to be a neutral should in fact prove to be a belligerent, or if a belligerent should heave to in response to our submarines, how can we safely send a boarding party over when a rifle shot from the vessel in question would send us to the bottom? Obviously, if America persists in sending munitions to the allies, there is but one thing for us to do—sink the vessels."

When I suggested that while the vulnerability of the submarine undoubtedly lessened its value in connection with the right of search which belligerents have under international law, still the law ought to be observed, the Kaiser interrupted me hastily with the remark.

"International law! There is no such thing as international law any more!"

In that assertion, of course, lies the answer to all the questions which have arisen in connection with the conduct of the war. If the Germans recognized no international law but were guided solely by their ideas of expediency and the demands of "Kultur," then the whole course of the war became perfectly clear. The use of poisoned gas, the destruction of unfortified towns, the desecration of churches, the attacks on hospitals and Red Cross units, the countless atrocities committed against civilians and prisoners of war, require no other explanation.

No such thing as international law any more!

CHAPTER VII

Democracy's Worst Enemy

The great military machine which the Kaiser had built up during the first twenty-six years of his reign "for the purpose of maintaining peace" was constantly itching for war. There was a feeling among the militarists that while it was all right for the Kaiser to assume the role of the "Prince of Peace" during the period of preparation, it was possible to overplay the part. He so frequently referred to the fact that his sole purpose in maintaining a large army and navy was to maintain peace that the warlords of Germany began to fear that perhaps he might mean it.

It was a grievous blow to the war-party in Germany when all their efforts to precipitate a war in 1911 over the Moroccan affair fell down because of Austria's failure to back up Germany. Although they had no slight opinion of Germany's military power, it was considered dangerous to provoke a war without Austria's co-operation. It was better to wait until Austria could be forced into it.

Germany readily acquiesced in the annexation by Austria of the Servian provinces of Bosnia and Herzogovina, which naturally embittered the Servians, because it was believed that thereby Austria would the more easily be coerced into the war which Germany intended to start when the opportune moment arrived.

The murder of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the successor to the Austrian throne, and his wife, by a Servian on June 29, 1914, gave Germany the excuse for which she had been waiting so long to start a European conflagration and found Austria as anxious for war as her ally.

But even had Emperor Franz Joseph shown reductance to plunge his nation into war and had Austria refused to chastise Servia for the murder of the Archduke I doubt very much whether the Kaiser would have allowed that event to have gone unavenged.

It touched him in one of his most vulnerable spots. The sanctity of royalty is one of his most cherished ideas. He felt sponsor for the monarchies of the world, as we feel sponsor for the democracies. A thrust at a throne was a stab at the Kaiser's heart, and with or without the co-operation of Austria, I firmly believe he would have gone to any lengths to have avenged the crime of Sarajevo.

It is true that the Kaiser sent a message to the Czar of Russia in which he pointed out that Austria ought to be allowed to chastise Servia without interference from the other European powers, remarking, "We princes must hold together," but there can be no doubt that that was very far from the outcome dearest to his heart. If, indeed, the punishment of Servia had been accomplished without war, the Kaiser would have been a most disappointed man, and if Russia had failed to mobilize her troops, which gave Germany a pretext for crossing the Russian border I haven't the slightest doubt that Germany would have prodded Russia into war, anyway, knowing that France would follow. "Der Tag," (the day) had come for which Germany had been planning and plotting for forty years and nothing on earth could now interfere with the execution of the program.

How firmly the Kaiser was wedded to the dynastic idea and how deeply he abhorred the spirit of democracy was revealed throughout the whole course of his life, and in his conversations with me he frequently gave expression to views which disclosed how thoroughly he believed in the "divine right of kings."

I saw him shortly after Wilson's election in 1912.

"What will America ever accomplish with a professor at its head?" he asked, sneeringly. "Davis, your country will never be truly great until it becomes a monarchy!"

On another occasion, he sneered at conditions in England.

(To Be Continued.

