



WHAT'S GONE BEFORE
Remember Steddon comes West to avoid revealing the result of an unfortunate love affair to her father.

The Rev. Dr. Steddon, a clergyman of kind heart but narrow mind, who attributes much of the evil of the world to the 'movies' and constantly inveighs against them. Mem, her lover, Elwood Farnaby, having died in an accident, at the advice of Dr. Bratherick, gives her bad cough as an excuse to get to Arizona and from there writes home that she has met and married "Mr. Woodville," a wholly imaginary person. Later she writes again to say that her "husband" has died in the desert. She takes a job as a domestic to avoid being a burden on her parents. A fall prevents her becoming a mother. In Arizona she had met

Tom Holby, a leading man in a motion picture company, and through him gets the opportunity to play a part in a desert drama. With the company is Robina Teele, a star, fond of Holby and

Leva Lemaire, an extra woman. After her accident, Mem becomes friendly with

Mrs. Dack, a poor woman of Palm Springs, Arizona, and takes an interest in her bright little son.

Terry Dack, who has a great gift of mimicry. Inspired by a letter from Leva, Mem plans to go to Los Angeles to take a job in a film laboratory.

She gets a job in a film laboratory. **NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY**

seemed wrong, wicked, cruel. She was made to act.

On the lot Mem saw children, and they were always happy. The mothers were with the little ones. Going to work was going to play. They lived an eternal fairy story. She was told that five-year-old Jackie Coogan had made his mother a present of a big touring car costing seven thousand dollars; that he had a salary of seventeen hundred and fifty dollars a week!

She thought of little Terry Dack and his second-hand express wagon, helping his mother to pack her bundled wash home to bitter toil. She wrote Terry's mother, urging her to come to Los Angeles without delay; to beg, borrow or steal the necessary funds; to seize the chance to rescue the divine child from poverty and oblivion, and to earn luxury by giving the world the sunshine of his irresistible charm.

And the day after she mailed the letter she lost her job.

The tide of hard times had engulfed the studio where she was engaged. All but two or three companies were laid off. The laboratory force was reduced to a skeleton.

And now the dark room that had come to be a prison cell was as dear a home as the shut cage of a canary that cannot get in again.

Pay day came around no more. She had debts to absolve for clothes no longer fresh. She had tomorrow's and next week's hunger dread. The girls at her house were equally idle and their hospitality lost its warmth for lack of fuel.

They tried to make the best of idleness. They wore the records to shreds and danced together all day long to pass the time away.

Young men who had no money to spend on excursions came to the house of evenings and helped to dance away the tedium.

It became a commonplace for Mem to fling about in young men's arms. She learned to dance. She learned to play a little golf, a little tennis. She went on her first beach picnic. And a little later Mem might have been seen in a bathing suit of popular brevity, substituting a general coat of tan for the forty bluishpower she had abandoned.

Her soul and her body were her own now. No, they had gone beyond even that. Her soul and body were the public's. Beauty was community property. She was committed to their fullest development into such joyous acrobatic agility and power that they should give joy and a delightful sorrow to the public. For which the grateful public would pay with gratitude and fame and much money.

One day in Westlake Park she sat down on a bench and by and by was hailed by a sturdy mid-western voice. "Well, as I live and breathe! If it ain't Miss Steddon!"

"Why, how do you do, Mrs. Sturges." It was a mid-aged woman who had been a member of her father's church and had come west because of her husband's lungs.

Mem's first impulse was to welcome anyone from home. Her second was to fear anyone from home. Mrs. Sturges' life in this Babylon had not changed her small-town soul, body or prejudices.

Mem's wits scurried in vain to bring up protecting lies. Mrs. Sturges was too full of her own opinions and adventures to ask any embarrassing questions beyond a hasty take-off for her own biography: "And how's your father and your mother and your whole family? Well, as I was sayin' yesterday, everybody on earth gets to Los Angeles sooner or later. It's a nice city, too, full of good, honest, plain—o'course those awful moving picture people have given the town a—

"Such stories as they do tell about their— Why, that Hollywood is just a plague spot on the earth! And the women—little pink nineties that don't know enough to come when it—they get fortunes for just making eyes at the camera, and they rent nice respectable homes and hold—well, orgies is the only word—orgies is just what they are.

