

# THE MAY BASKET

By GENEVA A. ELDREDGE.

Scent of apple blossoms filled Cynthia Smith's living room, a clumsy bee tumbled up and down the outside of the screen door, and now and then a swallow darted across the sunshine, his blue wings glistening. Away from the street sounded the rat-tat of a drum, and Cynthia heard the pitter of children's feet running toward the town square. Still she sat tense and upright in the old-fashioned rocking chair, her mouth drawn in a straight hard line, her eyes fixed upon the work in her hands.

The screen door squeaked on its spring and a round-faced, brown-eyed little boy squeezed in, his eyes filled with surprise when he saw her sitting there so still, her work in her hands, and he stammered a little as he said: "Wh-why, Aunt Cynthia, ain't you going to meet the train and see the p-parade?"

Soft and quick came her answer: "No, dear, not today."  
"But Aunt Cynthia, they ain't goin' to be no more p-parade days, an' I got on my white suit, an' mother thought maybe you'd like to have a little boy what was all spic and span to go wiv you."

And his little face grew wistful and troubled. He had never seen an Aunt Cynthia like this before, so straight and strange.  
He meant to know before he left just why she was staying home the day everyone else in town was going down to welcome the boys from France. So he crept up close and whispered: "Is it 'cause Joe ain't comin', auntie?" Tears sprang to her eyes as she gathered the little spic and span boy close.

"Yes, Teddie boy, that's just why auntie ain't going. She can't bear it."  
Now that Teddie was sure he felt that he ought to say something to help make auntie happier, so he said as he stroked her face with his fat little hand: "Never mind, auntie; I've got a secret and maybe tonight 'bout dark you'll know it. Maybe right 'fore supper, maybe right after, anyway, don't you come out doors right that time, will you?"

And auntie promised to stay in the house. Then hearing his mother calling he scampered away leaving Aunt Cynthia alone with her thoughts. Slowly she closed her eyes and in imagination saw the town square filled with people, the train pulling in filled with returning soldiers, the happy greetings, and far and faint she heard the band and the cheering.  
The hot tears trickled slowly down her face as she whispered, "And mine reported missing; my boy, who was the pride of my heart!" And then Teddie's happy little face seemed to shine out, and she remembered what a comfort he had been all the weary months, and now he is coming to hang me a May basket, bless his dear little heart, and I must cheer up for his sake. I think I will plan a little surprise myself.

So she went into her dining room and set the pretty table, bringing in great bunches of apple blossoms to decorate it with until the room looked like fairyland in the pink and white dress. She frosted little round cakes and made aniced drink for the crystal glasses, and almost before she knew it, twilight came drifting down. The drums had ceased their rat-tat and happy voices called to one another in the street. "It's almost time for Teddie and his secret," she thought as she patted her hair into place. Then she heard steps tiptoeing up the board walk and a child's quick panting breath, and she smiled the old-time glad smile that she used to greet the boy with who was missing tonight when he came to hang May baskets at the very same door.

When two fat fists pounded hard on the screen door she waited only long enough for a small boy to hide before she opened the door, to find a dainty little basket, all fringed and festooned and fairly bursting with candy kisses, setting on the step.

"Why, how surprised I am," she said. "Who could have left this beautiful little basket here? Surely it's a mistake; some little boy must have thought Susie Grimes lived here."

# JAVA "LAND OF VOLCANOES"

Country Has From Earliest Times Been Devastated by Turbulent Forces of Nature.

Java, with a territory about equal to New York state, has more volcanoes than any area of like size, and yet has more inhabitants than the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio and Texas combined. A bulletin of the National Geographic society finds that estimates of the active and extinct craters range from 100 to 150. "Everywhere in Java, in the huge crater lakes, in fissures that now are river beds, even in ancient temples, half-finished when interrupted by some fiery convulsion, are evidences of cataclysmic forces—such turbulent forces as now are in continuous hysteria in the valley of the Ten Thousand Smokes in Alaska and break their crusted surface enge intermittently in Java." The late eruption of the Klot (or Kalut) volcano cost the lives of 40,000 natives, destroyed 20,000 acres of crops by the flow of hot mud, and did millions of dollars' damage outside by the falling ashes. This devastation, however, was mild compared with the violent upheaval of 1883, when Mother Nature planted a gargantuan infernal machine on the Java doorstep at Krakoa. The terrific detonation was heard in Australia, as far away as El Paso is from New York, much of the island was blown into the air four times as high as the highest mountain, and the hole left under water where most of the island had been is so deep that a plumb line to touch bottom must be twice the length of the Washington monument. The isolation lessened the toll of lives, many of the 35,000 deaths having been due to the tidal waves that flooded distant shores.

