



Reading for Women and all the Family



When a Girl Marries

By ANN LISLE
A New, Romantic Serial Dealing With the Absorbing Problem of a Girl Wife

CHAPTER CCLXXXIV.
Will Lacy and Dana lie to protect Val?
Is Aunt Mollie making up such a careful alibi for Val because she thinks her guilty, or innocent?

These questions came to me while Phoebe was speaking. And then, strangely enough, something else flashed into my mind. Maybe what I had been thinking of was the sudden focusing of my eyes on Jeanie's wool sweater-coat which still lay across the chair where I'd flung it on coming in from my interview with Lane the night before.

I had slipped the sweater off and had hurried to my room in a passion of pity for the big brown bear and a passion of revolt. Suddenly I realized that the fugitive memory I had been struggling to capture was given me.
'It's in a pocket of Jeanie's coat,' I told myself. 'I put the handkerchief in which I tied the coin into one of the pockets when I slipped into the coat. I must get it.'

Jeanie and Phoebe were still discussing the tragedy of Sheldon Blake's death. With a careless air I picked up the sweater and began rummaging its pockets. Jeanie interrupted herself to ask if there was anything special I wanted.
'Yes, a pretty handkerchief I've lost,' I replied, wondering why I hadn't told the whole truth as I heard myself expressing half of it.

'Did you think I'd picked it up and hidden it in the family sweater?' laughed Jeanie.
'I thought I put it in one of the other evening when I ran out for a breath of air.'
'Not there, though?' asked Jeanie, adding politely, 'isn't it queer the way we always lose our prettiest and most valuable handkerchiefs? Was it marked in any special way? If you don't find it I'll tell them to be on the lookout for it in the wash this week.'

'It had a lucky-piece in it. A battered octagon strung on a little gold ring. I don't like to lose it.'
'Superstitious, eh?' chuckled Virginia, tolerantly.
I flushed, but offered no explanation. Only to Jim could I relate the queer method of communication Lane Cosby had offered to me. The incident was intertwined with the ugly breach between Val and me, and the queer, strangled kiss Lane had pressed on my lips.

Virginia didn't press the point of my being superstitious. She didn't seem to think it one worth discussing. She had something important on her mind, and she made it evident now that the talk about Sheldon and his tragedy hadn't diverted her interests.
'We've gossiped about other folks long enough,' she said with a touch of her old arrogance. 'Now, I want to get down to the matter in hand. Phoebe, your coming down here while Anne and Jim are with me seems almost providential. I think we ought to arrange a quiet wedding at once. As I was about to say a while ago when you interrupted me, Pat and I are going to make this our year-round home. And there's ten months to run yet on the lease of my apartment in town. If you want to go in now and then for the theater or the opera, we have Pat's bachelor digs to shelter us. So there you are.'

'So there you aren't!' replied Phoebe uneasily. 'I'm going to have a big wedding in June. And you must railroad me into a little family affair just because you want to get rid of me.'

'But, Phoebe, I'm quite serious,' said Virginia, with an air of great patience, and of not intending to permit herself to be diverted from the main issue by Phoebe's attempt to laugh it off as a mere notion. 'There's the apartment furnished and with ten months' lease to run. I don't want to rent it to strangers at any price. And if you and Neal want to stay in the apartment for a gift as I'd hoped, I'll let you pay a little rental.'

'I can't,' protested Phoebe.
'You think I don't do this with my whole heart?' asked Virginia. 'I'm very happy myself, dear, and I want you to be happy too. Neal's a fine lad, and I've changed my mind about waiting until you're 20. That's far too far off. Really it isn't fair to keep Neal waiting.'

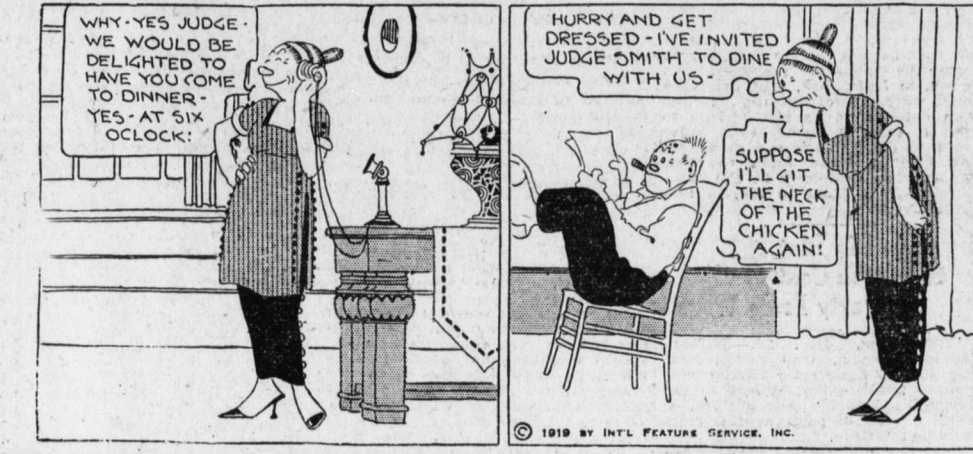
Phoebe flung a pleading glance at me. It is often Phoebe's fate to be tongue-tied when she feels most deeply. But when Virginia gets on of her inspirations she rides it in the high-handed fashion she and Jim share. I was just ready to open my lips in protest when Jeanie turned to me and said:
'You mustn't be hurt at Phoebe nor feel that she doesn't adore Neal. Her putting him off like this isn't coldness. It's just youthful stubbornness which I can't permit. Once I opposed her marriage and she fought for it. Now I'm ready, but little sister feels she has to prove that she's a woman by naming her own day.'