"It's a sin and a shame, and if something isn't done about it—why, young girls flock there in droves, and sell their souls for—it's simply terrible. Every one of them has to pay the Price to get there at all.

"I declare, it makes my blood run cold just to—don't it yours?" She had heard a vast amount of gossip. "I don't believe it," said Mem.

She pursed her lips and set them full. She widened her breast with deep sighs. "I don't believe it? Why, it's true as gospel! They sell their souls for bread. Any girl that's too honest to pay the Price don't get engaged—thats all—she just don't get engaged. Oh, dear! that's my car."

Next day the mail brought her a shock in a letter from Mrs. Dack. It said:

Dear Mrs. Woodville: I was awful glad to get your letter. Been meaning to answer it but trying to fix up my affairs so I and Terry could come up to your city. Yesterday I was to Mrs. Reddicks and she said she had a telegram for you but had no address and so could not forward it. It said your mother was so worried not having an answer to her letters she was coming out on the first train and would reach Palm Springs day after tomorrow. Hoping to see you soon either there or here.

Mrs. P. Dask. P. S.—Both I and Terry send you lots of love.

Mem was petrified. Nothing could stop her mother from coming. The first blaze of joy ate the thought of the reunion was quenched in the flood of impossible situations her presence would create!

Mrs. Steddon had raised a family and been habituated to a mother's slumber, light and broken with frequent dashes to bed-sides troubled by bad dreams or imagined burglars or mere thirst or a cough. If her hasty feet found both her slippers or one or neither, she hastened as she was. She would not have paused for a wolf, an Indian, a murderer, a fire or an earthquake.

Mem was still her body in the dark, and it did not matter whether she lay needful and terrified in the next room or beyond the deserts or the seven seas. The mother's one business was to get her. Her telegram was her old night cry: "I'm coming, honey. Don't worry. Mamma's coming to her baby." She shot this cry across the continent and called Mem "baby," although Mem felt as old as night.

When Remember learned that her mother was already on the train, she could devise no plan for turning her back. Somehow she had to be met and provided for.

Every one of the women of Mem's Hollywood household was out of work. She who had savings was lending them to her who had not. And now her mother! With a few dollars from Leva's waning resources Mem took the train to Palm Springs.

With Mrs. Dack and her boy she stood on the platform of the little desert town waiting for the up train, and when Mrs. Steddon dropped off the steps Mem put her right back on again!

Mrs. Steddon had been prepared to find a scared and sickly child in a shack in Palm Springs. She had come as a rescuing angel. She found that her wings and halo were old-fashioned.

When they reached Los Angeles they left Mrs. Dack and Terry at the home of a cousin, then sped on to the bungalow, where Leva made Mrs. Steddon welcome.

And now Mem recalled Mrs. Sturges and her statement (so glibly did she substitute faith facts) that "every one of them has to pay the Price!"

Mem grey grim as she meditated. "The Price"—it was only a vague phrase. But she was ready to pay it, whatever it was! The question was, to whom?

She brooded a long while before she thought of a shop to visit. She smiled sardonically as she remembered the Woman's Exchange at home where women sold what they made—painted china, hammered brass, knit goods, cakes and candies.

Well, she would sell what God had made of her for what man might make of her!

At the studio she had met the casting director, Arthur Tirrey. It was he who said to this one or that one, "Here is a part; play it, and the company will give you so much a week."

He was the St. Peter of the movie heaven, empowered to admit or to deny. He was the man for her to seek. He had seemed a decent enough man, and he had looked at Mem without insolence. But you can never tell!

Mem stilled herself a long while in the mirror, since her eyes and her smile must be her chief wardrobe, her siren equipment. She practiced such expressions as she supposed to represent invitation. They were silly and they made her rather ill.

