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THE MESSAGE

By LOUIS TRACY

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

(Continued)

Madam was very much obliged, and tipped him half-a-crown, informing him with a most charming smile that she did not on any account wish Miss Dane to believe that she was suspected of forgetfulness. It was then some minutes after eleven, and this gracious lady was sympathetic enough enough to inquire if the footman did not become very tired of remaining on duty so many hours in one place.

"Oh, it's nothing compared with London, ma'am," said he. "Here we have sunshine—if the weather is fine—an' fresh air all the time. I only came on duty at nine o'clock, an' I go off at 11.30 for the first servant's dinner."

Mrs. Laing was talking to Billy Thring in the hall when the postman groom came to clear the letter-box. She darted forward with that irresistible smile of hers.

"I'm so glad I happened to be standing here," she exclaimed. "I have just remembered that I have stupidly left out of a letter the very thing I most wanted to say. It would never have occurred to me if I hadn't seen you. The letter is addressed to Captain Warden. May I have it?"

The man was Baumgartner's servant. He had never before set eyes on Mrs. Laing but he knew the Honorable Billy quite well, so he raised no objection to this smartly dressed lady's eager search for her incomplete letter. Though her hands fumbled somewhat, she soon picked it out.

"Here it is!" she cried, delightedly, "this one—Captain Arthur Warden, Post Restante, Ostend. Now, that will save a heap of trouble. It was so nice of you to come at the right moment. You have saved me a lot of trouble."

The groom grinned as he pocketed half-a-crown. Some ladies were easy pleased, to be sure. Even Billy Thring, experienced hunter of gilded brides, was bewildered by Mrs. Laing's excited manner.

"Seems to me I've been a killin'," he mused when she gushed herself away. "I s'pose old Baumgartner can be relied on. He is all there as a rule when he talks dollars an' cents, but he's a perfect rotter every other way. By gad, I'll kid him into wearin' kilts before the end of the month."

The notion tickled him. He lit a cigarette and strolled through the open door. A glorious sweep of moorland and forest spread beyond the loch, whose wavelets lapped the verges of the sloping lawn and gardens. A little to the left the Sans Souci lay at her moorings. A steam launch was tied to a neat landing stage. A string of horses and moon ponies returning from exercise crossed a level pasture at the head of the loch. The letter-carrying groom was clattering down the broad carriage drive toward the distant station, and a couple of gardeners were cutting and rolling the green carpet of grass in front of the house.

"He talks of buyin' this property," commented the Honorable Billy, who was thirty-five and had never earned a penny in his life. "Can't be ten years older than me, though he looks sixty, beam' podgy. Now, why can't I have a stroke of luck an' rake in a stack? Then I might have a cut-in for the giddy widow."

Evelyn's trim figure emerged from a tree-shrouded path. She walked with a lithe elegance that pleased Mr. Thring's sporting eye.

"Or marry a girl like that," he added. The wild improbability of ever achieving any part of this fascinating programme brought a petulant frown to his handsome, vacuous face.

He strode up to one of the gardeners, a red-whiskered Caledonian, stern and wild.

"Where the devil is everybody?" he yawned. "No shootin', no yachtin', not a soul in the billiard-room—where's the bloomin' crowd?"

The dour Scot looked at him pityingly. "Aiblins some are i' bed," he said, "an' there's ither who oht to be i' bed."

"Bully for you, Rob Roy," cried Thring, who never objected to being scolded off. "Aiblins some people are cuttin' grass who oht to be under it, because they don't know they're alive, eh what?"

"Man, but ye're shairp the day," retorted the gardener. "Whiles I'm thinkin' there's a guid gig-jobber lost in you, Mister Thring."

"Pig-jobber, you cataran! Why pangs?"

"Have ye no heerd tell fowk a bit saft i' the heid have wonderfu' way wi' animals, an' pigs are always a fine market."

"A bit heavy, McTody. Trem yer whuskers an' change yer trousers for a

kelt, an' mebbe ye'll crack a joke wi' aces deefinitely."

