

Two Husbands Wanted

by Hazel Deyo Batchelor



SYNOPSIS

Polly Long, a mannequin in the establishment of Madame Therese, falls in love with his wife Lolo. He is in love with his wife Lolo. Polly does not know that Ralph is married, and he keeps it from her because he is fond of her and her mother, and likes a place to call when he is in the city. He persuades the two to move from the dingy flat in Jersey City to New York so that Polly can be near him. The Longs are comfortably settled when Annette, one of the models, follows Polly home. Mrs. Long takes a dislike to the girl. Ralph sees Lola off for Florida, and Christmas night John Blake enters the story. There is a tragedy in his life. John is shocked because Ralph has not told Polly he is married. But he does not dare push Ralph too far. Polly goes on the stage as a chorus girl in "Brighter and Brighter" and makes a hit. The winter passes and Lola returns from Florida. At a dinner party one night some one mentions the end girl in the chorus as being particularly delectable. Lola is instantly suspicious again as she was when she saw Ralph and Polly exchange looks at Madame Therese's. Polly wants Ralph to make love to her as a lover should, but Mrs. Long tells her to wait for the engagement to be announced. Polly lurches with John Blake on occasions. She confides in him and her story of no lovmaking comes out. One day they pass Lola in the lobby of the hotel where they have eaten. She does not see them, but they see her. John has an attack in the taxi and the driver stops at a drug store for first-aid. She carries him home with her and he falls asleep on the coach while she explains things to her mother.

INSTALLMENT FIFTEEN
ESCAPE!

Lola tried all the agencies in town for tickets, and at every one they reported "sold out."

"But I have to see it," she wailed.

"Shall I place your order?" asked the man over the telephone.

"For when?"

"We can't say just when. How many did you want?"

"Four."

"Well, we'll take your order and let you know, Mrs. Halliday. It's the best we can do. I'm afraid. I'm sorry."

Lola was sorry, too. She wished now that she had taken advantage of her information earlier. If she had tried for "Brighter and Brighter" before it had obtained such a grip on the public she would have seen for herself whether or not the girl was Polly.

But there was nothing to do but wait—wait while Ralph was absent on occasions that were not explained. And in the meantime their hearts were

closed against one another. Tantalizingly she moved and lived near him. Agonizingly they lived apart. There were times when Ralph felt that he could endure it no longer, that there must be a way of battering down her defenses and finding the way to her heart—some way that he hadn't yet found.

Her sweetness and perfume were not for him, and unless a miracle happened they never would be. Sweet Lola who had worn a dress with peacock's eyes upon it. And the other guests had all teased her about her coming bad luck!

There were times when Ralph wanted to question his father, old Richard Halliday, of the firm of Halliday & Brant.

His father knew more than he pretended to know. His father had been responsible for marrying him to Lola. Not that he hadn't wanted to marry her, but he had expected to marry a living, breathing woman, not a stone image, a lifeless thing. His mother, too, knew something, but she never spoke to Ralph about anything that was going on in her thoughts. She moved around her house silently. Ralph couldn't imagine putting his head against his own mother's knee as he did Mrs. Long's. From childhood he had been strictly brought up and after college had had no hand in his career. His father's choice had been as irrevocable as the choice of God. Ralph couldn't change it. It was said in the stars that a son must follow in his father's footsteps as far back as old Richard could remember. But Ralph wouldn't have minded that if in choosing Lola as his wife she had loved him!

Polly—Elaine!

Lancelot—Ralph!

And dark Guinevere in the background!

One day Lola was in town buying summer dresses when she happened to call her favorite agency, the one who had held out most hope. He had a matinee ticket.

"Yes!" He spoke crisply. "Lower left box. I'll reserve it for this afternoon in your name."

Lola was elated. Now she would see for herself. Now she would discover whether or not Polly were, after all, the end girl in the chorus of "Brighter and Brighter." It was all very exciting!

The ticket was waiting at the box-office! Eagerly she entered the theatre and sat down to wait for the curtain to rise. She had taken a front seat and the house was filling slowly. She wondered if the vogue for it had died down somewhat, now that summer was creeping into New York.

