

Her Engagement Ring

By MYRTLE LEE

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She had the faintest, most shapely hand ever seen, and Earle Warren recognized it and flashed an admiring glance at the same as Neva Burdette sat drawing pictures for her little brother Ned on a rustic table in the garden. There had been a lively, merry lawn party, and awaiting tea there was a breaking up into various groups. Unostentatiously and from choice Earle had kept near to Miss Burdette and her close friends, Alice and Muriel Dodge, and their escorts. Neva had been his partner at times and it had naturally followed that they had remained together.

Little Ned had, however, discovered somebody's sketch book, had extracted some loose blank sheets and was insisting that Aunt Neva should amuse him. She portrayed his favorite engine and train of cars, a horse, an automobile and an airplane. Earle indicated an interest in this pictorial display, but Miss Burdette told Ned to hold his collection safe and tight, objecting to its presentation on account of alleged crudeness.

"Just one more sheet," finally announced Ned. "Oh, aunt! you'll let me draw something for you?"

"Certainly, dear," assented Neva. Ned spread the sheet on the table. "Now," he said, "I want to show you something we do in school. You just spread your hand down tight over the paper. That's it. Now don't you move it," and with pride and accuracy Ned proceeded to trace the skeleton outlines of fingers and hand clear to the wrist. Then with satisfaction he held it up to her view.

"Isn't that fine?" he challenged, and Neva smiled her approval, and just then some one called to her from a group a little distance away, and she flitted with a conscious flush as her glance met that of Earle, bestowing interest manifestly in all her movements.

"You can have this, Mr. Warren, because you're such a good friend to Aunt Neva," observed little Ned generously, extending the pencilled sheet. Then he ran away after a kitten crossing the path, and Earle casually scanned the very fine outline of the delicate hand of the peerless creature of whom he was indeed the good friend, and secretly hoped to make some day a dearest one. Idly he took out his pencil and began mending the breaks Ned had made in the outlines. The pencil point crossed the third finger of the left hand and rested there. In a whimsical fringe of mind Earle began to trace a circlet about the base of that certain finger. He smiled to himself as he pleasantly recalled that Miss Burdette wore no jewelry, predicting hopefully that she was heart free. He gemmed the ring with a very fair diamond and started suddenly as a voice spoke directly at his ear, and there was mischief-eyed Alice Dodge leaning past his shoulder.

"Drawing a ring on Neva's finger!" fluttered this very clever young woman. "Why, you have given her an engagement ring, too!"

"She deserves one," observed Earle quickly.

"Bolder and bolder! Oh, I shall tell her!"

"Wait! wait!" dissuaded Earle, but the winsome sprite flashed away with a tantalizing laugh.

Miss Alice did nothing of the kind. She was an observant creature and practiced as to match-making. It had been no task whatever for her to discover that Neva and Earle were in love with each other, but that her girl friend was shy and retiring and the lover seeking encouragement.

"I shall hurry things along," vehemently declared Alice, and a day or two later had an opportunity for placing a plan she had formed in operation. Neva had arranged to give a party to which all of her friends, including Earle, had been invited. Upon the day preceding it Alice said to her: "Now, Neva, dear, you want to shine your brightest on this occasion. I am going to help you dress for the event and here—this will emphasize your magnificence," and she pressed a ring upon Neva's hand.

"Oh, no!" demurred Neva instantly. "Why, you have placed it on the engagement finger!"

"And aren't you longing like every other live girl we know to have one there to stay?" and Neva blushed her prettiest. Both of them met Earle the next day as they passed down the street. As he greeted them he noticed the brilliant on Neva's finger.

The party was an enjoyable occasion to all save the hostess, for Earle did not appear, nor did he come near the house for several days later.

A week after the party he met Neva on the street. It had been a wretched seven days for him.

"If you will stop for a moment at the Dodge home while I return to Alice this ring she loaned to me to wear at the party I will be very glad to accompany you," said Neva.

The sky had been cloudy. Just then the sun came out. Earle's face had been grim and anxious. Of a sudden it glowed with a rapturous joy.

"A ring from myself shall encircle that fair finger before any one else gets ahead of me!" he fervently resolved, and when those two returned from the stroll along the lake mutual delight welled up in their happy hearts.

NAVY LIBRARY WORTH VISIT

Apartment in States, War and Navy Building at Washington Should Appeal to Tourists.

The navy library, in the state, war and navy building, is a lovely place to soak up atmosphere. Like the building itself, it is thirty-three years old. When it was built England, France, Spain and Italy presented the marbles of porphyry, sienna and malachite with which the walls are paneled. Mexico sent the pieces of onyx which encrust the gallery. The round stone over the door came from the ruins of Pompeii. The connoisseur in marble who visits Washington will enjoy a call here.