She reached Tirrey's office and found him idly swapping stories with his assistant. He spoke to her courteously, motioned her into his office, closed the door, and took his own place behind the desk.

The telephone rang. He called into it: "Sorry, Miss Waite, that part has been filled. The company couldn't find you. I begged you to take the cut, but you wouldn't. Times are hard and you'd better listen to reason. Sorry, good-bye!"

This was a discouraging background for Mem's siren scenario. But she determined to carry out her theory and, in all self-loathing, adjusted herself in her big chair to what she imagined was a Cleopatra sinuosity. She thought of her best lines; secretly twitched up her skirts and thrust her ankles well into view.

She turned upon Mr. Tirrey her most languishing eyes, and tried to pour enticement into them as into bowls of fire.

She pursed her lips and set them full. She widened her breast with deep sighs.

Tirrey seemed to recognize that she was deploying herself. He grew a little uneasy. But he was as polite to Mem as if she had been Robina Teele.

"What can I do for you?" "I want a chance to act."

"What experience have you had?" he asked.

Mem was suddenly confronted with the fact that all actors must offer themselves for sale—not the pretty women only, but the old men, too, and the character women.

Actors are much abused for talking of themselves. Few of them do when business is not involved, but when it is they must discuss the goods they are trying to sell. Shoe merchants, shoes; railroad presidents, railroads; politicians, politics; clergymen, salvation. Each salesman must recommend his own stock and talk it up.

So Mem had to grope for experience and dress her window with it. And she had had so little she lied a little, as one does who tries to sell anything:

"I was with the company that Tom Holby and Robina Teele played in. I took the part of an Arabian woman. Mr. Folger, the director—er—praised my—er—work."

"Well, he knows," said Tirrey, "but he's not with this company, you know. Have we your name and address and a photograph outside in our files?"

"No."

"Well, if you'll give them to Mr. Dobbs, with your height, weight, color of eyes and hair, and experience, we'll let you know when anything occurs. I'll introduce you to Mr. Dobbs and he—"

He moved toward the door to escape from the cruelty of his office, but a frenzy moved her to seize his arm in a fierce clutch.

(Continued on Page 6)

Pomeroy's Golden Harvest Sale

begins

Tuesday - October 1st

Bringing a Harvest of Rare Values in every department of the store

Big Savings in Fall and Winter Merchandise

An 11 day Value -- Event Oct. 1 to Oct 12. Dont miss these Golden Harvest Opportunities

Pomeroy's

New Issue

\$3,250,000.

INLAND UTILITIES, Inc.

5-Year Convertible 6% Gold Debentures

Dated June 1, 1929

Due June 1, 1934

Interest payable semi-annually June 1 and December 1 at the principal office of the Trustee in New York, without deduction for Federal Income Tax not in excess of 2%, which may be lawfully paid at the source. Coupon Debentures in interchangeable denominations of \$1,000 and \$500, registerable as to principal only. Redeemable as a whole or in part at any time on 30 days' notice at 100 and accrued interest plus a premium of 1/2 of 1% for each full year of unexpired term. The Company agrees to reimburse Debenture holders residing in Pennsylvania, California, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Oregon, Washington, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, District of Columbia or Virginia for certain personal property and/or income taxes levied by said States or District on the Debentures or income derived therefrom, properly paid by such holders, to the extent and on the conditions set forth in the Debenture Agreement.

INTERSTATE TRUST COMPANY, Trustee

Conversion Privilege

These Debentures are convertible at the option of the holder at any time after June 1, 1930, and up to and including the 10th day prior to maturity, or, if called for redemption, at any time up to and including the 10th day prior to the redemption date, into Participating Class A Stock (\$1.70 Cumulative Dividend) at the rate of 40 shares for each \$1,000 Debenture, subject to the pertinent provisions of the Debenture Agreement.

