

Two Husbands Wanted *by Hazel Deyo Batchelor*



SYNOPSIS

When Polly Long, a little mannequin falls in love with Ralph Halliday, a married man, things begin to happen. Ralph is in love with his own wife, Lola, but they have drifted apart. John Blake is also in love with Lola, but Ralph's father and mother have prevented the marriage. John and Polly become friends and Polly is happy enough until her mother dies. She is on the stage at the time and moves immediately into a cheaper apartment, which she shares with Annette. Lola is thrown from an airplane and injures her spine. Ralph is half crazy and Polly does not see him at all. Royal Hamilton, who has been paying Annette some attention, also Lola, turns to Polly, who shrinks from him. Annette makes trouble by going to Lola, Polly and Annette do not agree and quarrel frequently. Lola is very low.

INSTALLMENT 35.

THE PIVOT

Polly was still sitting there the next morning looking out of the window over the view of back yards; Annette, hitching an angry bathrobe about her, yawned, "You're crazy."

Polly started up. "What do you mean by doing such a foolish stunt, anyway? You have to go to the theatre."

"I'll be all right."

"You won't. You won't have any pep and we must have money to carry this place, shabby as it is."

Polly stared at Annette. Had she actually spoken those words? Annette, who had always complained of a lack of privacy and who now had her own room, small and clean. And Polly's money had gone to finance changes in the place, changes that were largely of Annette's choice. She had very little money in the bank. She longed to be alone, she longed for it as she never had in her life. Suddenly—proudly she flung up her small head—

"Annette."

"Oh, what is it?"

"You'd better go."

The word began to sink its way into Annette's consciousness.

"Go!" Why, she didn't want to go. She was comfortable here, and she never had a room all to herself before. To be sure, Polly infuriated her at times. Polly was prettier and cut her out with all the men. But then Annette had no wish to leave—not until she could step into the lap of luxury she desired. Ralph would suit her very well, or Royal Hamilton. Well, she had one satisfaction, Ralph cared nothing for Polly.

Mechanically she ate her breakfast, and Polly drank a cup of coffee. Then she said very, very calmly, "I meant what I said, Annette."

"We'd be better apart."

"Is that so? You little cat, I suppose you think I'll cut you out with some new man. Well, you needn't worry, Ralph Halliday doesn't care anything about you; not only that, but I told his wife what a little idiot you were running after him."

Polly stood frozen. "Running after him," the words had a horrible sound! "How dare you?" she choked. Annette sneered.

"Oh, yes, I've had that much satisfaction at least. She knows now what a bad little vamp you are."

Polly stood stricken; arms limp at her sides. Then she said very slowly, "Please go, Annette, please."

And Annette with the thought of a good home about to be taken away from her, pleaded.

"I don't want to go. I'm sorry I did that—really I am, and she isn't as pretty as you are, so there. Let me stay, and I'll do all the work and bring your breakfast to you in bed."

Polly sobbed.

"Oh, Annette, I don't want that, don't you see?"

But, of course she couldn't make Annette see what she wanted was the place to herself.

"You'll forgive me?" Annette pleaded, after a time.

Polly smiled—smiled as she heard Annette busy in the bedrooms. Polly always hated breakfast dishes or dishes of any kind, for that matter. She hated to put her hands into water and soap. Not for the the nice clean dishes. But Annette could never scramble eggs properly and she left the yellow part all adhered to the pan. When Polly scraped the pan she hated even life itself, alas—alas—for the high tower and Elaine and Lancelot. Alas for romance.

Annette banged noisily through her dressing and went out. Polly finished. She had the afternoon free, so she took a leisurely bath, dressed and as she was finishing the bell rang. She jumped. Until that minute she hadn't realized how still the house had been.

"John!" she said, opening the door to him. "How are you?"

"Well enough. Have you read the papers, Polly?" Lola Halliday may not pull through at all and even if she does, she'll be a helpless cripple!"

Polly seemed so small, so impotent to help him at that minute.

"Do you care so much, John?" she barely breathed the words.

