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PROP.

THE LESSON OF LIFE

(Continued.)

Perdue also wrote to the public-school teacher for whom Bat had expressed a preference, merely telling her that he would be very grateful if she would make an appointment with him for a little chat about one of her pupils who was fond of her.

There also came a prompt reply from her. It was plain from its phraseology that the teacher supposed that she was writing to some venerable person taking a grandfatherly interest in a young girl.

This worried Perdue, and before he went to see the teacher he made himself look as old as possible. Inasmuch as he was, indeed, verging upon twenty-three, he really looked almost mature as he knocked at the little private room in the school-building. But notwithstanding all his efforts to achieve an aged mien, the teacher gasped a bit as she took in the details of his youth.

"I want to talk to you about Beatrice," he said to her—"Beatrice Ashton," he explained, as he saw a puzzled smile come to her face. It had not occurred to him before that there could be, in all the world, another Beatrice than that small girl who had, as it were, suddenly grown into an elephant upon his hands.

"Oh, yes," she said; "I know. I had had news from her today. Have you heard it?"

His heart went down like lead. For a moment his voice failed him. It was most absurd that this should be so, but it was. Finally he asked what the bad news had been.

"Her grandmother is dead," said she. "She died, suddenly, last night."

"Good Lord!" said Perdue.

It was evident that the elephant upon his hands had gained tremendously and unexpectedly in weight; but he was greatly relieved, notwithstanding, after the first instant of depression. He had feared that some dire thing had happened to the girl herself.

Another instant and he saw that, indeed, such was the case.

"Then she is all alone," he said.

"I was afraid so," said the teacher.

Both paused then. Matters did, really, seem to have taken a full stop. They found, in subsequent admissions, that the same unpleasant thought had come to both of them at that moment—the thought of "institutions." Perdue was brave enough to say nothing.

The teacher, after her first hesitation, slurred the situation by going on to speak of Bat's school-work, as if no such horror threatened.

"It is a pity," she soon remarked irrelevantly, "but Beatrice is handicapped. Her case is one of those the graded schools do not fit well. Having had no teaching until you began to help her, she has learned wonderfully, but she has learned unevenly. For instance, she is years behind her grade in some things and as far ahead of it in others. It humiliates her to be with the younger pupils, but we must keep her in all things back where the study of which she knows the least has placed her."

"She is fifteen now, and at fifteen, in these days, most girls are ready to leave the grammar-schools. But Bat has three years' work to do before she can be graduated, although in some things—in those things which really interest her, and on which you have been able most to help her—she is the brightest pupil I have ever had." The teacher sighed. "It is where a little money would count, oh, so much!"

"How?" asked Perdue.

He observed that the teacher had decided to go ahead on the assumption that the question was merely: How can Bat best be taught? The real question was, he knew, and he knew that she knew: How can Bat, now that her grandmother is dead, be fed and clothed so that she can be taught at all?

"If the child might only have a year or two in some private school," continued the coward teacher, "she might make a brilliant record."

Then she smiled uneasily and admitted the real situation.

"As it is, though," she added, "I suppose that perhaps she may not even be able to continue here."

There was what amounted to a note of interrogation in her voice as she said this, although she knew that there was no earthly reason why Perdue should hold himself responsible for the girl's future. She noticed he seemed to be somewhat bewildered by the turn affairs had taken; but she saw, to her surprise, no signs that he intended to shirk the responsibility which she had thus unjustly put upon his shoulders.

"I must try to think it out," he said gravely, as if the conversation had reached a natural end.

It did not seem to him, as he thought about the strange emergency, that the matter of Bat's schooling had any serious importance left. The matter of her mere living must be settled first.

"It is most astonishing," said the kindly woman, "that you should take such interest in her!"

Perdue looked at her quickly, for there was a queer note in her voice.

"But there is no one else," he said as if that settled all—explained all. "My own sister," he added genuinely, "always had everything, and I suppose that thinking about her has made me feel the way I do about Bat."

"I'm going to tell you something," said the teacher after a moment's hesitation, during which she studied his face intently, trying to make up her mind just what manner of youth he was. "When you came in I did not mean to speak of it, but now I have seen you and talked to you, I believe that you are honestly disinterested in your desire to help."

"What interest could I have?" he asked.

(To Be Continued.)

Could Not Rest at Night

Back Was So Weak

Weak, lame and aching backs are the primary cause of kidney trouble. When the back aches or becomes weak it is a warning from the kidneys that everything is not right with them.

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On the first sign of anything wrong Doan's Kidney Pills should be taken. They go to the seat of the trouble and strengthen the kidneys, thereby strengthening the back.

