

Confessions of an Every-Day Wife

By Idah McGlone Gibson

THE WHOLE STORY.

"Unfortunately as yet humanity is not able to throw off the shackles that bind it to the dark cave of ignorance, nor has it been able to reach up to the free light of understanding, so we grope between the two. Sometimes we see a great light and sometimes we sink back if not into the darkness at least into the twilight of the lower level we spasmodically try to leave behind."

"These are the thoughts, my dear Eliene," I continued, "which I used to confide to my whispering tree thoughts which hold for me the whole vista of life, but I have always felt that if I told then to anyone—even you Eliene—and I saw incredulity or lack of interest in your face I think it would have hurt me more than if you had bruised my body."

"We are never at rest. In the words of the old song, our souls are marching on. Some of us, however, linger behind and a band of eager marchers look at us through the mist and call us yellow. We are not—if they but knew it. It is only the peculiar atmosphere in which we insist upon staying that makes us look yellow to those who have gone farther into the light."

"And the peculiar thing about it all is that however near we may be to the great place of real understanding—even when it is just around the corner—we are never sure that we may not take a wrong path—a path that looks innocent and inviting but which surely leads through the yellow dusk to the darkness of despair."

"Tonight, my dear girl, I feel as though you, too, had been walking along the path my feet have always trod. You and I, dear, will be better friends and come together with a better understanding of our souls."

I had been talking a little against time, for I hardly knew how to tell Eliene about meeting Major Gordon and Mrs. Charlton at Springfield, and I was trying to decide whether to tell her of Theo and Sallie Saunders. I had put my arms about her as we sat down on the lounge together. At last I said:

"Eliene, when I arrived over there today I found Major Gordon."

Eliene stiffened in my arms where she had been weeping.

"Does he know?" she asked in horror.

"No, dear, but there are other complications. Mrs. Charlton in some way found out that the Major and I were going to the same town, and she followed us, and just as the Major and I were coming out of my suite at the hotel, she confronted us in the hall."

"What did you do then? Oh, my dear, I will never forgive myself if I have made you any trouble."

"Don't worry, it is all right up to date, but she is liable to be very ugly when she finds that you and the Major are engaged." Then I sat down and told her the whole story.

"Is it possible there are such terrible people in the world?" she asked, almost in awe, when I told her that her lover had recognized Major Gordon's name and he had not come back because he loved her, but because he thought he could arrange to free himself from punishment by using her letters.

When I came to the place where I saw Theo and Sallie Saunders out of the window, Eliene just gasped.

Of course Eliene does not know how terribly Sallie Saunders betrayed Tim, but she has an idea of Sallie's nature.

"You do not think, do you, Margot, that Theo met her there by appointment?"

"I can think nothing else, for surely she would not stop off at a town so near home just for a few hours if she did not expect to see someone."

"And what are you going to do about it?"

"I can do nothing, my dear sister. Do you not realize that I cannot explain being there myself?"

"I think we had better tell Theo the whole thing."

"Not unless we have to, but one thing we must not do, we must not lie about it."

"Dear Margot, you are the sweetest, dearest woman in all the world and I know I love you better than I could a real sister."

"Well, we will fight it out on this line if possible. The only thing that worries me is Mrs. Charlton. I do not quite know just what she will do when she finds out you and the Major are going to be married."

"But Margot, I am not sure that he has not changed his mind. I have not seen him for two whole days," Eliene smiled.

"Don't worry, my dear. The last words he said to me at the door were to tell you that he was coming for his answer tomorrow—and that is today, you know. I congratulated him."

(Tomorrow—"Theo Tries to Make Amends.")

LLOYD GEORGE POPULAR LEADER OF AN UNPOPULAR GOVERNMENT

(From the New Statesman.)