# FLAMINGO LONG A MYSTERY

To American Naturalist Belongs Honor of Learning Habits of Really Remarkable Bird.

Until comparatively few years ago the habits of the flamingo, without doubt the most remarkable of all living birds, were a tantalizing mystery to naturalists. In 1904 the first photographs of nesting flamingoes were secured by Dr. Frank M. Chapman of the scientific staff of the American museum. The group was constructed from photographs and notes made during his investigations, and from specimens secured by him. Flamingoes occur in the warmer parts of both hemispheres. The American flamingo—the most brightly colored of the genus—ranges from the Bahamas and southern Florida to Brazil and the Galapagos.

For nests flamingoes erect curious mounds of mud, from 8 to 13 inches high, and measuring about 22 inches in diameter at the base and 14 inches across the top. A depression, about one inch deep, in the top of the nest, holds the single egg, laid in May. Both male and female incubate. When the young are hatched they are covered with a down like that of young ducks. They develop their brilliant plumage in their second year. For their first three or four days they remain in the nest, and are fed by the parents on predigested food. At about three weeks of age they enter upon their adult diet of crustaceans.

# What Became of Her?

Theodosia, the only daughter of Aaron Burr, was a woman of superior mental accomplishments and strong affections. In her eighteenth year she was married to Joseph Alston, afterward governor of South Carolina. She was a devoted and adored wife. The trial of her father for treason and his virtual banishment not only depressed her spirits but fearfully wrecked her already feeble constitution, yet his disgrace in no way lessened her affection. When he returned from Europe she resolved to visit him in New York. Embarking from South Carolina on the Patriot, on the thirteenth day of January, 1813, she was never heard of afterward. The schooner may have fallen into the hands of pirates; but as a heavy gale was experienced for several days soon after leaving Georgetown, the probability is that the craft sunk.

# Peculiar Animals.

The rabbit, or hux, which is found in Africa and Syria, is an interesting and comparatively little-known animal. Although it has hoofs, the sole of each foot is cup-shaped, so that when it presses the edges of a hoof against a smooth surface it can form a vacuum under the hoof by raising the center. Thus, using its feet as suckers, it climbs trees with surprising facility. The large-eyed, lemur-like creature called tarsier, a native of the Malay islands and of the Philippines, is equally interesting. Its toes end in suckers with which it can climb even the smooth stems of bamboo.—Youth's Companion.

# Would Be Worth Hearing.

Few dog stories would be so well worth hearing, if the dog could tell it, as that of Shep, a collie that belonged, and that we hope still belongs, to a family that lives on the upper Scioto river, in Ohio. The family moved to the headwaters of Smoky Hill river, in Kansas. They went by train to Kansas City and the rest of the way by wagon. After a year they moved back again to their old home in Ohio, but left Shep with a neighbor in Kansas. Eight weeks later the dog, "as thin as a rail" and somewhat footsore, walked into the house on the Scioto. He had traveled 800 miles.—Youth's Companion.

# MARIETTA

By MILDRED WHITE.

Caro Dalton fretted, because the kind of French poodle she especially desired was not to be found. Caro's whims were so many and varied that it was fortunate—or unfortunate, as the case may be—that her inherited wealth was not taxed in their fulfillment.

She had tired of the luxurious new car, the sailboat and the city apartment; her much-tried guardian was at his wits' end to please. Yet not to please Caro was to be himself miserable. For David Blair, junior law partner and trusted friend of the girl's departed father, had loved Caro with a deep, unselfish love, from the triumphant epoch of her first long dress and "done-up" hair.

She, unconscious perhaps of this love, had led her devoted slave a merry dance from the time of his instituted guardianship. David was given little anxiety concerning the various admirers who flocked in her train. Caro herself dismissed each promptly in turn. Now, it seemed her overwhelming desire was for some pet upon which to lavish her affection.

