

Reading for Women and all the Family



"When a Girl Marries"

A New, Romantic Serial Dealing With the Absorbing Problems of a Girl Wife

CHAPTER CXXXV.
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"I hate to break bread with him, but he insisted that he had a heavy date to-night and the dinner hour was his only free time, so I hadn't any way out," explained Jim, turning from the telephone after a curt interchange of words with Dick West.

He folded the check which he had given Phoebe and she had endorsed over to West, slipped it into his wallet, took me into his arms for a moment and limped out. What he was going to do with West, I could not imagine, yet I found myself waiting for Phoebe eagerly, certain that I had good news for her. I forgot that I had other things for her—that I must tell her of Neal's engagement.

The minute Phoebe arrived the cruelty of what I had to do came over me with a rush. She was so little and pathetic. Her heart-shaped face was pale and her big eyes looked as if they were brimming with happiness that might flood into tears.

"What's the matter, honey?" I cried, taking her into my arms and kissing her trembling lips. "Oh, Anne," she cried, clinging close to me like a child afraid of the dark. "It's so long since I've seen you. But you will help won't you? I'm so scared." I questioned, cupping her face in my hands. "Why dear?" "Dick West is back," said Phoebe simply.

"Dick West?" I said, smiling at her as I lifted off her hat and fluffed up her bright hair. "I know he's returned. But he doesn't count. Jim has gone to dispose of him."

"Jim?" repeated Phoebe in a numb voice. "What can Jim do?" Dick West made me meet him for tea. Jim was so much cheaper than one—he so thought we ought to get married. I kept saying I never would. But he wouldn't listen. After what he said the business wasn't paying very well and that he was hard up. I knew that meant he wanted to have his money.

"Phoebe dragged out a little fugitive, half-hearted smile and she managed to keep it out all through the dinner, which Bertha served without allowing us more than a minute's privacy at a time. But even the old-fashioned strawberry short-cake couldn't tempt Phoebe to do more than pick at her food. I lost my own appetite wondering how the poor child would stand the blow of learning that Evvy had stolen Neal from her. I knew I must deal it to her this very evening. There was no evading my responsibility. If Phoebe didn't know she mustn't be allowed to hear it under circumstances that would take her entirely off her guard.

The minute dinner was over I led Phoebe to the living room, plumped her down on the couch with a box of chocolates at her side and started my campaign:

"Now we can talk. First let's tackle Dick West and dismiss him for all time."

"I wish you could," said Phoebe smiling wistfully.

"Well, we can," I persisted, but Phoebe interrupted in a tone of worldly wisdom that did not become her at all:

"Paying off Dick West doesn't matter, Anne. That doesn't wipe out the fact that I let him pay for my stocks and once owed him a \$1,000 loan. I can't get money to talk they can just the same."

"Who says so?" I demanded, furious that Phoebe should have just this point of view. I had been determined to spare her.

"Mr. West," returned Phoebe simply. "He says he'd never have let me get into such a position if he'd known that I was going to marry him. He says he thought we were engaged and that he can't understand my letting him just because he hasn't made money in his investments. It sounds as if I were an awful person—a regular vampire, Anne."

Looking at Phoebe's wistful, little-girl sweetness, it was all I could do not to chuckle at her calling herself a "vampire." But I managed to repress that thought of a smile.

"Honey, he's all wrong. Twisting the truth to suit himself. He is the one who is awful. His transactions ought to be down on the book of the firm and they aren't. I think he's put himself almost outside the law and when Jim gets through with him Mr. West won't want to rouse him. The business end of the matter. The business end of the matter. Jim even angrier than what happened to you—so you see you needn't worry. If your reputation were going to have a triangular blot on it, I don't think your brother would be worried about that."

"And—wasn't he?" quavered Phoebe.

"He was not," I returned emphatically. "But he was furious that his partner hadn't been on the level with him."

"Then I can be happy again," cried Phoebe, lifting shining eyes and running to fling her arms about me.

"From my room the telephone bell sounded. I didn't stir. Bertha would answer. Phoebe clung to me and murmured her happiness and relief."

"Oh, Anne—if I needn't marry Dick West that leaves me free—to—" whispered Phoebe shyly, leaving her thought for me to finish.

From the doorway Bertha's respectful low tones summoned me:

"Mrs. Harrison, you're wanted at the 'phone. The lady said it was you, my sister-in-law. Evelyn Mason, she said."

To Be Continued

MUSICAL MUSIC

"Thank goodness, now that the Hun has shown himself in his true color our ears are no longer shattered with the noisy music of Richard Strauss."

The speaker was Handel Booth, secretary of the Denver Philharmonic Society.

"I know a chap," he went on, "who said to his music teacher: 'Professor, I'd like to take up the study of Strauss with you. What will it cost, mein friend?' said the old professor, 'I'll depend on how many times der piano will have to be rebuilt.'"—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

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Bringing Up Father

Copyright, 1918, International News Service

By McManus



LITTLE TALKS BY BEATRICE FAIRFAX

"They also wrote who only stand and wait," wrote Milton in his famous sonnet on his blindness, which, in the opinion of many critics, is the finest sonnet in our language. That it has been quoted oftener, paraphrased and parodied more than any other English sonnet, goes without saying. There is a recent burlesque on the great poem dealing with the subject of girls who have no definite occupation in life but that of waiting for some man to marry them. The last three lines are:

"Thousands at their beckoning flee, And post o'er land and ocean without rest; They mostly 'get the mitt' who sit around and wait."

