

Richest and Purest Milk
FROM THE RICHEST DAIRY SECTION OF CANADA
FROM COWS PROPERLY FED AND CARED FOR.



**BORDEN'S
PEERLESS
BRAND EVAPORATED
CREAM**

(Unsweetened)

DILUTE WITH WATER TO DESIRED CONSISTENCY
AND USE SAME AS "FRESH" MILK.

Wm. H. Dunn, Agent, Montreal.

THE MESSAGE

By LOUIS TRACY

Author of "The Wings of the Morning," "The Wheel of Fortune," "The Captain of the Kansas," etc.

(Continued)

His brain was still confused by this strange substitution of one woman for another, when his eyes fell on the contents of the second telegram: "Black Mask won. Took you forty. Congratulations, Dick."

The perplexity in his face attracted the sympathy of the hall porter.

"I hope you've had no bad news, sir," said the man.

Warden laughed with a harshness that was not good to hear.

"No," he said, "just the reverse. I backed a horse and he has won, at forty to one."

The hall porter, like most of his class, was a sportsman.

"Lord love a duck!" he cried, "that's the sort you read about but seldom see, sir. Where did he run — at Newmarket?"

"No, at Ostend."

The man's hopes of obtaining good "information" had diminished, but he was supremely interested.

"Not a price," he exclaimed. "Did you have much on, sir?"

"Forty pounds."

"Forty pounds! Then you've won sixteen hundred quid!" and each syllable was a crescendo of admiration.

Warden threw the telegram on the floor. Though the last twenty-four hours had enriched him by nearly five years' pay, he was in no mood to greet his good fortune as it deserved.

"Yes," he sighed, "I suppose you are right. Unpack my traps, there's a good fellow. I am going out, and I want to change my porter obeyed, but he would have choked if speech were forbidden. He wanted to know the horse's name, how the gentleman had come to hear of him, was the money 'safe,' and other kindred items that goaded Warden to hidden frenzy. Yet the forced attention thus demanded was good for him. He described 'Black Mask' as 'a Tartar of the Ukraine breed,' and drew such a drowsy picture of the precautions taken for the 'stable' to conceal the animal's true form that the man regarded him as a veritable font of racing lore.

Such a reputation, once earned, is not easily shaken off. When he went out, the hall porter and the driver of a hansom were in deep converse. He paid the cabman at the Colonial Office, and his mind was busy with other things when he was brought back to earth again.

"Beg pardon, sir," said caddy, "but would you mind tell me the best thing for the Cup?"

"What Cup?" demanded Warden testily.

"The Liverpool Cup, sir."

"Beer, of course. But the cabman took thought. An eminent brewer's horse figured in the betting lists, so he drove back at once to interview the hall porter. A joint speculation followed, and two men mourned for many a day that they had not begged or borrowed more money wherewith to win a competence on that amazingly lucky tip.

Warden did not expect to find any one at the Colonial Office who would attend to him. The hour was nearly seven, and it is a popular theory that at four o'clock the newspapers and other light literature with which they beguile the tedium of official routine. He meant to report his arrival in London, and learn from a door-keeper what time it would be advisable to call next day.

He was hardly prepared, therefore, to be received forthwith by a silver-haired, smooth-spoken gentleman, who asked him to recapitulate the main points of his conversation with the Under Secretary at the Foreign Office.

Somewhat mystified, Warden began his recital. After the first two sentences, the official nodded.

"Thank you, Captain Warden. I need not trouble you further," he said. "You see, we are not personally known to each other, and in such an exceedingly delicate matter as this threatened trouble in Nigeria, wherein knowledge is confined to a very small circle—one has to be careful that one is speaking to the right man."

"Did you think it possible, then, that some stranger might have impersonated me?" demanded Warden, his eyes twinkling at the suggestion.

"Quite possible. I have done it myself twice, the first time successfully, the second to the complete satisfaction of our Minister abroad, but hardly to my own, as I had two fingers of my left hand shot off while making a dash for safety."

Certainly, reflected Warden, there were

elements in the life of Whitehall that escaped public notice.