Whether it is a sound instinct that separates Mr. Lloyd George from the unpopularity of his government remains to be seen. But how, one wonders, is the test to be applied? Like Lloyd George's would-be confederates, I can think of only one way, the separation must be physical as well as spiritual. Either he must form a new and wholly democratic government, which is probably what is in his own mind, or he must hand over the present combination to its natural leaders—Mr. Bonar Law, Sir Eric Geddes and Sir Edward Carson—and purchase his freedom, either in opposition or on a ministerial back bench. As a steady plagiarist of Mr. Chamberlain's career (albeit with improvements of his own) Mr. George might be tempted to adopt the latter alternative, going out into the wilderness a few months hence, as Mr. Chamberlain did in 1903, and in the same spirit of unabated friendliness to his ex-colleagues, but improving on his too quixotic model by quickly developing a critical and eventually a hostile attitude towards the Government, so that when the time should come for forcing a dissolution, he might find himself reinstated in the public mind as assistant-in-chief of what even now is believed to be the most unpopular ministry in history. It sounds a little romantic, but this, or something like it, is undoubtedly the line of strategy foreshadowed in the entourage's vague reorientation schemes.

MANUFACTURERS OFFERED TO SELL OUT TO THEIR STRIKING EMPLOYEES

New York, Sept. 29.—Employees of Hollis, Smith, Stern & Co., one of the largest manufacturers of jewelry in the United States, are on strike after having rejected the proposal of August Goldsmith, head of the firm, that he sell them the plant, inasmuch as he was unable to grant their demands. The workers wanted a 25 per cent increase in wages and a 39 hour week.

"As we are making only 10 per cent profit now," Goldsmith explained, "I could not grant the increase, but I told the workers I would sell them the factory at its appraised valuation and let them operate it for their own profit. If they could not pay cash, I told them I would accept a mortgage of one-third of the value, would charge nothing for good will and would donate my services as manager for six months."

"They said the proposition was too big for them and they would rather have the twenty-five per cent increase."

BABY'S OWN TABLETS OF GREAT HELP

Mothers, if your baby or growing child is sickly; if he does not sleep all at night; if he cries a great deal; is constipated and his little bowels and stomach are not working right, give him Baby's Own Tablets—they have proved of great help to thousands of mothers. Concerning the Tablets Mrs. W. H. Decater, Corson's Siding, Ont., says:—"I have used Baby's Own Tablets and have found them excellent for the little ones and would not be without them." The Tablets are a mild but thorough laxative and are guaranteed to contain no harmful drug—that is why they always do good and never harm. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Every dentist has got a pull with some one.

There were a lot of profiteers in evidence during exhibition week and they were not big fellows either.

The alleged discovery of a coal mine in New Maryland has not this far affected the price of fuel.

The best way to get an enhanced opinion of Fredericton is to visit some other provincial towns.

Buckwheat is a bumper crop this year but when it costs more than flour.

Perhaps it will be just as well if the Prince of Wales does not see some of the pictures of him which have been going the rounds of the newspapers.

C.P.R.'S NEW RECORD

The re-employment of returned soldiers has been carried out by the C.P.R. so whole-heartedly that according to the official records up to the end of August, actually more returned soldiers have been given employment than left the Company for service overseas. The exact figures are as follows:—

Total reported as joining the Army	10,538
Dead	1,000
Wounded	1,952
Re-employed in the service	5,024
Other soldiers given employment	5,543
Total soldiers given employment to date	10,567

In finding employment for returned soldiers, the C.P.R. has found by experience that in most cases it is advisable to reinstate them in the same department as that in which they worked previous to enlistment. The freight handler who has ambitions to become a dining car waiter is not encouraged to change his vocation unless he can prove that he learned something about waiting, for instance, at an Officers' mess during his military life. His military experience has probably made him a better man than before for handling freight but has not qualified him for the skilled trade of a dining car waiter. Baggage men who have served in the Army come back as a rule all the better for their experience, but the Army training has not qualified them to be sleeping car conductors or ticket clerks, and if they prove to be misfits at a new job the only result is friction and discontent. The general experience, however, is that the normal returned man who goes back to his old or a similar job is all right, indeed is often improved by the discipline and teamwork which he has learnt in the Army.

The policy of the C.P.R. has been to find a position at least as good as the position given up, and this policy has been carried out in the higher ranks of the service as well as in the lower ranks. Thus:

Mr. T. S. Acheson who was employed as General Agricultural Agent at Winnipeg, enlisted in October 1915, was re-employed in the same capacity on January 1st, 1919.

Mr. G. W. Curtis, who was employed as Industrial Agent at Montreal, enlisted in November 1916, was re-employed January 1st, 1919 in the same capacity.