"It isn't that so much, but she's delirious. Killed herself, little fool. And she was so beautiful, so beautiful!"

"Have you seen her?"

"No, they won't let anyone see her but the family."

And then John realized that Polly was standing—that Polly was sympathizing, but when he looked at Polly he saw locked deep in her soft brown eyes her love for Ralph. Damn Ralph! He had killed Lola by letting her attempt such a fool thing. Damn him!

Polly saw the danger in John's eyes and smiled. "It wasn't Ralph's fault. Lola just had her way. She has her way about a lot of things. But things may not be so bad, John. Just be patient."

He rose and left the apartment. It seemed desolately quiet the minute he had gone. Polly longed ever for Annette's noisy bouncing around the small place. Well, there was always the theatre, always her work to solace her.

She was sitting at the piano humming listlessly when the doorbell rang. This opened this time to Royal Hamilton.

He was rosy with health and good spirits, and he grinned at her, shaking his finger.

"You should be out getting some air."

Polly looked through the window. It was such a lovely day. Perhaps if she stole away for a time—

Oh, but she didn't like Royal Hamilton—the last time she had seen him he had tried to make love to her. But to take a drive out in that lovely sunshine. She did want that!

"Pretty bad about Mrs. Halliday, isn't it?" he asked casually.

"Terrible," and Polly shuddered.

"But she'll be all right, perhaps."

"What a cripple? A hopeless cripple for life? Do you call that being all right. If I were her husband she could take her strong-headedness and go to blazes with it. I'm not a bit sorry for her!"

Tomorrow—A Waiting Game.

CRAB FISHERIES PAY FORTUNE TO OWNERS

Tokio, Feb. 22—A whiff of the good old days of big profits and big dividends comes from the crab fisheries and canning outfits of the Sea of Okhotsk and other icy ocean depths along the shores of the north Pacific islands, which, it will be remembered, were annexed to the empire of Japan at Portsmouth, N. H., some 20 years ago.

Little did we think in those days of the possibilities of crabs as a compensation or as the basis for a company capitalized for \$20,000,000 and yielding a dividend of 30 per cent a year and with no stock for sale.

It is now announced that the Nichiro Fishing Company, whose crabs before canning were in the deeps of the salt seas around Sakhalin, is increasing its capital to \$20,000,000 in 200,000 shares, all, except a very few, absorbed by the old subscribers, and that it will declare a 30 per cent dividend on the present capital of more than \$10,000,000.

Nonskid tires work perfectly on a dry surface.

Important Announcement Re the Valley Railway

Premier Baxter Tells the Legislature of an Encouraging Telegram Received From Sir Henry Thornton—Conference May Soon Be Held—Mover and Seconder of the Address Acquitted Themselves Well—Debate Goes Over Until Tuesday.

An important statement by Premier Baxter with respect to the Valley Railway featured the opening proceedings of the Legislative Assembly yesterday afternoon and aroused great interest. The Premier in introducing a bill to provide for the extension of the Valley Railway from Centreville to Andover, stated that he was in receipt of a telegram from Sir Henry Thornton requesting information as to the price at which the road would be sold. The Premier intimated that a conference on the subject with the C. N. R. head would likely be held in the near future.

A heavy rain fall rather put a damper on the opening proceedings of the Legislature, and the attendance of spectators was not quite as large as in former years.

The mover of the address, Mr. H. Colby Smith of St. John, and the seconder, Mr. J. Arthur Moore of St. John spoke well and were listened to with close attention. Mr. A. A. Dysart, opposition leader moved the adjournment of the debate which was made the order of the day for Tuesday afternoon.

Official Report.

Assembly Chamber.

February 23rd, 1928.

The House met at three o'clock p.

m. The arrival of His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor was announced, and on order of Mr. Speaker, he was admitted. He entered the Chamber with his military escort, and opened the session with the following Speech:

SPEECH

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:—

I am glad to again welcome you to the discharge of your duties, and to note that your ranks remain unbroken from those of last Session.