The under-gardener clortled, for the Honorable Billy could imitate the Scots dialect with an unctious that was decidedly mirth-provoking.

"Ma name's no McTody," began the other.

"Well, then, McWhusky, I ken the noo from yer rid neb that there's mighty lit' water in yer composition."

Snorting defiance, but not daring to pour forth the wrath that boiled up in him, the man pushed a moving-machine savagely across the lawn.

"Roared," smiled Billy. "Bannockburn is avenged!"

"What is amusing you, Mr. Thring?" asked Evelyn, who had walked over the grass unheeded.

"I have just discovered my lost vocation," he said. "I am a buffoon, Miss Dane, an' idle jester. The only difference between me and a music-hall comedian is that my humor is not remunerative."

"Why, when I left you last night you were on the verge of proposing to Mrs. Laing, a most serious undertaking."

"A nice woman, Mrs. Laing. No nonsense about her. We've bin together the last half hour, an' I'm under the starter's orders, at any rate."

"Why not go in and win?" demanded Evelyn, taking a kindly interest in the Honorable one's matrimonial prospects. If he and Mrs. Laing made a match of it, that would provide a very agreeable close to a disquieting incident.

"I'm afraid it'll only be to make the runnin' for another Johnny," sighed he. "I was gettin' along like a horse afore, when all at once she remembered she hadn't said what she wanted to say in a letter to a Captain somebody at Ostend, an' off she waltzed to her room. She's probably writin' sweet nothings to him now. Same old story—Billy Thring left at the post. Gad, that's funny! See it, eh?"

Thring was so amused at his own wit that he did not notice the expression of pain and fear that drove the brightness from Evelyn's face. But she herself was conscious of it, and looked away lest he should peer into her eyes, and wonder.

So Mrs. Laing was writing to Arthur! She knew his address! How strange, how unutterably strange, that he had not mentioned her name! The girl, as in a dream, affected to be watching a boy, the son of the village post-mistress, coming up the avenue. For the sake of hearing her own voice issue in commonplace words, she might dare to utter, she drew her companion's attention.

"Here is our telegraph messenger," she said.

Thring glanced at his watch. "There's a chap at Newmarket who is the champion loser-finder in the world, an' I'm one of his victims. The is Lezer day, 'n' if you wait a moment I'll put you onto a stiff 'un, sure thing. Then you mustn't bookmaker at lunch, and win gloves right an' left—in pairs in fact. I'll stand your losses if my prophes has gone mad an' sent a winner."

The boy made straight for him, and commenced to unfasten the pouch slung to his belt.

"See? I told you," laughed Billy, opening the message.

Evelyn hardly understood him. She was grateful for the high spirits that prevented him from paying any heed to the tears trembling under her drooping eyelashes. Despite her brave resolve to disregard Rosamund Laing's unbelievable story, a whole legion of doubts and terrors now trooped in on her. She asked herself how she could endure to live in the same house as her rival, for five long days, until Arthur's answer came. Would he receive the two letters by the same post? Could there be any real foundation for her rival's boast? The thought made her sick at heart. Fighting down her dread, she turned to Thring hoping to find a momentary oblivion in listening to his cheerful nonsense.

She found oblivion, indeed, but not in the shape she anticipated. Shading his eyes with one hand and holding the telegram in the other, her companion was gazing at it in a dazed way. His cheeks were bloodless, the hand gripping the scrap of flimsy paper shook as though he were seized with ague, his whole attitude was that of a man who had received an overwhelming shock.

"Mr. Thring!" she cried, startled beyond measure, "what has happened?"

"My God!" he wailed, with the "ingling note of agony in his voice that comes most clearly from one whose lips are forced to laughter. "My God! And I was jesting about them only last night!"

Oh, what is it?" she cried again, catching his arm because he swayed like one about to faint.

"Read!" he murmured. "Fairholme an' the two boys! May Heaven forgive me, but I think that I should have said it last night of all nights!"