Mr. M. L. Duffy, who was Chief Clerk, Freight Department at London, England, enlisted October 1914, was re-employed March 1st, 1919 as Agent at Glasgow.

Mr. F. A. L. Gascoigne, who was Superintendent Car Service, Montreal, enlisted July 1915, resumed duty as Secretary Treasurer of the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services Ltd., Montreal, in October 1918.

Mr. Gerald Ham, who was District Freight Agent at Port William, enlisted in June 1915, and returned to duty on March 15th, 1919, as District Freight Agent, at Cleveland.

Mr. W. M. Kirkpatrick, who was Assistant Freight Traffic Manager, at Montreal, and enlisted in September 1915, resumed duty on February 1st 1919, as Assistant Freight Traffic Manager at Winnipeg.

Mr. T. M. Leask, who was Chief Surgeon at Moose Jaw, enlisted in February 1916, and resumed duty as Chief Medical Officer at Moose Jaw on June 1st, 1919.

Mr. B. H. Muckleston, who was Division Engineer in the Natural Resources Department at Calgary, enlisted in April 1916, and resumed duty as Division Engineer on March 17th, 1919.

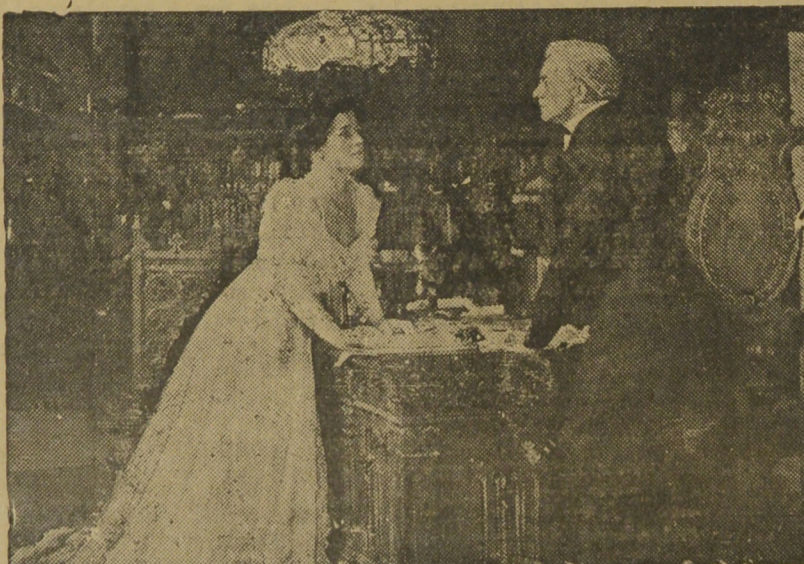
Mr. G. G. O'Rianny, who was Special Assistant Engineer at Montreal, enlisted in August 1915, and resumed duty in July 1919, as Assistant Engineer in the Chief Engineer's Department at Montreal.

Mr. L. C. Ord, who was Assistant Works Manager at Angus Shops, Montreal, enlisted in September 1915, and resumed duty in the same capacity in May 1919.

Mr. C. W. P. Ramsay, who was Engineer of Construction, Montreal, and who took command of the Canadian Overseas Railway Construction Corps in February 1915, resumed duty as Relief Superintendent on Eastern Lines in March 1919.

Mr. M. J. Robertson, who was Assistant to the Manager of the C.P.R. Real Estate Department, Montreal, enlisted in June 1916, and returned to duty in his former position in March 1919.

Mr. H. E. Yewdall, who was Purchasing Agent in the C.P.R. Right of Way Department at Winnipeg, enlisted in November 1914, and resumed his former position in June 1919.



Scene from "Pals First," as presented by the Urban Stock Co. Wednesday Night, October 1st.

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Forms have been received by the G. W. V. A. in this city which all returned men desirous of applying for the \$2,000 war bonus must obtain and fill in during the present week. The forms can be obtained any afternoon from E. H. Coy Secretary of the G. W. V. A., at the G. W. V. A. rooms on Queen street, E. H. COY, Secretary.

Parties whose subscription to THE MAIL is in arrears will confer a favor by forwarding the amount due without further delay. Remit by Postal note or registered letter to The Mail, 327 Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B.

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