

# Beware of Bachelors

by Arline de Haas

Pictureization of this novel.

**SYNOPSIS**  
Dr. Davis, recently married to May Davis, is having lunch with Joe Babbitt and his friend, Myra, who Babbitt is called away. May happens into the same hotel and is furious at seeing her husband with a girl. After explanations, Davis and May make up. Myra, just naturally flirtatious, decides to further her acquaintance with Davis and goes to his office, where she is discovered by May and Beranger-de Brie, a perfumer, who is returning some gloves May left in his shop. Another quarrel; another reconciliation. Davis receives a supposedly professional call and finds Myra and Babbitt with friends. They try to induce the doctor to stay.

**CHAPTER VIII—Continued**  
"No, thanks," Davis answered curtly, trying to resist Myra's efforts to induce him to "be a good egg" and looking about at the same time for some means of escape. The restaurant was growing noisier and noisier and more and more clouded with smoke. Somewhere in the rear of the room someone reinforced the thin piano with a fresh supply of nickels and a mangled air that faintly suggested the "St. Louis Blues" rolled out. Couples streamed from the booths about the room and started swaying to the uneven rhythm of the music. The dull orange-pink lights made of them moving silhouettes, mechanical in their gyrations. Only their faces stood out chalky pink and unreal.

"Wanna drink." The gentleman in the corner who, Myra had said,



The couple whirled around.

didn't count any more, raised his voice. "Oh, go to sleep, big boy, and count the pretty pink elephants," Myra giggled. "Don't wanna sh-sleep," the "big boy" announced. "Wanna drink." "Give him a drink, somebody," Myra admonished. "It's the only thing that'll keep him quiet." Her restless red lips curled scornfully. "Gene never could carry his liquor." Babbitt reached for a bottle concealed beneath the table and poured the drink. Davis squirmed uncomfortably and looked at his watch. He knew what it was to try to break away from a party like this. Not that he would have tried to break away or that it would have annoyed him under other circumstances. In fact he could remember many just such parties in his University life, and he was not at all averse to these "shummy" fairs, as they called them. But tonight, of all nights, he wanted to be able to go home and stay there. These people bored him with their silly, stupid chatter and their artificial gaiety. And it wasn't good policy—not after the events of the day, anyhow. He looked at his watch again. Ten-thirty. He'd been gone an hour already. If he got away now he'd just miss the theatre crowds and the congested traffic. And May would be waiting for him. It was idiotic of Joe to have telephoned him—he should have known better. Joe was a good sort—he meant well, but he didn't have much sense. Davis told himself savagely. If Joe wanted to have a good time—and he couldn't say he blamed him, not with that sharp-faced, scolding wife of his—it was all right. But as for himself, he wasn't interested. "Is there a telephone around here?" Davis asked abruptly, looking over the room. "Sure, back in that corner," Babbitt pointed to the end of the room where the piano, now ceasing its labors for the moment, stood. "Just say you won't be home till morning—important case," he added, grinning. "Run along, Papa, and do your phoning," Myra giggled. "And hurry right back. Mamma's waiting for you." Davis needed no invitation to hurry. He was already on his feet and starting for the telephone. He'd call May and explain that he'd been delayed a little, and then he'd get

away if he had to fight his way out. "Well, Joey, your boy friend doesn't seem to cotton to our little party," Vivienne smiled dryly, glancing at Myra with an "I-knew-you-couldn't-do-it" air. "Just watch me, Vivienne—just keep your eye on the birdie!" Myra retorted. "Mamma's gonna make Papa, or she'll know the reason why. Is he really so much married, Joey?" "Well, he's only been that way for three months. Give him time," Babbitt told her. "Three months! It only took me three months to decide I wanted a divorce," Vivienne put in. "But then, we all haven't your lightning brain, darling," Myra returned scathingly. "Round one!" Ollie Lee laughed. "Into your corners, girls, into your corners, and remember, no hitting below the belt." "Oh, shut up, Ollie," Myra opened her vanity case and applied powder and lipstick with dexterous fingers. "Well, I might have known it," Babbitt complained. "Might have known what, Joey?" Myra looked up from her toilette. "Might have known that if I introduced you to Ed Davis I wouldn't have a look-in. Ed always was like that—girls are crazy about him." "He's got 'it,' Joey, dear," Myra returned. "But don't cry. I'm not crazy about him—just curious. I'd like to know whether all this in-love-with-his-wife and on-the-wagon stuff is real, or whether it's a lot of hokum. After I find that out—well, I'll probably lose interest." "All right, hop to it, and blessings on you, my children. Ed's probably making his excuses now." At the other end of the room Davis dropped a coin in the pay telephone and called his house number. He waited, listening to the ring. May would be sitting right beside the phone. He'd better say that the whole thing had been a mistake and that he'd be back right away. No need telling May that he had been dragged in on a party. She might think it had been done purposely. Then he heard his wife's voice on the other end of the wire. He held his hand to his free ear to shut out the sounds of voices. "That you, May?... Yes, Ed... Yes, listen, darling, there was some mistake about the call... No, nobody hurt at all—somebody just got scared... Yes, I know..." "Oh, then you'll be home right away, dearest," May's voice came over the telephone. "I'll be home just as soon as I can make it," Davis answered. "Do you still love me, darling?" "Sweetheart, you know I do. I've been sitting here ever since you left, just thinking about you."

