

Confessions of an Every-Day Wife

By Idah McGlone Gibson

EMIL BAUR ESCAPES PRISON.

The light was just beginning to break when Letty came in and insisted upon taking my place at father's bedside. She looked as though she had passed a sleepless night.

"He is much better, isn't he, Margot?" she inquired, as she bent over my father.

"I think so, he has slept all night very calmly."

"I wonder what made him have this attack?" she asked musingly. "When I went out to meet Robert he had not seemed better since he was ill."

Although Letty was apparently worried over my father, I could see that she was perfectly innocent of even the slightest disloyal thought. As yet she had not acknowledged that she was more interested in Robert than any other man even to herself.

"I think I will go home now, dear, and get a little sleep," I said, as I rose to give her my place beside the bed.

"You look ghostly," was her comment. "I should not have let you sit here all night alone. I will stay with His Honour now until the nurse comes. How are you going home? Will you telephone for a motor?"

"I think not, I will walk, a brisk walk in the fresh morning air will do me a world of good as a bracer."

Without even looking in a mirror, for I was afraid to look at myself I pulled my hat down over my eyes and adjusted my cape over my shoulders kissed Letty goodbye and opened the door into the street.

It was very early but the whole world was full of the fragrant rosy dawn of June. Unconsciously my spirits rose and although I could not wholly subscribe to Pippa's philosophy, and say that all was right with the world, yet my own little world seemed to be growing warmer and more comfortable under the pink cadence that was steadily turning to gold in the eastern horizon.

No longer did I fear to tell Theo of my approaching motherhood. No longer did it seem to me to portend a period of trouble and self sacrifice. Instead my heart begun tosing as I realized that soon baby hands would aimlessly wander over my face, baby eyes would look into mine, and a tiny form would nestle into my encircling arms which would form the confines of its little world.

Insensibly I quickened my steps, I wanted to get back to Theo, I wanted to share my blessed secret with him. I wanted to tell him that again I had the thrill that his love brought me the day he asked me to be his wife. Again I trembled and my breath came gaspingly as it did the morning that I stood at the New York dock and waited for my husband, back from the great war, to clasp me in his arms.

I stopped suddenly. Somewhere in the distance a bird was softly singing a love song to its mate.

Such moments come only once in a while to human beings, but they are worth waiting for—worth all the momentous struggle of everyday life. Indeed I think their rarified bliss is intensified by the contrast with the long stretches of drab existence that lie between.

Suddenly, as I had reached the house, my ears were assailed by the raucous tones of a newsboy: "Here is your morning paper Great sensation! Emil Baur has escaped from prison; Paper?"

Seemingly from nowhere Robert met me at the steps leading to the door. He was very pale and his whole face and figure showed both mental and physical fatigue. He had a newspaper in his hand.

"Have you seen Theo?" he asked quickly.

"No, I am just coming home from Dad's. Did you succeed in getting a nurse? It struck me rather peculiarly that his first question should be about Theo, who was probably still in bed, while last night his whole interest was centred about Dad."

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Without another word he opened the door with his latch key and stood aside for me to enter.

It seemed unnecessarily damp and cold in the hallway. Coming from the brilliant light of that June morning into the darkened interior my spirits sank to zero. Involuntarily I shuddered and the coldness that caused the ripple of nerves down my spine enveloped me. Laggingly I ascended the stairs to my room. Try as I would, I could not call up again any of the spontaneity with which I had looked forward to telling the momentous secret to Theo.

I opened the door of his room quietly and looked over his bed. He was not there and it had not been disturbed.

Rather wildly I rushed through the door into my own room. Although I hardly knew why I did so—for in my heart of hearts I knew he would not be there.

(Tomorrow)—"How Theo Helped Emil Baur"

PRESS COMMENT ON THE ELECTION

(Continued from page three.)
where five seats were won: Welland, Niagara Falls, West Kent, where the city of Chatham went Liberal for the first time. South Ontario, which is becoming an industrial centre, the dissatisfaction against the government and the desire to test new policies were plainly expressed.

Warning to Both Parties

The sweep of the United Farmers of Ontario in the country ridings at the expense of both Liberals and Conservatives is another indication of the changing currents of opinion, and a warning that the traditional parties are not conceded to have a monopoly of wisdom. It is too early to say just how many members the United Farmers will muster in the new legislature but they will most assuredly hold the balance of power. It is clear that neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives can organize the house on strictly party lines. This means the beginning of group government in Ontario. Should the Farmers refuse to ally themselves definitely with either of the existing parties it will be necessary that there shall be organized a coalition government including farmer representatives.

No government would consent to take upon itself such a task without some assurance that the Farmer members would permit its members to carry on. A vote of confidence at least, and more likely a working organization will be necessary before a government can enter securely upon its duties.

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