The theatre was only half filled when the big curtain began to lift. Slowly—slowly—it raised to the crashing notes of the most popular of the play's musical successes.

The asbestos curtain gave way to one of gauze, on which glittered bright

stars. The chorus was beyond.

Slowly—slowly—the loops of the curtains were drawn back and Lola leaned forward. The chorus was dancing toward the front of the stage. Yes!—there she was!

Lola leaned forward and tried to concentrate on Polly, so that the girl must eventually look in her direction. And finally something like an electric current must have passed between them, because Polly at last turned her eyes on the solitary woman in the box. Blue eyes met brown. The encounter of glances lasted but a moment, but that moment was enough for recognition. Polly was startled out of her rhythm. The song she had been singing died in her throat.

Ralph's sister was out there! There was some reason for it!

Why didn't Ralph come to her aid instead of deserting her like this? And when, if ever, would she know the truth, meet his sulky blue eyes and give him back his precious shield that she had tended for so long?

She felt hot, suffocating. The grease paint began to run into her eyes, so that she was almost blind.

Then suddenly she stumbled!

Instantly, as if nothing had happened, the other chorus girls closed around her, blotting her out as they danced forward. At first Lola thought this might be a trick of some kind, but when Polly did not return, Lola rose, left her box and hurried around to the stage entrance.

"Will you take this card in to Miss Mandeville?" she asked the doorman curtly.

He met her gaze levelly before he spoke. It was infuriating.

"Did you hear me?"

"Yes, I heard you."

"I am Mrs. Halliday."

"But what can I do?"

"You mean that you won't let me come back stage and talk to her? There is some information I must have from her—at once!"

The doorman rose. "You can go in, Mrs. Halliday, for all me," he said with a grin. "But I'm sorry to disappoint you. A sprain ain't so easy these days. Besides, she isn't in there. Some one just took her away for medical attention. If you'd like to talk to one of the other chorus girls I'll see what I can do! Shall I?"

Lola hesitated. Would they know anything, and if they knew would they tell her? At last she went away, furious that Polly had eluded her again. A week later the big success of "Brighter and Brighter" closed, perhaps to reopen in the fall.

Polly had escaped once more!

To Be Continued.

Newark O., Feb. 1—J. W. Miller of Newark owner of Prue Grattan, the Grattan Royal mare that annexed the \$25,000 American Pacing Derby at Kalamazoo, Mich., last year will try to repeat with Patchen Boy (4) 2.07 1/4 this season.

IRISH STATESMEN, GUESTS AT A STATE DINNER, EXPRESS GRATITUDE TO CANADIANS

Ottawa, Jan. 31—President William T. Cosgrave of the Irish Free State last night, was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Prime Minister of Canada on behalf of the Government.

All parties in the Canadian Parliament joined in welcoming the visiting statesman and his colleague, Desmond Fitzgerald, Minister of Defence. The strains of Irish melodies floated through the Chateau Laurier and the only note of sadness were the reference to the fatal accident which occurred earlier in the day in the derailment of the train on which the distinguished visitors were travelling to the Canadian capital.

In the course of a warm-hearted welcome to Ottawa, Premier King spoke to Ireland's great contribution to the world. The Emerald Isle, he said, had given to Canada many of her sons and daughters and no element of the population was more welcome in this country. Robert Baldwin's father and Sir Francis Hincks had come from the county of Cork. D'Arcy McGee, an exile from his own land, had come to Canada and had helped to bring about the union of the Canadian provinces. Edward Blake's father also had come from Ireland.

Hon. R. B. Bennett, Robert Gardiner, Senator Dandurand and Senator W. B. Ross associated themselves with the Prime Minister in his words of welcome.

Rousing Ovation.

President Cosgrave was given a rousing ovation and spoke of his gratitude to the Canadian people who during the long period of tribulation in Ireland helped them in every possible way. "I have witnessed some stirring incidents in my time," he said, "but never a finer example of bravery and coolness than on that train today when a railwayman, lying on his back, with a broken leg, asked 'Are the guests all right?' The country which produces men like that is bound to succeed. I salute the people of Canada and wish the Dominion well. Ireland has a warm corner in her heart for the people of this great nation."