In the center of the large room, lined with shelves of weighty tomes on naval matters, there is a large and important green-topped table. Around this table sat the strategic board of the Spanish-American war. Here also the naval advisory board for the great war made their secret plans and experiments. Edison, Maxim, Miller and many others conferred over it, with the windows carefully darkened and a guard before the door.

There is a quaint side to the library, too. A little white-haired lady can be seen any time, flitting about the shelves of dark, heavy books, or cutting and pasting busily in her corner by the window. This is Miss Mason, daughter of a former secretary of the navy. She has been in the library 25 years. If you happen in near noon she may give you a cup of tea on one corner of her desk.

And of all charming places to have an unexpected cup of tea, with a sweet little lady, this quiet nook among the books is recommended.

TWO TRAVELERS CAME BACK

According to Army Captain, Mules Returned From That Dim and Undiscovered Shore.

The regimental morning report is a fearsome document. On it appear all the changes in status of men and animals for each preceding 24 hours. It happened in an Ohio regiment once that two mules fell ill one night. The veterinarian gave his verdict of hopeless, and the captain of the supply company accordingly made the proper entry on the morning report: "Two mules, from duty to dead."

But under the care of the grizzled old stable sergeant the mules recovered and next morning the captain found them alive and kicking. Now, entries made on the morning report can never be erased, which made the situation embarrassing for the captain. However, he was a man of resource, and the next day's report carried the startling entry: "Two mules, from dead to duty."

Shrub May Prove Valuable.

Two years before the war, as the story is told, two German chemists applied for permission to experiment with the plant life on a great semi-arid ranch in central Mexico. Their request was granted, with the understanding that they furnish a complete report of their findings. The two chemists worked feverishly, and chiefly on a squat, odorless shrub called "gobernadora," long reputed to possess medicinal properties. Suddenly they disappeared; what they had discovered was never known. Now, after experiments with this same desert shrub which they have found in drier parts of New Mexico, chemists of the United States department of agriculture believe that they have discovered another alkaloid to add to the list which already includes morphine, quinine and cocaine. Its chemical and pharmaceutical properties are now under investigation.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Trapper's Tomb a Log Cabin.

A humble log cabin which stands in a trackless forest near Lake Athabasca, in western Canada, was once the home of a fur trapper, its builder. Now it is a tomb, sheltering the frozen body of its former occupant, who died there, alone and unaided, nearly two years ago. To investigate the cause of the trapper's death, a fearless member of the royal northwest mounted police journeyed to the desolate scene in midwinter, braving the terrors of the wilderness for months before reaching his objective, situated miles from railroads and civilization. The corpse was in a perfect state of preservation, due to the cold, dry air, and was not moved from the bunk on which the trapper passed away.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Last Resort.

An eminent engineer said in our hearing yesterday that in Italy the workers are giving two hours of their time as a free gift to the state. They realize that increased production means ultimately increased wealth. In Germany there are signs of the same spirit among the colliers. But in old England the following story admirably illustrates the industrial situation:

Two miners were discussing the minimum wage. "Say, Bill," said the first, "what's this 'ere minimum wage?" Bill spat. "The minimum wage! That's what we gets for goin' down; an' if we wants ter make any more brass, we goes and does some work for it."—London Morning Post.

City Markets.

Of 227 cities in the United States having estimated populations of more than 20,000, more than one-half (128) had municipal markets in 1918 according to a bulletin on the subject recently issued by the census bureau.

A Calico Girl

By VICTOR REDCLIFFE

(Copyright, 1919, by the Western Newspaper Union.)

"Good-by till next year, little Doris!" hailed Sidney Throop from the old-fashioned carryall, conveying himself and three fellow vacationers from camp to the little railroad depot.

He waved his hand in kindly farewell at the forlorn figure of a girl of sixteen, Doris Lee, who stood at the rustic gate of her uncle's home. She smiled bravely, then turned her head away, and Paul Faber, at the side of Throop, noticing a fluttering handkerchief, remarked:

"I declare! That little sprite is sorry to have you leave—she's crying."

"I am sorry myself," replied Sidney gravely. "It has been a pleasure to know such an unspoiled child of nature."

"She hasn't been the same since yesterday—seems to have avoided the crowd for some reason or other."

"I can tell you why," piped in another. "She looked positively awed when Faber's sister stopped at the camp in her automobile. I suppose the poor little wild flower was stunned at the magnificence of the acknowledged belle of the season."

"So the episode passed, but Sidney Throop sat silent and thoughtful. Their camp had been located in close proximity to the farm owned by the uncle of Doris, and it had been her task to bring fresh milk and cream morning and evening to the temporary sojourners. An artless, innocent child, she had the good fortune to deal with real gentlemen, and as the days ran on grew to regard them as true friends.

"If I am to do the extra chores of carrying milk and eggs and chickens to the picnicers," said Doris to her uncle the next day, you must allow me a little pin money."