Hair On Face

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For real, downright, harassing, discomfort, very few disorders can approach so-called skin diseases, such as Eczema, Tetter, Boils, eruptions, scaly irritations and similar skin troubles, notwithstanding the lavish use of salves, lotions, washes, and other treatment applied externally to the irritated parts.

No one ever heard of a person being afflicted with any form of skin disease whose blood was in good condition. Therefore, it is but logical to conclude that the proper method of treatment for pimples, blotches, sores, boils, rough, red and scaly skin, is to purify the blood and remove the tiny germs of pollution that break through and manifest their presence on the surface of the skin.

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MAKING THE MOST OF OUR CHILDREN

A Series of Plain Talks to Parents

By Ray C. Beery, A.B., M.A.
President of the Parents Association.

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No. 9. Do Your Children Like to Read?

YOU are laying the foundations of real contentment for your child when you lead him to know and love good books. The child who likes to read is easily amused, the youth who reads learns, the man or woman who loves good books is never without friends.

And books feed the imagination, make treasure houses of the memory, keep the dream faculty awake. The old education crushed the child's imagination; the new education fosters it, knowing it is the child's most priceless heritage.

Unfortunately many children learn to enjoy trash while many children never learn to take an interest in books of any sort. Those children are indeed to be pitied who grow up with a pronounced dislike for reading good books.

Here is an example. A mother writes to me:

"My nine-year-old daughter enjoys being read to a great deal and I enjoy reading to her, but my four-and-a-half-year-old twins do not enjoy it and rebel every time a book is brought forth. How would you deal with the situation?"

Use suggestion in this manner: With a new, attractive little book in your hand, suddenly appear to be very much amused. Laugh aloud so that the boys' attention will be attracted to you. When they look up at you, as much as to say, "Well, what is it all about?" say, "Oh, this is the funniest story! Little Jack here started to ride a big dog and when the dog started to run—Come over and sit by mother a minute and we'll hear the rest of the story." The boy's naturally will do this.

Now, in a very enthusiastic way, read several short passages which involve a great deal of action and, when the boys are keenly attentive, cut the story short at a most exciting point, saying that you wish you could finish it now, but you have to attend to something in the kitchen. They, of course, will want to know what is to happen next in the story. And they probably will ask you for the rest of it.

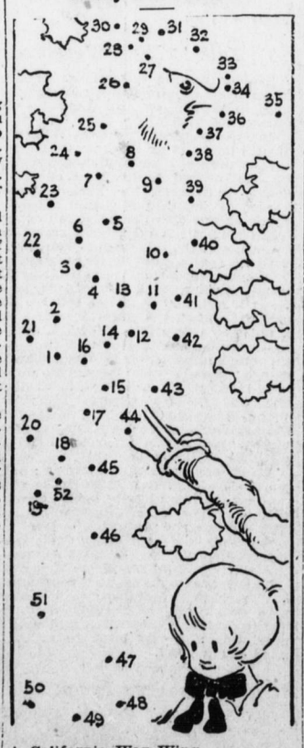
Always manage so that they will be anxious for you to read to them more than you do. Always speak of reading to them as a privilege, not in so many words, of course, but through suggestion. Since they have been in the habit of rebelling at the idea of reading in general, it would be well at first to refer only to some particular book which you are teaching them to like. After using the correct method for a while they will enjoy hearing you read anything that they can get you to read.

You might have the children make a book of their own. Furnish material for them to cut out animal pictures and pictures of children and paste them in a scrap book. They will take delight in cutting pictures out of old magazines. Help them to write little expressions about the animals. This will make the first reader at school seem more interesting to them when they come to study it, because the plan of pictures, followed by descriptions, is used in the readers.

It is natural for mothers, who have trouble interesting children, to say, "Don't you want to listen to me read a while? Come on, sit over here, I won't read long." But this, obviously, is wrong. Children should never be coaxed.

The method prescribed is correct because it tends to create a desire in the child's mind for the thing that you want. Very little, if anything, is gained by having children read, or listen to others unless they want to do so with all their will.

Daily Dot Puzzle



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Draw from one to two and so on to the end.

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