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Doan's Kidney Pills are 50 cents per box or 3 for \$1.25, at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by the L. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

If ordering direct specify Doan's 3

It is estimated that the chief cereal crops of the United States will be worth something like \$25,000,000 more than last year's harvest of the same crops.

A woman in South Dakota has given a big corn field to the woman suffrage committee, and the roasting ears raised in it will be sold to make money for the campaign carried on to give women a vote in that State.

PREMIER BRIAND HAS DIFFICULT TASK

Paris, Nov. 2.—Following the unexpected resignation of the Briand cabinet President Fallieres requested Premier Briand to retain his office and form a new ministry.

This task is proving a somewhat difficult one, and in making up a new cabinet, the premier has been in consultation with former leaders, such as Leon Bourgeois, former premier and ex-minister of foreign affairs; M. Clemenceau, whom M. Briand succeeded in office, and Jean Sarrin, ex-premier and ex-minister of justice.

It is probable that no announcement of the personnel of the cabinet will be made until tomorrow. In addition to arranging a cabinet committee to the settlement of pressing social problems, M. Briand must offer a ministry satisfactory to the changing Republican majority, where a number of Radicals—the followers of ex-premier Combes—are not attracted by what they term Briand's tendencies to ex'tra conservatism.

The "Temps" insist upon the imperativeness of a broad programme of social and republican defense against anarchy with legal means for the settlement of labor conflicts without resorting to strike. In its opinion the paralyzation of national life by a strike of public service employees should be regarded as the crime of lese patrie.

The French cabinet resigned today. Although the fact that there was a divergence of views among the ministers concerning legislative measures designed to prevent crisis similar to that brought about by the recent railway strike was well known, the resignation created a sensation as it had been expected that Premier Briand would remain and remodel the ministry in harmony with his views on a parliamentary programme to meet future strike crises.

The exact nature of Briand's programme has not been announced but it is understood that both M. Mil-

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Gray Wool Flannels at 25, 35, 45 and 50c a yard
Ladies Winter Vests at 25, 35, 45, 50, up to 1.00 each
Ladies Winter Drawers at 25, 35, 45, 50, up to 1.00 each
Ladies Tailored Suits at \$10 up to 25
Girls Winter Coats at \$3.25 up to 6.00
Black Silk Waists at \$3 up to 6.00
New Net Waists at \$2.50 up to 5.00
Ladies Golf Jackets at \$1.75 up to 5.00
Ladies Furs and Muffs at special prices;
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The New Butler.

IMP. Drama.

A Cattle Rustler's Daughter

Cowboy Picture. Eison.

Salt on the Birds Tail.

Drama.

SHORT WOMAN MAY EASILY LOOK TALL

"She's a little person, yet you always think of her as being tall," said a physical culturist of an actress the other day. "She is, measuring by the rule, below normal. Yet she manages by study and art to look fully up to the average."

"There is something in this that might be applied to drawing room use. This actress, who manages to look tall in spite of the fact that she is short, has a few rules which she observes from year to year, no matter what the style.

"She always tries to keep her arms hanging at her sides. This is a difficult thing to accomplish gracefully. The woman who can let her arms hang without swinging them or twisting them in some unseemly fashion is rarely found. The trick is simply to let them dangle; Ada Rehan did this to perfection.

"She is particular about her walk. She never walks with the quick, snappy little steps of the short person. She has a tread that is rather long and stately. She does not stride, but she never trots along after the style of most short women.

"All short women should learn to wear long lines. This is what every dressmaker will tell you, but the best modiste in the world will fail to make you graceful if you are not willing to help a little yourself.

"The little woman should always carry her chin up. This adds much to her height. With her hair up, her chin high and her train at least six inches on the ground, the short-set woman can get up an appearance of height."

Grand, minister of public works, posts and telegraphs, and M. Viviani, minister of labor, dissented particularly Millerand, who insisted upon the principle of arbitration.

Briefly the resignation is in consequence of the bitter attacks made in the Chamber of deputies upon the government's action in suppressing the recent railroad strike and its proposed legislation for the avoidance of a similar crisis in the future. Briand's cabinet was formed on July 23, 1909.

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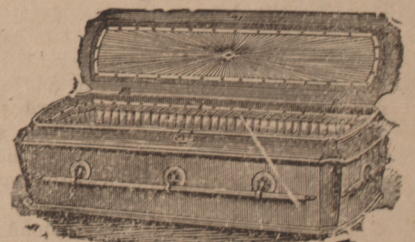
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