"Why not?" interrogated Mr. Lee good naturedly. "But I hope seeing these gay people from the city hasn't put a lot of vanity into that sensible little head of yours."

Ever since the day she had met the fashionable Miss Alice Faber there had become a model established in the mind of Doris as to what the real lady of society should look like.

"I suppose Mr. Thorpe made some wide comparisons between that silk-and-lace beauty and humble little me in calico," mused Doris, and naturally a trifle bitterly, and then a change came over her. She nurtured a species of reserve and every penny of pin money she acquired she put carefully away. Gradually her wardrobe began to include little articles of feminine adornment dear to the girlish heart.

A year had rolled around and Mr. Lee informed Doris that "the crowd of young fellows," as he termed it, had advised him that they would take the old camp cottage for a month.

Doris was in a bewildering state of animation. For a full year she had dreamed, planned and saved. It almost took away the breath of the poor vacationers when there burst upon their arrival the afternoon of their arrival a new and glorified Doris.

She wore a silky, scaly dress skirt, quite "raunchy," having a certain trailing aprons effect. It fitted like the fuz of a clingsome peach. Her breath came quick, her eyes glowed like diamonds, but as the four young men greeted her friendly enough, but vaguely, Doris shivered. Somehow she traced not only surprise in their faces, but a certain reproachful, pitying sentiment.

The unusual gravity of Thorpe crushed her. The young face clouded when she had ascertained what supplies they would require daily from the farmhouse. Doris hastened from the camp, reached a covert, and threw herself on the ground in a wild paroxysm of vexation and disappointment.

"What is the trouble, little friend?" spoke Sidney, who had followed her, and she came to her feet angry and defiant. She darted one look at him and fled precipitately. To both a correct conception had come. Sidney at once comprehended that the foolish little maid had modeled herself after Miss Faber to appear modern and impressive, and she realized that she must appear grotesque and out of her element, and her vanity was wounded. Like some pentest she appeared at the camp in propria persona the following morning, her own modest natural self. She was reserved and looked pained and humbled. Sidney accompanied her as she started home.

"Dear little friend," he spoke almost tenderly, "it seems good to see the bright fairy we all of us love once again as nature intended her."

"And I did it all for you!" sobbed Doris. "Miss Faber—"

"Miss Faber, confidentially, has wrinkles to conceal, and none of your lovely roses on her cheeks," observed Sidney.

"But I am only a calico girl, and I thought that if I was dressed like Miss Faber—"

"Made up, you mean," interrupted Sidney. "You don't need that." He could scarcely resist the impulse to take her in his arms in all her artless grace and beauty. "Doris, dear," he said seriously, "there is one man who always wishes to find you as you are—a sweet child of nature—one who hates some day to have you as all his own—myself."

And she read truth and adoration in his earnest, longing eyes, and was content.

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ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

NORTH PLATTE EQUITY ASSOCIATION

North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska.

Know all men by these presents: That we, whose names are hereto attached, have associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a cooperative corporation under the laws of the State of Nebraska, and for that purpose, do hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

ARTICLE I. The name of this corporation shall be "North Platte Equity Association."

ARTICLE II. The principal place of transacting the business of this corporation shall be in the city of North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, and such other places as the Board of Directors shall select.

ARTICLE III. The general nature of the business to be transacted by this corporation shall be to buy, sell, trade and deal in wholesale and retail, groceries, provisions, food supplies, wares, vegetables, produce and all other articles otherwise incidental to a general grocery, vegetable, food supply, poultry, fish, game, produce and provision mercantile business, to construct, buy, lease, store, cure, manufacture and otherwise handle all kinds of farm and dairy products, live stock, poultry, and domestic, foreign and manufactured food products; to buy, sell, manufacture and deal in ice, as well as refrigerators for frozen products, and to conduct a general cold storage business; to manufacture, buy, prepare and deal in ice cream, as well as cream, ingredients for making ice cream and fees; to buy and sell all kinds of lumber, cement, coal; to buy, lease, exchange, dispose of, and otherwise deal in all kinds of machinery, engineering and hardware specialties, gasoline or gas engines and motors, steam engines, boilers, and other farm machinery, farm equipment, wire, dairy supplies, vehicles, and machinery and appliances of every kind, nature and description; to buy, sell, and deal in seeds and poultry feed, to carry on a general hardware business, including the purchase and sale of all kinds of hardware at wholesale and retail; to purchase and sell furniture and articles used in the furnishing and equipment of banks, theatres, churches, schools, residences and other public and private buildings; to buy, sell, trade and deal in grain, feed, hay, straw and other agricultural products at wholesale and retail; to buy and deal in at wholesale and retail, dry goods, clothing, wearing apparel and textile fabrics of every kind, hats, caps, millinery, boots, shoes, furnishings, goods, fancy goods, and all other merchandise of like general character and description, and to conduct the business of general dry-goods and clothing merchants, hatters, dressmakers and general outfitters; to manufacture, buy and sell bread, cakes, pies, crackers, confectionery, ice cream, and other food products and all kinds of pastry, bread stuffs and other similar articles; to buy, sell, lease, store and repair automobiles and motor vehicles and their parts and accessories; and to manufacture and sell automobile tops, bodies and other automobile parts, and to provide and maintain restaurants, inns, eating houses, or places of entertainment and refreshment; and to do all things incidental to the general transaction and character of business hereinbefore enumerated and implied; to make and perform contracts of any kind and description, and in carrying on its business, or for the purpose of attaining or furthering any of its objects, to do any and all things which a natural person could do and which, when authorized by law, or hereafter may be authorized by law; and in the purchase or acquisition of property, business rights, or franchises, or in carrying on its business, or for any other object in or about its business or affairs, and with limit as to amount, to incur debt, and to raise, borrow and secure the payment of its debt in any lawful manner, including the issue and sale of other disposition of bonds, warrants, debentures, obligations, negotiable and non-negotiable instruments and evidences of indebtedness of all kinds, whether secured by mortgage, pledge, deed of trust or otherwise, and to own, lease, and sell such personal and real property as may be necessary and useful for the transaction of the business and the accomplishment of the purpose of this corporation.