"A dog," Caro told her guardian. "Is a faithful creature, responding unquestionably to one's moods."  
"But why," David asked patiently, "must it necessarily be a white dog, and very small?"  
"White, because I shall have to keep it bathed and cared for," Caro answered; "small, so that I may hold it in my lap."  
The guardian sighed. Caro's explanations were as unsatisfying as the smile which accompanied them was charming.

"Better wish for a dog of that description," he suggested. "For you wish to have—is it not, Caroline?" There was a saddened note in the guardian's voice.  
"Not always," Caro replied; she looked at him quickly with insouciant eyes.

But as she drove her car that afternoon beyond her accustomed way, a small dog of exactly the kind she desired, came dashing out across a barren field to bark furiously at her intrusion.  
Caro stopped the car, but the little animal continued to bark, until at length it paused breathlessly, to listen to her caressing voice.

"Come," coaxed the girl; "you dear little thing—!" And as she sprang down into the road the dog's feathery tail wagged fervently in greeting.  
Before her astonished gaze he arose presently, waving his two fore-paws in the air, and executing a solemn dance around her.

"You funny thing," she exclaimed. "You little trick dog!" Before she could forbid the little white creature had leaped into the car, grinning at her in dog fashion from the front seat.  
"He's mine," Caro told herself defiantly; "I wished for him." But the guardian failed to rejoice with her, when he learned the discovery.  
Though the dog devoted himself jealously to Caro, David Blair insisted upon placing an advertisement in the "Found" column of that evening's paper, and following closely upon its appearance came a pitiful reply.  
"The little found dog is my 'Fidget,'" came scrawled in a childish fashion. "He is all I have to love. He acts with me in the circus. Please bring him back to Marietta."  
And though there was no further direction or address, David and his rebellious ward drove that evening with Fidget between them to the faraway grounds, where the traveling circus pitched its great tent.

The little dog of the loved Marietta was at once recognized by welcoming waltzers.  
"She didn't sleep last night," a painted clown said. "Fidget is all the folks Marietta's got now, you see. Her mother didn't live long after her dad was killed in his famous jump last year. The circus had sort of 'baptized' Marietta since. Every one likes to see the kid dance with her dog, tho' it ain't much of an act after all. Marietta," called the clown, "come here, honey." And Marietta came.  
A vision of flying golden curls and short ruffled skirts, she flew toward her pet, and had him in her arms. Then tear-filled, the child's blue eyes sought Caro's.  
"I'm sorry," she said, "that you can't have Fidget, but—I love him. And I haven't got anything else to love."  
The Dalton heiress nodded understandingly; her guardian noted in distress that her eyes were also filled with tears.  
Suddenly, impulsively, the girl's arms closed tight about the childish form.  
"Dear," said Caro, "do you suppose that you could possibly learn to love me? Would you like to come and live in a big, stone house with a garden; would you like to be—my little sister?"  
"Caro!" David Blair expostulated, "think seriously what you are offering."  
"I do think," the girl answered quietly. The old twinkle came back to her eyes. "Marietta will be more satisfying than Fidget," she said.  
And as he stood looking down upon the two, David Blair's face softened into a great tenderness.  
"I'm afraid, Caro, that I have never known the real you," he said.  
And the girl's eyes again raised to his, reflected their radiant light. (Copyright, 1919, Western Newspaper Union)

# HUNS GIVE UP WORKS OF ART

World-Famous Paintings Stolen From Belgium Returned as Stipulation of Peace Treaty.

By the terms of the peace treaty Belgium and Ghent will respectively recover priceless works of art, one of which was supposed to have been destroyed after the Germans entered Louvain, while the other has long been incomplete because two important parts of it were in the Kaiser Friedrich museum, Berlin. The Louvain painting is the work of Dierick Bouts, a "Last Supper," which has been described as "certainly one of the finest examples of Flemish fifteenth century art" and was painted for the collegiate church of St. Pierre. The painting had come down the centuries as the chief adornment of the church, and disappeared after the German occupation. It is believed to have been destroyed, but is now known to have been removed and preserved by the invaders, and its return is one of the stipulations of the peace treaty. The other famous painting, "The Adoration of the Lamb," has been called "the first and greatest masterpiece of fifteenth century painting produced in Flanders." It was begun by Hubert van Eyck, but continued and finished by Jan van Eyck. Time had separated the parts of the painting and at present the central panel remains in the chapel of St. Bayon in Ghent, another part is in Brussels, and yet another in Berlin. Brussels will probably return her part of the composition, and Germany is to give back the portions that have been in her possession, so that the painting as a whole will once more be assembled in the chapel for which it was painted.