'I think it isn't that,' I began, rashly, in spirit of my knowledge of what opposition has always done to Jeanie. 'You forget'—
'You forget what we both are old enough and wise enough to know. Neal needs a home—and his little bride in it. That is what you ought to count with Phoebe.'

Bringing Up Father

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By McManus



The Two Voices

A NEW ROMANCE OF AMERICAN LIFE

BY VIRGINIA TERRHUNE VAN DE WATER
CHAPTER V
'The day on which Hugh Rodney was to start for Minneapolis came all too quickly for the engaged pair. Of course, Hugh had spent his last evening in New York at the Courtney house. But he had also promised to stop to say farewell to Doris on his way to the train the following morning.'

Doris paced the library restlessly for a half-hour before her betrothed appeared. When at last she saw the Rodney car draw up at the curb she hurried to the front door before the caller could ring.
'Come right into the library,' she commanded.
Hugh had only a few minutes in which to say good-by. He took the girl into his arms and kissed her fervently.
'Do not cry, darling,' he begged as the tears came to her eyes. 'It will not be very long before we will be together again.'

'I feel as if I could not stand the separation!' Doris declared, clinging to him. 'Oh, Hugh—I shall be so lonely!'
'No sense of cheer'—
'Of course, you do,' Ruth agreed. 'And you have enough to look forward to keep you happy all the time.'

'Hark!' Doris said irreverently. 'I hear mother's step downstairs. She must have come in at last—but she was long enough about it. I will go down to her.'

Ruth Courtney, passing through the upper hall, heard his voice and burst down. She knew he would not summon her at this juncture unless he had something important to tell her.
'Oh, my dear,' Hugh said, holding her hand to her as she entered the library, 'I must get right off, for my train leaves at 11. But I would be more comfortable about Doris if you will promise to keep an eye on her. I am sure you will tell me if she is not well—or anything.' He finished, lamely.
The sister replied promptly. 'Of course, I will. But Doris is going to be well and happy in the thought of your return. So do not worry about that.'

Parting Confidences
His fiancée walked away from the pair and stood gazing down into the open fire on the hearth. Hugh lowered his voice.
'You must understand, Ruth, what this parting means for both of us. I had no idea it would be so hard for her as well as for me. You know—with a sudden burst of confidence—"my life would not be worth living if anything happened to separate us."
Ruth Courtney checked him by a gentle hand laid on his arm.
'Hugh—don't have such fancies!' she urged. 'Doris is going to be all right, and so are you. I know,' she added, softly, 'how much she means in your life, and I promise to do my best to keep your happiness safe for you. And now, with a smile, "I will run away and leave you two alone.'

NEW ASPECT TO R. R. WAGE STATUS

Wilson's Order Returning the Roads March 1 May Change Situation

Washington, Dec. 26.—President Wilson's proclamation returning the railroads to private control March 1 lends a new aspect to wage problems now before Director General Hines. In the opinion of Railroad Administration officials, the President's order, made public Wednesday night, should tranquilize the labor situation, inasmuch as the time of Government control is extended by two full months. Union officers who have been pressing for a settlement of their demands before the roads went back, on the supposition that the transfer would be made on January 1, the date originally set, have not indicated how the proclamation will affect their plans.

The only wage demands now before Mr. Hines are those of the 500,000 shopmen, who were refused a general increase of 25 per cent last summer. President Wilson and the Director General taking the position that the war cycle of advancing wages and increasing living costs must come to an end, and the Government be given a fair chance to compel a return to normal profits, President Jewell and the executive council of the six shop crafts recently renewed their demands. They were asked to await an official report by Attorney General Palmer, since made public of the trend of prices.