Evelyn took the telegram from his palsied fingers, and this is what she read: "With deepest regret I have to inform you that the Earl of Fairholme and his two sons were killed in the collision at Beckminster Junction last evening. Their private saloon was being shunted when the down express crashed into it. Letters found on his lordship's body gave you an address. Every one here joins in profound sympathy. Please wire instructions. James Thwaite."

(To Be Continued)

Fashion Hint for Times Readers



BLUE SATIN FROCK WITH COAT TO MATCH.

During the hot weather the women who had smart coat and frock costumes made up in the spring have put them away for fall use, and these two-piece costumes will be very fashionable all through the autumn. Such a frock is dressy either in a restaurant or theatre without its coat, or on promenade, with the long, graceful coat over it. This coat and frock costume is of light blue satin—a misty, deep blue shade which just verges on green. The embroidery on the front of the frock and on the collar of the coat is done in self tone, and the buttons and fringe on coat are also of the deep blue shade.

PARTRIDGE ISLAND IS TO HAVE A SCHOOL

At a meeting of the board of school trustees last night the vexed matter of the Partridge Island school was at last straightened out. It was agreed to place \$100 at the disposal of Dr. Ruddock, the port physician, to have the school house on the island put in proper shape. It was also agreed to engage Miss Hargraves, a resident on the island, as a teacher, providing that she graduates as a first class teacher during the present school year. The matter of her salary was left over till the next meeting.

Applications for positions on the teaching staff were received from Miss Maud Kelly, Miss Maud Armstrong and Miss Floyd Hayes, which were placed on the application book.

The chairman read the report of the teachers' committee, which was held at the close of the last monthly meeting of the board. It was decided to accept this report and order that the recommendations be carried out. Besides those which were told of in The Telegraph last month, the appointment of Mr. Day that the principalship of Aberdeen school in succession to Wm. McLean, while Grover Martin was recommended for Mr. Steeves' place, it was recommended that Miss Gale, a former teacher returning from the west, be re-engaged at her former salary.

Among other matters brought up was a claim for \$100 sent in by Israel Patchell, St. Patrick street, for damages sustained by falling down stairs in the Victoria school a couple of weeks ago. It was said in the discussion that the reading of Mr. Patchell's letter that he was not engaged in the service of the board at the time of the accident. The claim was finally left in the hands of the visitors of the school, Messrs. Bullock and Russell, to make a report on at the next meeting.

The chairman then read the report of the chief superintendent of education on the results of the mathematical examinations in the High Schools of the province, which showed that Miss Waterman, of this city, had won the Parker silver medal offered for competition in that subject.

Mr. Emerson appointed Mr. Smith, the new trustee, a member of the finance committee. He reported that he had received a letter from W. S. Carter, the chief superintendent of education, in regard to the board's request that the vacation be extended from August 20th to Monday.

In this letter the chief superintendent held out no hope that the request of the board would be acceded to, but said the board would take up the matter later. It was stated that they would hold a meeting to-day at which the matter would probably be decided. The chairman thought, however, that it was likely the government would grant the request of the board.

The chairman brought to the notice of

the meeting that James H. Pullen owed the board \$329 rent in Horsfield street, which could not be collected. This matter was left to the finance committee with power to act.

In answer to a question by Mr. Russell Dr. Bridges said that he with Mr. Day and Trust Officer McMan went to Partridge Island to examine into the situation there. They found the school building on the island badly in need of repair. Dr. Ruddock, the port physician, had said that if he board put \$100 at his disposal he would, with the assistance of the workmen he had, put the place in repair. There were thirteen scholars on the island and Dr. Bridges thought it would be cheaper for the board to have a school there than to undertake their transportation to and from the city. The whole cost to the board would be the \$100 plus the salary of the teacher, as the authorities on the island had undertaken to furnish the fuel.

Mr. Bullock moved that a committee be appointed to inquire into the cost of the projects of educating the children on the island or transporting them to the city.