Desmond Fitzgerald, whose health was proposed by Hon. Peter Heenan, also spoke of the bonds of friendship which unite the two countries.

"In working for the elevation of Canada to a seat on the League of Nations Council," he said, "we were also working for ourselves, for we saw that the Canadian delegates saw things with our own eyes. We are not the terrible revolutionaries that some may think. We have only the interests of our countrymen and mankind at large at heart. We are the most peaceful nation in the world, and have no desire for anything but peace. Since we received our national freedom there is nothing now to limit or restrict the Irish Free State."

Mr. Fitzgerald concluded his speech in French to the great delight of the French-speaking Canadians present.

Cosgrave's Reply.

In replying to the toast to his health President Cosgrave said:

"It gives me very great pleasure to accept on behalf of my country the pleasant things which have been said about me, but which of course I do not believe. We have" he went on "watched for many years the growth development, the prosperity of Canada. We realize in Ireland that Canada and friends are synonymous terms. We know that there is for Ireland a great, kindly wish in this great country of Canada. We, who pride ourselves upon the great past in Europe look across here and see, as your Prime Minister has recorded in his book a frontier greater than that between any two countries in the world without a single fortification. And in that unfortified frontier we find perhaps an explanation of the prosperity and friendliness which seems to endure on both sides of that frontier."

Mr. Cosgrave observed with a smile that when he was very young he had read a book on Canada entitled "The Great Lone Land." While still young also he had heard a Canadian speak in the House of Commons on the overtaxation of Ireland and had marvelled at his grasp of the subject.

"We are grateful to Canada," he proceeded "for the help given to us in every way during our long period of

tribulation and to the Canadian Parliament for pronouncing its deliberation as regards the solution as to what was called 'the Irish question.'

"I spoke to someone on my way down here as to what I should speak about tonight. I got very sound advice. It was 'so long as you don't speak too long it will be all right.'"

Mr. Cosgrave regretted that the radio was operating in the hall. Some members of his cabinet, he said, might be listening to the things said about him at the dinner, and he was sure that the thought in their mind was what, only for them, he would have done.

Referred to Accident.

Mr. Cosgrave made closing reference to the accident which marked his visit and paid high tribute to the men of the train. "I very much regret," he said, "that my visit to Canada should have been marked by the fatal accident which occurred today and I reciprocate on behalf of my friends and my people the words of sympathy expressed by your Prime Minister. May I say that I have witnessed during my life some stirring incidents, but I have never witnessed a finer example of bravery and coolness than on that train today. I did not see one person in the least affected by panic and the concern of one man who lay wounded was entirely for the guests. Laying on his back with a broken leg he said 'Are the guests all right?' I say a country which produces men like that is bound to succeed."

Mr. Cosgrave added that it was a great honor and a great privilege to him to be the representative of his country in greeting the people of Canada. "We wish her well," he said, "and congratulate her upon her great prosperity. We say to her, in return for many kindnesses, that we have a warm corner in our hearts for the Canadian people and on behalf of my people I say: My God bless and protect this great nation of Canada and all her people."

Fitzgerald Speaks.

The Irish Free State wished to go forward hand in hand with Canada, said Desmond Fitzgerald, Minister of Defence in the government of President Cosgrave. For a long time, he said, he had been anxious to come to Ottawa and he felt doubtful whether he would succeed in so doing. He had never been so anxious to reach Ottawa and so doubtful of doing so at noon today when the accident occurred. Canada had advanced from the status of a colony to that of a nation, and it was to Canada that the Irish Free State had looked in drafting its constitution. In supporting Canada's elevation to a seat on the Council of the League of Nations, Ireland felt that she was working not only for the Dominion but for herself.

The Irish had been represented as terrible revolutionaries, but Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this was a misrepresentation. Ireland was misrepresented much as the badger was misrepresented in a definition of that animal. Ireland was described as a troublesome and quarrelsome nation, which was not correct. The badger had been defined as a ferocious beast, which when attacked defended itself.