# HOUSING IN GREAT BRITAIN

Problem Bids Fair to Be Successfully Worked Out Through Fair and United Effort.

In connection with the problem of reconstruction in the united kingdom various housing schemes are contemplated. Variety in the model dwellings to be erected has been encouraged by the enterprise of the London Daily Mail, which offered prizes amounting to \$10,000 for "designs best and most suitable in themselves and most nearly in line with the architectural traditions of the several districts."

The country was divided into four areas—the northern, midland and Welsh industrial areas, and the southern and midland counties rural area, with a prize of \$2,500 in each section. Over 3,500 designs were submitted. In the winning designs the need for economy in all cases was apparent.  
In addition to these new model homes, a demand has arisen for furniture especially suitable for them, the construction of which would be of the simplest, combined with the required rigidity and strength. A successful attempt to meet this need has been made by the Shoreditch Technical Institute (London), at which cottage furniture, designed in the carpentry shops of the institute and executed by the boys at the school, has been on exhibition.

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HERSHEY, NEBRASKA.

# Legal Notice.

Harmon Albert Surber will take notice that Dora Frances Surber, as plaintiff, commenced an action in the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, on April 16, 1919, against you as defendant, the object and prayer of said action being to obtain a divorce from you, the said defendant, on the grounds of extreme cruelty and gross, wanton and cruel desertion.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 27th day of October, 1919.

DORA FRANCES SURBER, s16010 Plaintiff.

# NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior.

U. S. Land Office at Broken Bow, Nebraska, September 19, 1919.

Notice is hereby given that Nelson D. Weils, of North Platte, Nebraska, who on April 8, 1916, made homestead entry North Platte No. 06342, Broken Bow, No. 011901, for the W½ NW¼, Section 26, Township 12 North, Range 31 West of 6th Principal Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three-year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before W. H. C. Woodhurst, United States Commissioner, at North Platte, Nebraska, on the 8th day of November, 1919.

Claimant names as witnesses: Stephen W. McDermott, O. L. Watkins, Carl Braeder, R. S. L. Voss, all of North Platte, Nebraska.

MACK C. WARRINGTON, s23024 Register.

# Notice of Final Report

Estate No. 1603 of Alma B. Sims, deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska, to all persons interested in said estate take notice that the Administrator has filed a final account and report of his administration and a petition for final settlement and discharge as such which have been set for hearing before said court on October 17, 1919, at 9 o'clock a. m., when you may appear and contest the same.

Dated September 19, 1919.

(SEAL) WM. H. C. WOODHURST, s23010 County Judge.

# Notice to Creditors

Estate of James H. Robinson deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska, ss. Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is January 31, 1920, and for settlement of said estate is September 25, 1920; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on October 21, 1919, at 9 o'clock a. m., and on January 31, 1920, at 9 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.

(SEAL) WM. H. C. WOODHURST, s30017 County Judge.

# Notice of Incorporation of Union State Bank of North Platte, Nebraska.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have formed a corporation under the name of "Union State Bank of North Platte, Nebraska," with the principal place of business in the city of North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, the general nature of the business to be transacted being a commercial banking business under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

The amount of the capital stock is the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), all of which is to be paid in at the time of commencement of business. The commencement of business shall be the 15th day of June, 1919, or as soon thereafter as authorized by the State Banking Board of the State of Nebraska, and said corporation shall terminate the 15th day of June, 1922. The affairs of the corporation shall be conducted by a board of directors consisting of not less than three nor more than seven, who shall elect from their number a president and secretary and select a vice-president and cashier and such assistant cashiers and clerks as may be necessary to conduct the business of said corporation.

Gust Branting, Samuel G. Anderson, Theodore O. Swenson, Ed. Westering, Alfred Swenson, John Victor Swenson, Eloy A. Olson, Charles W. Swenson.

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McDonald Bank Bldg.

Phone 97.

DR. HOWARD YOST, DENTIST

Twinn Bldg. Phone 307

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# Notice to Creditors

Estate No. 1639 of Mary Voseicka, deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska, ss. Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for the presentation and filing of claims against said estate is January 31, 1920, and for settlement of said estate is September 25, 1920; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on October 21, 1919, at 9 o'clock a. m., and on January 31, 1920, at 9 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.

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