The amendment moved by Mr. Day that the board put \$100 at the disposal of Dr. Ruddock and engage Miss Hargraves as teacher of the school on condition that she qualify as first class teacher before the close of the present school year, June 10, and that she should not be considered a member of the city staff till these conditions are complied with, was carried. The question of Miss Hargraves' salary was left to be decided at next meeting.

Dr. Bridges reported for the committee appointed to draw up a testimonial to William McLean on the occasion of his retiring from the principalship of Aberdeen school that the document had been sent and that a reply had been received from Mr. McLean which was ordered entered on the minutes. The chairman then read a communication from Daniel Mullin, K. C., enclosing a bill in connection with settling the records for the lease of the new lot in Newman street for \$16.60.

It was finally decided on motion of Mr. Russell to leave the matter in the hands of Mr. Day.

At the meeting of the teachers' committee, William A. Nelson, principal of the Douglas avenue school, was appointed to the principalship of Winter street school during the illness of Thomas Stothard. John G. McKinnon, of Newman street school, was appointed in Mr. Nelson's place. The matter of increased salaries for teachers was also discussed and it was decided to hold another meeting to go into the matter more fully.

A short meeting of the members of the buildings committee was held at the close of the teachers' committee. Those present besides the chairman, R. B. Emerson, were Mrs. Dever and Messrs. Coll, Russell, Day, Nasse, Bullock, Dr. Bridges and Trust Officer McMan.

The Moncton Rifle Association has perhaps made the best showing, having sent seventeen men to the meet. Numerically the St. John representation is stronger, having twenty-one men, but the executive feel that the palm must be given to Moncton on its large representation from a comparatively small place.

The military is outnumbered two to one by the civilians, having only twenty-eight men out of the seventy-seven and three of these are on the reserve list.

Tomorrow morning the extra series A at 600 yards, and Nursery matches, for tyros only, at 500 yards, will be shot off in connection with the nursery matches. The maiden team prizes will be awarded in the afternoon. The match for the Denville cup at 500 and 600 yards and the match of the Prince of Wales challenge cup at 200 and 600 yards will be shot off. In connection with the latter there is also the Hazen team prize.

Ottawa, Aug. 9.—The new sight used

GRAND SUCCESS

Wonderful Growth in Sales During 1908

The year just passed will long be remembered for the financial and commercial depression. Business houses all over Canada were affected. Most of them show a loss over 1907. Some did about as much business last year as in the preceding one. A few—a very few—show substantial gains. In spite of "hard times" and "financial depression" the sales of "Fruit-a-tives" doubled in 1908 over 1907.

The National Drug & Chemical Co. of Canada Limited bought "Fruit-a-tives" in 100 gross lots (14,000 boxes.) Lyman Sons & Company of Montreal, and Lyman Brothers in Toronto, also ordered "Fruit-a-tives" by the hundred gross lots. These big wholesalers bought such big orders simply because the retail dealers ordered so many boxes of "Fruit-a-tives"—and the dealers had to keep "Fruit-a-tives" always in stock to supply the constantly growing demand of people in every section of Canada.

Today, "Fruit-a-tives" are the most popular family medicine in the Dominion. In the big cities, in the smaller towns, on farms and ranches, "Fruit-a-tives" are the standby in curing all forms of Stomach, Liver, Bowel, Skin and Kidney Trouble, Rheumatism, Headaches and Neuralgia.

Are you a sufferer from any of the diseases? Don't hesitate a moment. Get a box of "Fruit-a-tives"—take them according to directions—and they will cure without fail. 50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, or trial size, 25c. At dealers or from Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

at Bisley, which brought the back sight much nearer the eye than the former sight, will not be allowed at the Dominion Rifle Association matches. It extends from the sight bed some inches back and the D. R. A. executive claims that it would not be suitable for active service and therefore cannot be sanctioned.

MAGISTRATE KAY'S OFFICIAL ACTS NOW BEING INVESTIGATED

Moncton, N. B., Aug. 9.—The enquiry touching the conduct of James Kay, stipendiary magistrate and city court commissioner, by Marner G. Teed, of St. John, appointed as a commission by the provincial government, was opened this morning and was not productive of anything sensational.