Class A Stock Provisions

The Class A Stock into which these Debentures are convertible is of no par value, and is entitled to cumulative dividends at the rate of \$1.70 per share per annum, in priority to any dividends on the Common Stock; in addition, it shall participate equally with the Common Stock, class for class, in any additional dividends declared in and for such calendar year after dividends are declared on the Common Stock in amount up to one-half of the aggregate amount of the Class A Stock cumulative dividends paid or set apart for such calendar year. Redeemable as a whole or in part at any time on thirty days' notice at \$100 per share, plus accrued and unpaid dividends to date of redemption. The Board of Directors has announced a policy, which is subject to change, of permitting the holders of Class A Stock at their option to apply such cash dividends toward the purchase of Class A Stock at the quarterly rate of one-fourth of a share of such stock for each share held, being at the annual rate of 10% in Class A Stock.

Mr. Robert Hall Craig, President of the Company, summarizes from his letter to the bankers as follows:

Business and Territory: Inland Utilities, Inc., organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, supplies, through its constituent companies, one or more classes of service to a population estimated to be in excess of 225,000. Water or manufactured or natural gas for domestic and industrial purposes is supplied to 15 centralized communities in Pennsylvania and 16 centralized communities in the Kanawha Valley and Coal River districts of West Virginia, together with certain rural territories surrounding the communities mentioned above. The water reservoirs have a capacity estimated to be in excess of 278,000,000 gallons; and the gas and water systems supply their respective services through more than 150 miles of 4 inch to 20 inch mains. Water is supplied to approximately 6,610 retail consumers, manufactured gas to approximately 1,230 retail consumers, and natural gas to approximately 2,520 retail consumers. Subsidiaries own 136 producing gas wells, and have 13,541 developed acres under lease in the long-lived West Virginia and Kentucky fields with an estimated reserve of 53 billion cubic feet. Various classes of service also are supplied to a number of wholesale consumers, natural gas in particular being supplied in large quantities under favorable contracts. Ice service and refrigeration service are furnished to Hagerstown, Md., Martinsburg, W. Va., and Charlottesville and Fredericksburg, Va., together with a number of surrounding communities.

Capitalization.

	Authorized	Outstanding
Convertible 6% Gold Debentures (this issue)*	**	\$3,250,000
Preferred Stock (no par value) issuable in series	100,000 shs.	
Participating Class A Stock (no par value)	500,000 shs.***	87,000 shs.
Common Stock (no par value)	340,000 shs.	340,000 shs.

* Subject to divisional liens of \$1,176,800.
** Further issuance of Debentures is limited under the conservative restrictions of the Debenture Agreement.
*** 130,000 shares reserved for conversion of Debentures.

Security: These Debentures are, in the opinion of counsel, the direct obligation of the Company, and constitute its sole funded debt, subject only to divisional liens in the amount of \$1,176,800. The consolidated balance sheet, giving effect to the present financing, discloses total assets of \$7,744,482.82, which, after allowing for divisional liens, and outstanding minority interests in subsidiary companies, is equivalent to more than \$2,000 for each \$1,000 Debenture.

Earnings: The consolidated annual net earnings of the properties for 1928 after operating expenses, interest on divisional liens, maintenance, depletion and depreciation, but before Income Taxes were, as more particularly set forth in the bankers' circular describing the issue, equivalent to 2.57 times the annual interest requirements on these Debentures.

Price 98 1/2 and Accrued Interest to Yield Over 6.35%

Appraisals of gas properties by Clark & Krebs, Inc., and all other appraisals by Ford, Bacon & Davis, Inc. Legal details incident to this issue have been passed on by Messrs. Chapman and Cutler, and Edward H. Tatum, Esq., of New York. Audits by Messrs. Lybrand, Ross Bros. & Montgomery, Certified Public Accountants.

E. R. DIGGS & CO.

INCORPORATED
ESTABLISHED 1914

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CHICAGO ST. LOUIS BALTIMORE KANSAS CITY NEWARK HARTFORD

This information and statistics, while not guaranteed by us, have all been examined and approved for publication by an official of the Company issuing these Debentures.