"We have sent for you because you are wanted at once in West Africa," went on the other. "Let us see the papers from the Governor of Northern Nigeria, and from the Governor of the Protectorate, his Excellency."

Though you are attached to the southern portion of the Protectorate, his Excellency said, "I shall be on my guard when you are the man best fitted to deal with the natives of the disturbed region. It is not proposed that you should return by the ordinary mail service. We assume that the departure of officers and others for Lagos is closely watched at the present crisis. A passage has been secured on a coasting steamer for a mythical person named Alfred Williams. Initials on baggage or linen, therefore, cannot cause inquiry. Now, the Water Witch sails from Cardiff by Saturday afternoon's tide, and we would like Mr. Alfred Williams to go on board that morning."

Warden looked blankly at the speaker. It was then Thursday, and he had little more than a day in which to unravel the mystery that enveloped Evelyn and her whereabouts. A bitter rage welled up in his breast, but he controlled his face, and the official attributed his silence to the suddenness of the suggestion.

"I am sorry that your last evening should be spoiled in this fashion," continued the quiet voice. "But it is unavoidable. The thing presses. And I need scarcely tell you that when the Government wants a man's services it is good for the man."

"I am sorry that your last evening should be spoiled in this fashion," continued the quiet voice. "But it is unavoidable. The thing presses. And I need scarcely tell you that when the Government wants a man's services it is good for the man."

Perhaps the lack of enthusiasm in his manner was puzzling, but the suave official paid no heed.

"And now for your instructions," he said. "The vessel touches at Cape Coast, then goes on to Lagos. You will be met there by some one whom you are acquainted with. He will tell you the exact position of affairs, and what, if any, developments have taken place in the meantime. He will also give you the Governor's views as to the way in which your duty should be performed."

I leave it to you to take the necessary precautions to conceal your movements and identity, and I am authorized to hand you £250 to meet any expenses incidental to your mission. Your passage on the Water Witch is paid for, by the way."

Again the officer made to understand why the young officer should laugh with the grim humor of one who has fate do her worst. Certainly, the situation had in it some element of comedy. Gold was being showered on Warden from the skies—promotion and distinction were thrust upon him—yet he was miserable as any man in England at that day.

"Something on his mind—is it a woman?" mused the shrewd official, and the time came when he remembered the idle fancy.

In the freedom of the street Warden soon recovered himself. Not even an all-absorbing passion-rendered more intense by reason of his self-contained nature—could deprive him of the habit of years. In the Colonial Office at the moment lay a letter from the Governor of Southern Nigeria commending him in the highest terms for his cool judgment, resourcefulness, and energy. He showed these qualities now. He hurried to Evelyn's room, beginning her three telegrams, one to Evelyn, beginning her to communicate with him instantly, a second to his friend in Ostend, thanking him for his kindly offices and requesting that the money should be paid into a Master at Dover, asking him to inform Peter Evans, the pilot-cutter, that he must travel to London by the earliest train after arriving from Ostend. Then he went to the Savoy.

Rosamund's telegram had been handed in at Lochner's the previous night. It occurred to Warden that she must have written it about the time his message to Evelyn was delivered. If so, and it was true that the Baumgartner household had already departed on board the Suans Souci, there was an obvious question to be answered.

As he anticipated, Mrs. Laing was in the hotel. In fact she was about to dine in her own room when Warden's card was brought to her. She hastened to meet him, all smiles and blushes.

"How awfully good of you to come so soon!" she cried. "And at just the right time, too. I have been eating alone, but I dislike still more to eat by a table by myself in a big hotel. You can't have dined. Let us go to the cafe, and then it doesn't matter about one's toilette."

"I don't wish to disturb your arrangements," he began, but she was not to be forced into serious discussion at once.

"What said anything about disturbance?" she rattled on. "You could not have met my wishes better if you had guessed them. Now, don't look so glum. It is not my fault that your pretty governess was ready to flirt with other men, is it? Come and eat. I shall tell you all about it."