Mr. Fitzgerald joined with President Cosgrave and Premier King in extending sympathy to the relatives of the man who died in yesterday's accident, and to those who were injured. He concluded his address with a few words in French.

Premier King's Toast.

In moving the toast to "Our Guest," Premier Mackenzie King spoke of the honor done to the Dominion capital in having as its guests President Cosgrave and Mr. Fitzgerald. Last year the Dominion had entertained Premier Baldwin, Premier Bruce of Australia, Premier Coates of New Zealand, Premier Munro of Newfoundland and now President Cosgrave. The only self governing Dominion which had not been represented in Canada by its official head was South Africa, and Canada would welcome a visit from him.

The visit of President Cosgrave was memorable for a number of reasons. He came as the representative of the youngest of the British Dominions, even though Ireland dated back in history through time immemorial. Ire-

land has given to Canada many of her sons and daughters and no element in Canada's population was more welcome. Mr. King mentioned a number of great Irishmen whose names are a part of Canadian history. Robert Baldwin, D'Arcy McGee and Edward Blake were three of the eminent Irishmen who had played their part on the political stage of Canada.

Mr. King extended the sympathy of the gathering to the relatives of the brave man who died in yesterday's accident and to those who suffered injury. All would be thankful that there was a guardian angel who took care of the guests visiting Canada from the Irish Free State.

R. B. Bennett Speaks.

Hon. R. B. Bennett, Conservative leader, joined with Premier King in his words of welcome to President Cosgrave and his party. He expressed the hope that peaceful and pleasant conditions would prevail in Ireland and said that nothing could be of more value to the British Empire than that there should be no Irish question. He expressed the affectionate regard and best wishes of His Majesty's loyal Opposition.

Speaking for the Progressive Group, Robert Gardner its leader, informed Mr. Cosgrave that there were more Irishmen in his party proportionately than in any other in the Canadian Parliament. "Therefore, I can sympathize with him," said Mr. Gardner amid laughter. It was quite true that Ireland was making a great experiment in government, but Mr. Gardner said he was not afraid of experiments.

Senator Dandurand, government leader in the Senate, expressed to President Cosgrave the hearty thanks of the Canadian delegation at the last meeting of the League of Nations for the support which Ireland had given to Canada in connection with the vacancy on the council. The Irish delegates had been active in supporting Canada's candidature for that seat.

Senator Ross, Conservative leader in the Senate, joined with Senator Dandurand in welcoming the guests. The toast to Desmond Fitzgerald, Minister of Defence in the Free State government, was proposed by Hon. Peter Heenan, Minister of Labor for Canada.

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Once upon a time there was a man who was sure he could not have made a lot more money if he had gone into some other business.

FIRE ALARM
LOCATION IN
THE CITY

6 Argyle and York Sts.
7 Victoria Hospital.
8 Children's Aid Home.
12 Westmorland and Aberdeen Sts.
13 Northumberland and Saunders Sts.
14 Brunswick and Smythe Sts.
15 Charlotte and Smythe Sts.
16 George and Northumberland Sts.
17 King and Northumberland Sts.
21 Queen and York Sts.
23 York and George Sts.
24 Queen and Westmorland Sts.
25 Brunswick and Westmorland Sts.
26 Charlotte and Westmorland Sts.
27 King and York Sts.
28 Saunders and York Sts.
31 Queen and Regent Sts.
32 Needham and Regent Sts.
34 Queen and Carleton Sts.
35 Brunswick and Carleton Sts.
36 Charlotte and Carleton Sts.
37 George and Regent Sts.
38 King and Regent Sts.
43 St. John and Aberdeen Sts.
44 Queen and St. John Sts.
45 Brunswick and St. John Sts.
45 Brunswick and St. John Sts.
46 Charlotte and St. John Sts.
51 King and Church Sts.
52 George and Church Sts.
53 Union and Church Sts.
54 Shore St. and University Ave.
55 Brunswick St. and University Ave.
56 Lansdowne St. and Waterloo Row.
57 Grey St. and University Ave.
112 Smythe and Aberdeen Sts.
113 Argyle and Northumberland Sts.