"Dear girl!" Davis breathed a sigh of relief and murmured sweet nothings into the mouthpiece. Everything was set—all but making the break—and it wouldn't be necessary for May ever to know anything about the call. "But Ed, dear, how did they happen to call you?" May questioned. "I don't know, darling, except that they found my name in the phone book." "All right, hurry home and tell me all about it, won't you? Do you love me, dear?" "I'll tell you all about that when I see you," Davis laughed, still thanking his lucky stars. But he did not notice that right nearby a sailor, slightly half-seasick over—a condition that had nothing to do with the briny deep—was fumbling in his pockets. At last the sailor produced two nickels and began searching for the slot of the piano. He could overhear part of Davis's conversation over the unperceived phone. He rolled his eyes. "Oh, Gawd!" he mumbled. "Ain't love grand!" The vibrant strains of "Darktown Strutters' Ball" rang out over the room.

**CHAPTER IX**  
"Ed! What on earth's that!" May's voice came through sharply, questioning. At her end of the wire she could hear the music almost as plainly as though it were in her living room. "That? Why—oh—what?" Ed looked about frantically, trying to signal someone to shut off the music. He clapped his hand over the mouthpiece, knowing quite well what it was that May was referring to. "Ed! Where are you?" May was becoming insistent. "Why, darling, I'm—I'm at the patient's house—the patient I was called to see." Davis reached his hand around and tried to find a lever that would shut off the music. His fingers touched something that felt like a plug. He pushed it. A violin supplemented the piano. "Now I've done it!" he groaned. "Ed, what is that music?" "Why—uh—er..." (To be continued.)

INSTALLMENT FOURTEEN

## -Shavertown-

Mr. and Mrs. McLucky of Pittsburgh are spending a few days at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Louise Cottle, at Holcomb.

Dan Shaver will leave for Fort Myers, N. Y., this week, where he is enrolled at the Officers' Training Corps there.

Willard and James Carey attended the boat races at Moosic Lake recently.

Miss Grace Schall entertained her bridge club at Irem Temple Club on Saturday.

Mrs. Dannie Price and children of Wilkes-Barre are visiting at the Langer's residence.

Mr. and Mrs. William Iyer of Hazleton were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Herman VanCampen on Sunday.

The Epworth League has appointed Miss Elsie Ritts and Miss Esther Thomas as delegates to attend Sidney Institute this year.

Miss Jean Vercoe entertained at a party in honor of Miss Pauline Hister of Reading. Games were enjoyed and lunch was served to the following: Ruth Landers, Ruth Price, Jean and Doris Vercoe, Elsworth Henry, Ellis Landers, Edna and Ida Hunt, William Hunt, Junior Vercoe and Pauline Hister.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Whipp and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Shaver motored to Watkins Glen on Sunday.

Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Corwyn Baptiste, submitted to tonsil operation at General Hospital on Monday.

Rev. and Mrs. Donald Warmouth and Mrs. Emma Nash are at Madison, N. J., visiting Drew Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Charles Coslett is a patient at General Hospital, Wilkes-Barre.

Herbert Williams, who was injured in an accident last week, is in a serious condition at General Hospital, Wilkes-Barre.

Rev. J. O'Leary, rector of St. Theresa's Church, returned from Detroit, Mich., recently, where he attended the convention of the Disabled War Veterans. He was elected national chaplain of that organization.

Prof. M. Gilton, supervising principal, left for State College, where he is taking a special training course.

## -Carverton-

Miss Dorothy Dana entertained at bridge recently in honor of Miss Olive King of Pittsburgh. Luncheon was served to Elizabeth Buckingham, Lillian Dobson, Alameda Martin, Alice Sword, Mrs. Charles A. Dana and Olive King.

Miss Christina Sword is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sword. Miss Sword has been a director of Central Y. W. C. A. of Pittsburgh the last three years. She left on Friday to attend the summer session of Columbia University.

Russell Courson and Robert Prynne have left by motor for South Dakota, where they will spend the summer.

Richard Prynne was hit by a log while pulling stumps on Thursday. His jaw was broken in two places and his face badly cut. His condition is serious.