The enquiry opened at 11 o'clock, adjourning at 1 o'clock, after a large number of executions issued out of the local court at various dates between 1903 and 1908 had been submitted by Constable Duncan Stevenson, the only witness at this morning session.

W. B. Chandler, city solicitor, and W. A. Russell, of Shediac, represented Magistrate Kay, while George W. Fowler, of Sussex, and George Harris, of Moncton, appeared on behalf of the complainants.

Commissioner Teed in opening the enquiry read the commission appointing him as commissioner to conduct the enquiry. Mr. Harris, in support of the complaint, read different papers in connection therewith, stating specific charges against Magistrate Kay. The complaint claims that the duties of his office, having exercised his duties unfairly and partially and without due regard to law and justice and has not accounted for and made due returns of fees received by him in connection with his office.

There was some brief discussion among the lawyers during the reading of the charges regarding the distinction between police court and civil court returns. Commissioner Teed thought the scope of the commission was sufficiently broad to cover the matter.

Witnesses examined at this afternoon's session were Constable Stevenson, City Clerk Magee, George L. Harris, James Kay, police magistrate; W. A. McDougall, police court clerk; A. D. Richards, county treasurer, Dorchester.

Complainant's counsel devoted their attention to proving the returns made to the city by Mr. Kay as civil court commissioner and showing that fees for renewal executions were not accounted for. The contention is that Mr. Kay, being under a straight salary, should make returns of all fees, but it is claimed the records don't show that in case of renewal receipts this was done.

G. L. Harris said he had traced the records in thirty cases in which renewal executions were issued, but he failed to find returns of fees to the city treasurer.

Magistrate Kay gave evidence in reference to the returns placed in evidence stating that those filed with the city clerk showed all the fees received by him. He was appointed civil court commissioner in 1900 and had been police magistrate about ten years.

Police Court Clerk McDougall testified to the methods of issuing civil papers and said all the fees went into the hands of Mr. Kay, including the fees for renewal executions, which didn't appear to be included in returns to the city treasurer.

County Treasurer Richard was examined in reference to cheques issued by the municipality of Westmorland to James Kay. Mr. Fowler stating these were for indictable cases before Kay. The cheques issued to Kay from 1900, down to 1908 amounted to over \$850. This amount, complaints content was paid James Kay as representing the city of Moncton in the capacity of police magistrate.

The enquiry will be continued tomorrow morning at 10.30.

C. P. R. STRIKE AT FORT WILLIAM

Fort William, Ont., Aug. 9.—Five hundred freight loads in the C. P. R. sheds at Fort William, are on strike. They demand an increase from 17 1/2 cents an hour for day, and 22 cents for night, to 22 cents and 25 cents.

The Assiniboia of the C. P. R. line arrived this morning from Owen Sound with a large load of package freight and efforts are being made to get her unloaded by checkers and crew in time to leave tomorrow afternoon on her regular time. No attempts are being made to unload other freight boats.

The men walked out this morning without any formal notice.

Every ten cent packet of WILSON'S FLY PADS

Will kill more flies than three hundred sheets of sticky paper

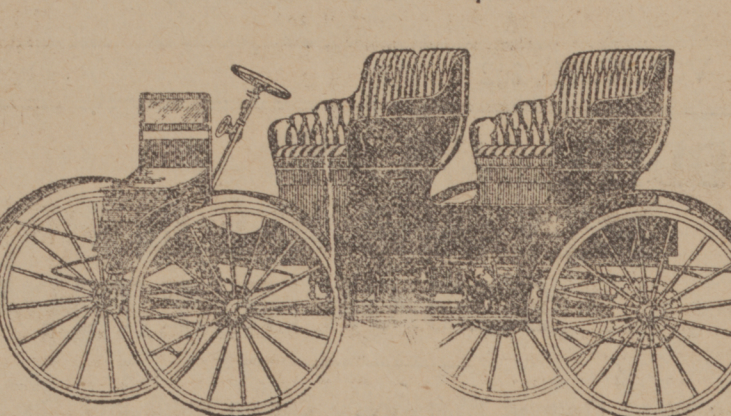
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The motor is 16-18 horse power, double cylinder, air cooled, and capable of developing a speed of 25 miles an hour.