There may be "waitresses" to-day, but their number has decreased surprisingly in the last generation or so. Fifty years ago a girl who was not married at twenty-five was frankly regarded as a failure, and one had only to read the life of Florence Nightingale to realize how completely young women were held in the tolls of the notion that an early marriage to any one was preferable to remaining single.

When Florence Nightingale began to breach the subject of professional nursing, relatives and friends brought forward young men to try and persuade her to marry. For the young Englishwoman was pretty and rich and of excellent social position, and why she wanted to study nursing instead of getting married no one could understand—least of all her family. But, as every one knows, she stuck fast to her purpose and was the means of saving the English army in the Crimea.

When Jane Austin began to write her delightful novels she felt obliged, as a concession to public opinion, to keep her work-basket handy, and when any one entered the room she slipped the precious manuscript under a bit of sewing. For in those days it was considered "strong-minded" never.

Hoped He Would Not Be Old. So a girl remained at home, under her father's roof, a waiting for some man to come along and marry her.

DAILY HINT ON FASHIONS

"I know a chap," he went on, "who said to his music teacher: 'Professor, I'd like to take up the study of Strauss with you. What will it cost, mein friend?' said the old professor, 'I'll depend on how many times der piano will have to be rebuilt.'"—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

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TELEPHONE FOR TRAPSHOOT

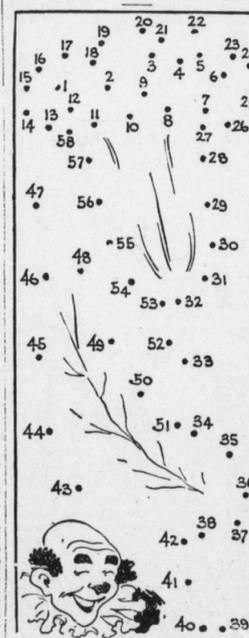
Trapshooters have added an electrical device to their layout, for the use of the referee, according to Popular Mechanics Magazine, which shows pictures of the arrangement. It is essentially the telephone-megaphone arrangement used for announcing trains at large railroad stations. For trapshooting it is installed with the telephone receiver in the trap house, beside the trap from which the targets are thrown, and the megaphones, for there are two, located back of the firing line, one at each side of the shooters' platform.

Until now the referee has stood back of the shooters; his job is to call the birds "dead" or "lost." There have always been serious objections to this method, for two chief reasons. First, the referee could see the birds no better than the shooters, and consequently his decisions were often questioned, and disagreements were not uncommon, many important matches hinged on the calling of a doubtful "kill." Corollary to this first reason was the second, that the referee always knew who was shooting, which opened the way to favoritism, or, equally bad, charges of it.

By placing the referee nearer the birds—more than sixteen yards nearer—he is naturally in a much better position to see what damage the shot actually does to each flying bird, and he is obliged to be absolutely impartial, since he cannot see the persons shooting.

REDEEMING HIS PAST "What were you going into that pawnbroker's for the other day?" "Why, Ethel said I'd have to redeem my past before she'd marry me."—Pearson's Weekly.

Daily Dot Puzzle



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Advice to the Lovelorn

HIS FRIENDS DON'T TREAT HIM WELL

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am twenty, respectable and educated, and not considered bad looking. I have some boy friends, also respectable, who always seem glad to see me, yet when they go out with some girls they never ask me to go. When they make gatherings or parties I am never invited. Why is it when they become acquainted with other young men they invite the latter to their parties and introduce them to the girls, yet I am never introduced to any of them. They never even ask me to go along when they go to places of amusement.

Now, Miss Fairfax, I like my friends and I know they like me, but why is it they never ask me to go to any of their parties nor introduce me to any of their girls? Whenever I meet girls I am very bashful, and I should like to get rid of my bashfulness.

A READER. The best way to get rid of your bashfulness is to join a good dancing class and learn how to dance. Then, I think, I should try to find some new friends, as the ones you write me of impress me as having treated you rather badly. You might ask some one you know very well, and in whom you have the utmost confidence, if your manners are agreeable.

HE DOES NOT LIKE RED

Dear Miss Fairfax: I have been going about with a

young man for whom I care very much, and he comes from a fine family; but he objects to my girl wearing red of any description, even objecting to red beads, a red collar or a red flower upon a hat. He hates them all. Now, I love this young man more than he imagines, so I have stopped wearing red of any description. I feel very sad and depressed and would be glad to take your advice. J. B. Your difficulty seems to be which you shall give up, the man or the wearing of red? It will depend entirely on which you prefer. If you feel that you care enough about the young man to forewear red for all time, why not avoid red and accept him.

Now Is a Good Time to Drive Out Catarrh

It May Not Be Troubling You During the Warm Weather, But It Is Still In Your Blood

Catarrh is not only a disgusting disease but is a dangerous one, and you should never let up in your efforts to get it out of your system until you have done it thoroughly. Get rid of it, whatever it costs you in trouble and money.

Mild weather will aid the treatment and this is an excellent time to thoroughly cleanse the blood of the germs of Catarrh and be forever rid of the troublesome sprays and douches that can only relieve you for the time. S. S. S. is a purely vegetable blood remedy, made from roots and herbs direct from the forest, which

combats promptly disease germs or impurities in the blood. This great remedy has been used for more than fifty years, with most satisfactory results. It has been successfully used by those afflicted with even the severest cases of catarrh. It relieves catarrh thoroughly, for it treats the disease at its source. S. S. S. is sold by druggists everywhere.

For the benefit of those afflicted with catarrh or other blood disorders, we maintain a medical department in charge of a specialist skilled in these diseases. If you will write us fully, he will give your case careful study, and write you just what your individual case requires. No charge is made for this service. Address Swift Specific Co., 262 Swift Laboratory, Atlanta, Ga.

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