George Moore of Wyoming was a recent Carverton visitor.

George Knorr and children, Margaret, Sarah, Rita and Charles, called recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brown of Old Forge.

Miss Madge Anderson, who is taking a summer course at Ithaca Conservatory of Music, spent the week-end at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Long of Ohio called on friends here recently.

Miss Etta, Sarah and Charles Knorr visited recently at the home of their grandmother, Mrs. Mary Knorr.

Miss Mae Parrish, daughter of Mr. of Mrs. Charles Parrish, became the bride of Nelson Lewis of Mt. Zion recently. Miss Nadine Rice, cousin of the bride, entertained in her honor.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Knorr and children, Diantha, Priscilla, Emily, Donald, Marian, of Kingston, and Mrs. Floyd Knorr and daughter, Susan, and Miss Freda Shirley of Wyoming visited at the home of Mrs. Mary Knorr on Sunday, also Mrs. Wayne Conkinn and daughter Iva and M. J. Heft called.

Miss Ida Anderson is spending some time at the home of her uncle, M. J. Heft.

Miss Genevieve Heft and Miss Margaret Knorr called on Miss Anderson recently.

For Sale—Cabbage plants, Danish Ball and Danish Round. H. F. Coons' Farm, Dallas, 116-R-13.

Mrs. Harry Brown spent a few days recently at the home of her sister, Mrs. George Knorr.

## -Kunkle-

Mrs. Owen Ide and Mrs. Bertha Ide entertained at dinner on Thursday at the former's home, Mrs. Ruth Wilson and Mrs. John Gordon of Idetown, and Mrs. Marvin Elston.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ellsworth spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Achuff of Shavertown.

Mrs. Ralph Hess entertained at dinner on Wednesday evening Mrs. Cragg Herdman and daughters Jane and Rebecca, and Mrs. William Miers and daughter Hannah.

Chester Redfield, who has been a patient at Homeopathic and General hospitals for the past ten days, returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith on Wednesday much improved in health. Mr. Redfield was transferred from Homeopathic to General Hospital a week ago for a bronchoscopic operation but his improvement was so satisfactory that this was found to be unnecessary. Mr. Redfield will spend several weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Smith to regain his health before returning to his home in New York.

Mrs. Ralph Ashburner and son Bobbie spent Wednesday with Mrs. Alex Johnston and family.

Mrs. Owen Ide and children, Jane and Dannie, and Mrs. Bertha Ide spent Tuesday with Mrs. Walter Andrews of Shavertown.

Mrs. J. S. Kunkle made a business trip to Wilkes-Barre on Wednesday.

Miss Eloise Nulton is visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith after spending a few days in the Poconos.

Mrs. J. W. Walters and Carl Mackinson and daughter Nellie were visitors at the Olin Kunkle home Friday afternoon of last week.

Miss Alice Kunkle of Forty Fort is spending some time with her sister, Mrs. Roanah Landon, and niece, Miss Margaret Kunkle and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Ellsworth spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Edwards of Edwarsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Corby and daughters, Dorothy and Janet, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Kunkle and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Perrin of Trucksville spent Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Miers. Their little son, Howard, who has spent the past week with his grandparents, returned home with them, and their daughter, Laura Jean, who has also been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Miers, returned home on Sunday.

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## TRAVELING CIRCUSES

The live animal exhibits of the Pennsylvania Game Commission will soon be on the road again visiting some of the county fairs. These "traveling circuses" will consist of deer, bear, wildcats, foxes, raccoons, opossums, squirrels, weasels, various hawks and owls and an eagle or two. Ring-necked pheasants will also be on display. The itinerary for the exhibits, which is not now fully completed, will be published later. Each exhibit will contain a new feature this year with the addition of a balopticon which continuously projects colored lantern slides showing the activities of the commission. These will no doubt be placed just outside the exhibit tent where they can readily be seen by all passers-by.

At the present time smaller exhibits consisting of the balopticon and a few of the animals are being used at the various Scout camps throughout the state.

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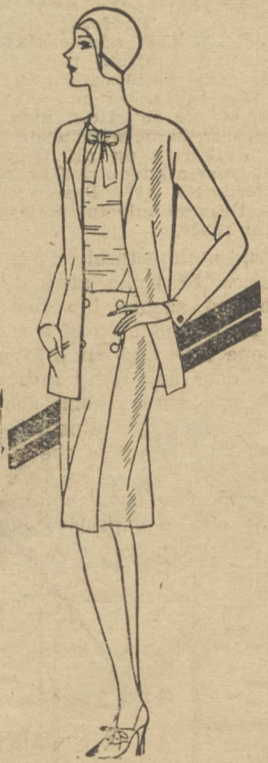
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