During the year the Province was gratified by a visit from Their Excellencies the Governor General and the Viscountess Willingdon, whose gracious and kindly interest in all that pertained to the well-being of the people, and their sincere wishes for the promotion of the interests of the Province, evoked the desire that their Excellencies may come often again.

The visit of the Right Honourable Stanley Baldwin, Prime Minister of Great Britain, was the first instance of the head of a British Cabinet coming to New Brunswick during his term of office. A few weeks ago the Right Honourable L. S. C. Amery, Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, was also in our Province for a short time at the completion of his world tour through the British Dominions. I feel that such visits do much to enable our people to recognize the common aims and essential solidarity of the many component parts of our Empire.

Tourist Travel

I congratulate you upon the greatly increasing tourist travel which has come to the Province. A large party of British journalists were visiting Saint John while a group of representative French Canadians were spending some hours at the Capital. A numerous delegation came from the World's Poultry Congress, and a representative body of Mining Engineers inspected the potential resources of the Province. Particularly pleasing was the visit of the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, by far the senior organization of its kind upon this continent. Among those bodies and among the thousands of tourists who did not come under the auspices of any organization, I feel assured that there must have been many who will advertise the Province in a way which will advance its material interests.

Mineral Development

The new Mining Act, which was adopted at your last Session, has already been production of marked benefit. The attention of capitalists and prospectors have been directed towards our Province, and, in consequence, the antimony mines at Lake George are being reopened; exploration for copper is proceeding in the County of Carleton; deposits of similar ore are being investigated in King's County and preparation is being made for development of oil shales in the County of Albert. The Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway have both generously assisted in the investigation of the mineral and other resources of the Province, and their advanced policy is appreciated by my Government and by the people of the Province.

Careful preparation was made for the sale of the fisheries, which last year resulted in the highest prices ever obtained for leases, while provision was made for our own sportsmen to enjoy similar privileges on waters reserved from the sale.

Aid for Agriculture

Provision will be made this year to enable the Department of Agriculture to have a District Representative in each County, which is expected to be of assistance in extending the operations of that Department. The services of the Department have been well kept up and it is hoped to be able to extend them.

The celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the formation of the Dominion was heartily and loyally undertaken by our people in common with those of the rest of Canada. The attention which was thus directed, not only to the history of our country, but as well to its great possessions and possibilities has, I feel, stimulated a new interest in our common country,

and will enable us all to enter with more confidence upon the vision of the part which we are destined to take in the affairs of the world.

Ottawa Conference

The Province was represented at the Conference which was held at Ottawa in the month of November last, between the several Provinces and the Cabinet of the Dominion. The discussions which took place were marked by great liberality of view and frank interchange of opinions, as well as sympathetic discussion of the problems which confront each portion of the Dominion. The deliberation of the Conference cannot fail, in my opinion, to be productive of good. During the sessions the announcement was made that the increased subsidy recommended by the Duncan Report would be paid in full for our last fiscal year. The further adjustment of Provincial subsidies remains to be determined, but the general concurrence that those portions of the Dominion, which are not fortunately situated as some others, are entitled to sympathetic treatment, gives to our people a confidence that the Dominion of Canada as a whole is desirous that justice shall be done in accordance with the spirit of the compact of Confederation.

During the year a Provincial Police Force has been formed and has already performed much effective work. In districts where there already exists an organized police it will assist when necessary, but its chief purpose is to enforce law and order and detect crime in those parts of the Province where no municipal organization exists to which a police force can be responsible.

Tuberculosis Scourge.

I shall ask you to assist in the great work of ridding the Province of the scourge of tuberculosis by making a more liberal provision than heretofore, so that the municipalities may have the burden of maintenance of indigent patients materially lessened.

I hope that we may yet receive some assurance of increased assistance from the Federal Government to the scheme of old age pensions which may enable my government to deal more effectively with the matter than the present resources of the Province will admit.