Mr. Palmer's report showed that the customary upward march of prices during the fall months had been much less this year than in the past and expressed the conviction that the next two months would show substantial results in reducing the inflation of living costs. The cost of living question, therefore, still is unsettled in the minds of high Government officials and will not be settled until after Government control of the rail system has expired. It remains to be seen what view the President and the Director General will take of the shopmen's renewed demands for more money in the light of the Attorney General's statement.

It is understood the shopworkers were represented to be growing restless over the lack of action on their demands.
Demands of railroad clerks for more money now are before the board of railway wages and working conditions, which has not indicated when a report to the Director General may be expected.
Extension of the time of Federal control will necessitate the placing of additional contracts by the Railroad Administration, inasmuch as purchases up to this time generally have been for delivery up to the end of the year. Some rails and ties will have to be bought, also other materials for maintenance work.

Orders by Mr. Hines for an inventory of materials on hand as of January 1 will be changed to have the inventories as of March 1. The information will be used in settling accounts with the roads.
TIGHTLY GET CHECKS
Liverpool, Pa., Dec. 26.—The First National Bank sent out during the week over \$5,000 in checks to members of the bank's Christmas Club. The 1920 club has started.

Turn Back Tourists Who Sought Liquor Across Mexican Line
El Paso, Texas, Dec. 26.—Hundreds of El Pasoans and tourists who planned to visit Juarez, Mexico, where liquor of all kinds can be bought, were turned back yesterday at the international bridge between the two cities.

No temporary one-day passports were issued and the only persons allowed to cross the Rio Grande were those holding permanent passports giving permission to enter Mexico on Sundays and holidays.
Whisky and tequila, a Mexican drink, could be had at prices varying from \$5 to \$15 a quart here from "bootleggers" if the seeker was known to be "all right." Prices on the contraband liquor had risen sharply in price the last few days because of four deaths due to shooting affrays connected with whisky smuggling.

Mexican fiscal guards Wednesday captured a quantity of liquor that was being stored across the international boundary for Christmas sale. They said at prevailing prices the liquor would have brought \$20,000 on the American side. It is expected to be sold by the Mexican customs service for \$2,000.
Juarez saloonkeepers and cafe proprietors had prepared for a banner Christmas day. So, too, had the gambling casino, but their hopes were dashed when the American authorities refused to keep the port open yesterday and issue temporary passports.
TAKES FOXES IN PAIRS
Lewistown, Pa., Dec. 26.—Adam Henry, better known as the "Gensing King" of the Back Mountains near Bellefonte, is taking gray foxes in pairs. This is a side line during the winter time with the gensing man.
CHOIR TO SING CANZONA
Lewistown, Pa., Dec. 26.—The choir of Zion Lutheran Church will give the cantata, "Holy Night," by Ashford, St. Chicago, Ill.—Adv.

400 Furniture Makers Get Christmas Checks

Gettysburg, Pa., Dec. 26.—More than four hundred employees of the Reuser and Gettysburg Furniture companies were made happy when they stopped work for a three-day Christmas vacation to find an additional check in their pay envelopes amounting to 3 per cent of the wages paid to them during the year, being in addition to the 10 per cent bonus paid the employees weekly.

Plenty of rich red corpuscles in the blood will protect you from the flu. If you are weak or run down from overwork take iron and quinine. Make-Man Tablets have saved thousands of lives and brought untold happiness to people who were anemic or underweight.

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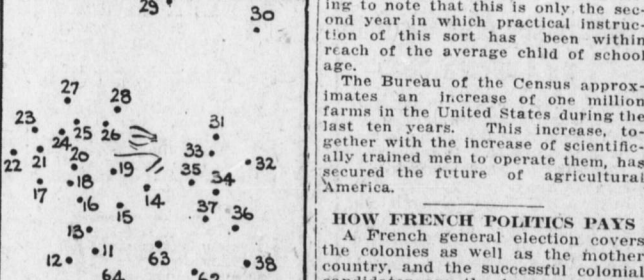
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HOW FRENCH POLITICS PAYS
A French general election covers the colonies as well as the mother country, and the successful colonial candidates are the best paid legislators in the world. Best of all, the general yearly salary of \$3,000, colonial deputies draw allowances from the constituents. The income of the member for Senegal is in this way made up to \$12,000 a year, or as much as the premier himself receives. The representative of Guadeloupe receives \$8,000 a year and the deputy for French Guiana \$5,000. As French law prescribes no limit to election expenses, huge sums are occasionally spent on contesting constituencies in the colonies. M. Jena Bernard, minister of the interior, at the last general election one of the candidates for Senegal hired three steam roundabouts, which, during the whole campaign, were placed at the free disposal of the electors and their families. He was returned by a sweeping majority.

WILLING
Elderly One—A wife should defer to her husband's wishes, my dear.
Younger One—I have done so ever since he told me his one wish was to see me happy.—New York Sun.

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