

Conclusions of Every-Day Wife

By Idah McGlone Gibson

A DEFINITION OF LOVE.

Mrs. Charlton seemed much surprised at my remarks on love and loving, for she spoke up quickly and said:

"My dear, you have certainly lived long enough to know that love is the most independent as well as the most erratic thing in the world. You can never tell when it will come, or, alas, when it will go. You may think that you love someone devotedly and all at once wake up to the fact that you hardly take an interest in him. Again, you may meet someone toward whom you feel antipathy and find all at once that that person is occupying your thoughts to the exclusion of everyone else."

"You may have nothing whatever in common with the one you love; he may at times bore you to extinction and yet your heart will beat faster when he next comes into your presence and you will find yourself longing for him as soon as he leaves you. Other men whose minds respond to yours and whose tastes are identical with yours leave you perfectly cold. Again, you will find that love has sped an arrow straight from the heart of some man to yours—a man who is perfectly impossible as a companion for more than an hour at a stretch."

"Sometimes I think, Margot, if all the married people who have jogged along together in apparent content could be made to tell each other just what each thought of the other at the breakfast table some morning, there would be a surprised lot of individuals—both men and women—in this world."

"I know," she continued, "there were times when I was living with my husband that I absolutely wished he were dead. Many a morning that thought possessed me as I looked across the white napery and gleaming silver at his self-satisfied and cruel face. Yet I am sure that he never for a moment dreamed that the timidly smiling young woman who seemed to be pouring his coffee so carefully had any thought in her pretty little head except the one of how fortunate she was to be married to such a splendid man as he."

"To me companionship—real companionship—means more than anything else. I have grown accustomed to the more or less constant attention of Major Gordon and I feel that I cannot give him up to anyone else, and I came here this morning to ask you to give him back to me. You have your charming husband; you should be satisfied with him."

"But, Mrs. Charlton," I interrupted, "surely you do not realize what you are saying. Major Gordon does not care for me except as a friend—as a friend whom he has known a much shorter time than you. If it be true, as you say, that love comes and goes as it will, why do you not accept the dictum as applied to your own case. If you think that Major Gordon is not as interested in you as he was at one time if you cannot again awaken that interest, would it not be better to root any interest you have for him out of your own heart?"

"Ah!" she answered, "there is the real trouble—the real tragedy of it all. To some of us, when we find the one whom we love becoming cold, I think our pride takes up arms in love's defence. We try in every way to still keep ourselves in the heart of the one we love. From the time I saw you in New York, Mrs. Symone, I knew the Major was very much interested in you, and of course I could understand his infatuation, as you are young, clever and beautiful. But a woman can, if she wishes, repulse any man—make him understand she does not wish his attentions. You can do this, my dear Margot, and I have come to you because I believe you are a real woman—one who will not break another woman's heart for the sake of your own pride—to ask you to give me back the man I love."

I felt most keenly the awkwardness of my position. Eliene had not accepted the Major yet, consequently their secret was not mine to disclose. Besides, I felt sure that Mrs. Charlton in her present state of mind could not be persuaded that Major Gordon was not in love with me. The only thing I could do was to disclaim all intentions or desire to take Major Gordon from anyone.

(Tomorrow—"The Appearance of Guilt.")

HUNS WITH U-BOATS TRIED TO BOTTLE UP BRITISH GRAND FLEET

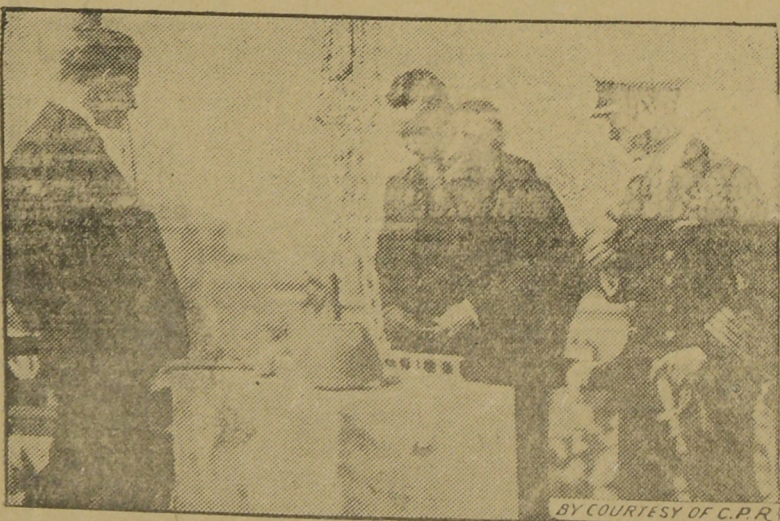
Their Most Ambitious Tactical Operation was Undertaken During the Latter Part of the War—Mine Sweepers Discovered the Plan in Time.