Tudhope-McIntyre Model G 9—with Chapman's double ball bearing axles, 1 1/2 inch solid rubber tires, horn, three lamps, brass mounted dash with wind shield, tool box, fenders and running boards—\$800.

Write for our catalogue which illustrates and describes the entire Tudhope-McIntyre line, ranging in price from \$550 to \$1,000. Sent free on request.

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LITTLE TOT IS BURIED ALIVE

Quincy, Mass., Aug. 9.—Three children were buried alive in a cave-in in the Liberty street sand pit today and although two of them were extricated by their mothers, who dug frantically with shovels, the third lost his life. The little victim is Albert Lamont, aged 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. Murdoch Lamont.

C. P. R. HAS HAD A GOOD YEAR

Montreal, Aug. 9.—(Special)—At a meeting of the directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company today a dividend of two per cent on the preference stock and three per cent on the common stock for the half year ended June 30 last, was declared. An additional payment of one-half of one per cent on the common stock will be paid tomorrow under the lower duty provided in the Paybe bill. She has in her hold 44,297 bags of raw sugar, the largest cargo received in New York for many years.

Many other vessels carrying Cuban sugar are either on their way here or are being loaded as fast as possible, and it is reported that the market will be flooded with sugar from Cuba within the next few weeks. The cane crop in Cuba this year is the largest in recent years.

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The enquiry will be continued tomorrow morning at 10.30.

HON. MR. PUGLEY ON HIS WAY HOME

Prince Albert, Sask., Aug. 9.—Hon. Wm. Pugley leaves here on his eastward journey today.

He visited Saskatoon and remained there Friday afternoon and part of Saturday. He was received by Mr. McCranney, M. P., and a large number of citizens and visited the city on Saturday. He addressed the Canadian Club at luncheon. He arrived at Prince Albert on Saturday evening and was entertained at a civic banquet.

RUSHING SUGAR CARGOES

New York, Aug. 9.—The steamship Mercedes Larrinaga, arriving today from Cienfuegos, Cuba, scored considerable commercial distinction, for she brought not only a record cargo of raw sugar, but she was as fast as any vessel of that commodity under the lower duty provided in the Paybe bill. She has in her hold 44,297 bags of raw sugar, the largest cargo received in New York for many years.

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THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE P. R. A. SHOOTING AT SUSSEX

Sussex, N. B., Aug. 9.—Arrangements are now all completed for the forty-third annual prize meeting of the Provincial Rifle Association, which opens here tomorrow and continues until Friday.

The first of the marksmen arrived on the noon train and at 2 o'clock work was commenced on the camp. The work was briskly carried forward all the afternoon and this evening all arrangements are complete for tomorrow.

Thirty military belt tents have been erected for the accommodation of the marksmen and their baggage. The ground is being cleared and the tents are being pitched. In addition there are also two staff or office tents for the officials of the association.

The only requisite now for a successful meet is continued fine weather. As far as can be judged the night is of about the same size as that of last year and regret is expressed that more new men and tyros have not come forward this year. This is regretted by the older members and the executive but their hearts are cheered by the appearance of several old timers who have been out of the game for years and who are this year again coming out to test their skill. In addition there are present a number of old stayers, whose regular appearance year after year and their interest in the game does so much in keeping the sport alive in the province.

Among the older members may be mentioned Captain J. D. Perkins of Fredericton, Major Magee, Major McKibbie, Ma-

Major Magee, Major McKibbie, Ma-

Major Magee, Major McKibbie, Ma-

Major Magee, Major McKibbie, Ma-

Major Magee, Major McKibbie, Ma-

Major Magee, Major McKibbie, Ma-

The Times Daily Puzzle Picture



DIFFERENT NOW. In courtship's happy days gone by Before I married Ella We used to sit upon