He fell in with her mood. A woman will dare anything when she loves or hates, and he credited Rosamund with excess in both directions. Yet it would be strange, he thought, were she playing some deep game not immediately discernible, if he did not unravel the tangled skein of her deceit.

"I got your letter, of course," he said when they were seated.

"Ah, then I guessed correctly. That is

why you are disconsolate," she said, looking at him frankly.

"It may be. At present I am chiefly curious. How did you obtain my London address?"

"Didn't you telegraph it?"

"To Miss Dane—yes."

"You dear man, what would you have done if a telegram were brought to a remote place in the Highlands for a lady whom you knew was gone goodness knows where in a yacht?"

"Surely it might have been forwarded to her?"

"Yes, if you or I, or any other reasonable being were the addressee. But the Baumgartners gave instructions that everything was to be sent to their London house, which is closed, except for a caretaker. Mrs. Baumgartner herself told me they did not expect to be in town under a month or six weeks."

"Have they vanished into thin air?"

"Something of the kind. They spoke vaguely of a cruise round the Shetlands, but I am sure that was meant as a blind. They wouldn't take Figure and von Rippenbach as their sailing companions for the mere fun of the thing, would they?"

"Did they offer no excuse to their guests?"

"Oh, yes. Billy Thring—sorry, but I must mention him—well, his brother's death was the ostensible reason. I don't believe a word of it. I, D. B. is not the man to break up a pleasant house party because one of its members has suffered a bereavement. There is something else going on. I am honestly feminine enough to want to know what it is. I was simply dying of curiosity yesterday when I saw Figure and the dainty Evelyn in the garden, discussing things with hatted breath."

Warden frowned. He could keep a tight rein on his emotions, but this was trying him high.

"Would you mind telling me how a man who is dining with a lady can best express polite incredulity at her statements?" he asked.

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

"Very neat," she retorted, "but in this instance you are the water and I the duck. If you think I am deliberately telling untruths, why not choose some less adoring it. The people amuse me—they are so naively shocking, or shocked, as the case may be. Did you that fat Frenchman who struts about in a ridiculously tight and glaring bathing suit?"

(To Be Continued)

Fashion Hint for Times Readers



AN IRISH LACE FROCK OF SPECIAL RICHNESS.

Such a dress as this would cost as much as many brides put in a whole trousseau. It is built entirely of Irish lace in various stitches, some quite heavy and other patterns of the fine "baby Irish" work. The dress has been entirely made by hand, the various motifs being fastened together with lace stitches. As shown here, the dress is worn over a slip of gold cloth, and a gold rose in the coiffure accentuates the gleam of the lustrous cloth through the lace mesh.

PLAYING WITH FIRE, SAYS WINSTON CHURCHILL OF BUDGET ENEMIES

British Cabinet Minister's Warning to the Enemies of the Budget—Government Will Adhere to Land Proposals—Discusses Power of Lords to Interfere With Budget.

(London Leader, Aug. 8)

"I am here to tell you this afternoon that the government will adhere to their land proposals, and that if any part of the budget is going through those land proposals are going to be placed on the statute book."

In these emphatic terms Mr. Winston Churchill, speaking at a Liberal fete and budget league demonstration at Canford park, Wimborne, yesterday, reiterated the determination of the government to stand by their budget proposals with regard to land taxation.

Proceeding, the right hon. gentleman said 60 years ago Mr. Cobden indicated in no uncertain language that land reform must be concomitant, and must follow reforms in commerce with which his name was associated. John Stuart Mill looked forward to a similar necessary development, and Lord Rosebery, who was not by any means a revolutionist—(laughter)—expressed himself 15 years ago strongly in favor of the taxation of land values.

In the year 1884 a royal commission signed a report the recommendations of which went much further than any of the land proposals now put forward and for which the government was denounced as revolutionists. That report was signed, amongst others, by Cardinal Manning, Lord Coleridge (laughter)—and the present king when Prince of Wales. Proposals which had this weight of authority behind them had, however, become predatory and revolutionary in the passage of time.

There was another commission in 1901 which was in favor substantially of the general principle of