London, Oct. 4.—German U-boats tried to bottle up the British Grand Fleet in the Firth of Forth during the latter part of the war, says a London newspaper, which describes this as the most ambitious tactical operation undertaken by enemy undersea craft. The scheme aimed at the blocking off of the entrance to the Forth by the sowing of a big mine field. Three months of hard work were devoted to the task by a large fleet of submarines, the mines being laid in the shape of a half-moon. But mine-sweepers had discovered the plan, and as fast as the mines were planted they were cleared away.

It is recalled that other similar attempts to trap the fleet were made in 1915 in the Moray Firth, when over 400 mines were laid, and in 1916 at the Orkneys. In round numbers, on these three occasions, the Germans laid 1,100 mines at a cost of \$1,000 each. The King Edward was the only fighting ship that fell victim in these operations.

Enormous numbers of mines were laid by the Germans off Harwich. It was found that these fields were spread regularly at ten day intervals, so British sweepers occasionally left portions of these waters unswept so that when the next batch of submarines came along they ran afoul of their own mines.

The task of clearing British waters of mines is now about completed.



The Prince Lays the Corner Stone of the New High School, Vancouver.

LONDON HAS AN EPIDEMIC OF CRIME

Scotland Yard Suspects Master Mind is Operating Behind the Scenes in Recent Outbreak.

London, Oct. 2.—Is there a master mind behind the recent outbreak in crime?

That is the question puzzling the minds of Scotland Yard officials whose works to deal with this special branch of crime.

Certainly the apparently perfect organization under which the robberies have so successfully been carried out points to this theory.

The remarkable change in methods has a very sinister aspect, as in many cases the thief or thieves carry out their work of robbery in a very open method. The appearance of the masked bandit in a "hold-up" armed and always with a fast motor-car to aid him to make good his escape is now becoming a common feature.

The similarity in the details of the recent cases points to either the work of a single daring gang, or of a number of highly organized and singly controlled groups.

The phenomenal success of the criminals appears to be due in the main to their audacity and speed in the carrying out of their nefarious work. A recent case in point was where the booking office clerk at a suburban station was startled to see two armed men covering him with their revolvers. While the passengers were actually within a few yards of the booking office while the "hold-up" was being enacted, and two trains in the station, yet the thieves were able to loot the safe and get clear away without leaving a clue to their identity.

This and similar cases prove that practically any risks will be taken by the bandits to gain their objectives.

Chief among the victims are tailors and clothiers, the tremendously high price of cloth at the present moment making it well worth the while of the robber to take his chance.

Here, again, it is apparently the open method of robbery that has been successful. A car will drive up and stop outside a tailor's shop in broad daylight and watched by unsuspecting pedestrians. The looters pack their booty in the shape of bales of cloth into the waiting car, coolly close the premises after them, and make their escape without any undue semblance of haste in order to prevent the chance of suspicion.

It will be remembered that in one particular instance a girl who happened to be passing the scene of a robbery was held up by the bandits until such time as they had completed their task and were prepared for escape. Once away the rest is easy. Cloth can always be disposed of to a fence, who is probably in league with the gang, and expects the arrival of the stolen goods.

A third phase of the epidemic is the extraordinary number of motor cars appropriated by the gangs during the last few months. No doubt the robberies are prompted by the extraordinary inflation in price of the present-day car and the readiness with which crooked dealers can be found to dispose of them. Owing to the new and up-to-date methods adopted by the bandits in the pursuance of their crimes, it has been necessary for Scotland Yard to make special efforts to counteract them. The possibility of the police carrying revolvers has been mooted, and this appears to be a very good suggestion as in the cases where escape is made by means of a motor car, nothing could be more effective in aiding a capture than a bullet in one of the tyres.

In any case methods must be adopted which will give the police the upper hand in the game. It is quite certain that their ability in so far managing to avert capture has been in no small measure due to the perfection in the spy system that has been adopted. In no other way than having a number of sharp look-outs could capture have been avoided during the recent successful raids on shops and clothing stores.

It is considered that the establishment of a force of armed police motor-cyclists would tend to have a deterrent effect on the criminals who have up to the present had so much of their own way. It is of course obvious that the steps already taken by Scotland Yard to deal with the outbreak cannot be made public, but there is no doubt they will be effective.

The recent warning given to motor thieves by the deputy judge at the London Sessions to the effect that the first offence will be punishable by penal servitude will prove a step in the right direction.

A man does a lot of things he dislikes to do because his neighbors do not want him to do them.

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