My Government has endeavored to create conditions favourable to industrial expansion. The result is seen in the development at Grand Falls which will in a few months be completed. Important works for the manufacture of pulp and paper, which are dependent upon this power, will be proceeded with, and I am assured that the extension heretofore planned for the Bathurst Company will not be interfered with by the re-organization of that Company's enterprises.

Province Credit

The credit of the Province stands justly high. Our bonds in November last sold at a better price than those of any other Province since the war up to that time. For the first time since the adoption of the Audit Act of 1918 there has been a real surplus on current account, and no issue of bonds has been made to take care of current expenditure or to balance a deficit. It must, however, be borne in mind, that our financial resources, though much improved, are still insufficient to admit our taking upon ourselves any new burdens of a serious character and that prudence amounting to frugality must still be practised in public expenditure.

The Public Accounts for the past year will be submitted to you with estimates of revenue and expenditure.

I trust that in all your deliberations you may feel that, in doing the work of your country, you are performing a service for your Divine Master.

His Honour having withdrawn.

HON. MR. LEGER introduced a bill to provide for the redemption of one million dollars Provincial debentures maturing this year.

The bill was read a first time.

MR. SMITH, (St. John County), moved that His Honour's speech be immediately taken into consideration, and the motion being unanimously carried, he moved the following address in reply to His Honour's speech:

To His Honour William Frederic Todd, LL. D., Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick. May it Please Your Honour: We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative As-



HON. J. L. O'BRIEN, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

sembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in Session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the Session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

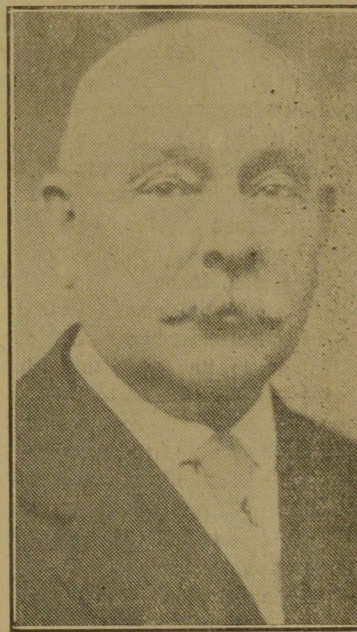
MR. SMITH'S SPEECH.

Saint John County Member in Moving the Address Acquitted Himself Well.

On rising to move the address Mr. Smith said that being one of the new members and not accustomed to public speaking, he would ask the indulgence of the House while he attempted to speak briefly of the matters referred to in the address to which the House had listened. In looking over the list of names of former members who had moved the address, he wished that their mantle of eloquence might for a short space of time fall upon him. Continuing, he said, I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Hon. Premier for selecting me to move the address, and I consider it not only an honor to myself, but also to the constituency which he and I represent.

Tribute to Premier.

Just at this point I would like to pay a tribute to one whom I have known for many years, to one with whom I have been closely associated from our boyhood days, to one who occupies the highest place in the gift of the people of New Brunswick, to one of outstanding ability, not only in our own province, but throughout the Dominion of Canada. I refer to the Hon.



MR. H. COLBY SMITH, Member for Saint John County, Who Moved the Address in Reply to the Speech From the Throne.

Dr. J. B. M. Baxter, our devoted leader.

Several important events have taken place during the year 1927, and have been referred to in the address. One of these events was the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Confederation of Canada, and it is with pride that we can point to the position which New Brunswick took in the celebration.

The Diamond Jubilee.

On May 3rd, 1927, a provincial committee for New Brunswick, for the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee, was formed. His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor, presided at the organization meeting, and a representative of the National Committee came from Ottawa to explain the suggestions of the National Committee as to the means of marking the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee. People of New Brunswick are to be congratulated that as the active head of the provincial committee, one with so much experience in such a capacity as the Hon. Mr. Justice Crockett possesses, was chosen for the position of president of the provincial committee. Acting as executive officers with Mr. Justice Crockett were members of the provincial civil service, who filled the positions of secretary and treasurer of the provincial committee to the satisfaction of every one connected with the organization. The result was that

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