ARTICLE IV. This corporation shall continue for a period of ninety-nine (99) years, beginning with the date of its incorporation, unless sooner dissolved according to law.

ARTICLE V. The amount of capital stock of this corporation shall be Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000) Dollars divided into Twenty Thousand (20,000) shares of the par value of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) each. Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) shall be fully paid in at the time of commencement of business. This stock shall be non-assessable. The highest amount of indebtedness to which this corporation shall at any time subject itself shall not exceed two-thirds of the paid-up capital stock.

ARTICLE VI. The affairs of this corporation shall be conducted by a board of Seven (7) directors, who shall be elected annually by the stockholders. The board of directors shall elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer from their own number. The names and places of residence of the members of this board of directors selected to manage and control all the business and prudential affairs of this corporation until their successors are elected and qualified are:

Name Address Edgar M. Dawson, North Platte, Neb. Harry M. Johnson, North Platte, Neb. Charles F. Burroughs, North Platte, Neb. William Ebricht, R. F. D. Box 14, North Platte, Neb. Thos. Orton, 299 S. Maple St., North Platte, Neb. Gene Crook, 319 S. Chestnut St., North Platte, Neb. Wm. Simants, Box 345, North Platte, Neb.

ARTICLE VII. The stockholders shall have authority to enact by-laws suitable for the conduct and management of the corporation business. The by-laws may restrict and limit the right of persons to own and transfer the shares of stock of this corporation.

ARTICLE VIII. These articles may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the stockholders, provided that a written notice of the proposed amendment be mailed ten days in advance of said meeting to each of the stockholders at their last known place of residence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this day of November, 1919.

Name Address Thos. Orton, North Platte, Neb. Ellis Eglehoff, North Platte, Neb. M. Hayes, North Platte, Neb. J. H. Morrow, North Platte, Neb. Geo. W. Eddy, North Platte, Neb. Roy Lannin, North Platte, Neb. Chester C. Williams, North Platte, Neb.

S. W. Throckmorton, North Platte, Neb. Wm. O. Shedy, North Platte, Neb. Gene Crook, North Platte, Neb. J. Roy Dorrans, North Platte, Neb. W. W. Yates, North Platte, Neb. O. R. Huff, North Platte, Neb. M. B. Buchtel, North Platte, Neb. A. S. Cornwell, North Platte, Neb. Robert M. Weeks, North Platte, Neb. E. H. Yates, North Platte, Neb. John T. Stewart, North Platte, Neb. Samuel M. Souder, North Platte, Neb. Wm. J. Stewart, North Platte, Neb. Wm. Ebricht, North Platte, Neb. Fred H. Thompson, North Platte, Neb. Loy E. Ebricht, North Platte, Neb. Wm. Simants, North Platte, Neb. W. F. Vosepka, North Platte, Neb. L. E. Hastings, North Platte, Neb. E. M. Dawson, North Platte, Neb. Hershey E. Welch, North Platte, Neb. Harry M. Johnson, North Platte, Neb. Charles F. Burroughs, North Platte, Neb. n2519

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Estate No. 1702 of Mary A. Simants, 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 April 2, 1920, and for settlement of said estate is November 23, 1920, that I will set at the county court room in said county on January 2, 1920, at 9 o'clock a. m., and on April 2, 1920, at 9 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections filed.

WM. H. C. WOODHURST, County Judge.

NOTICE

In the matter of the estate of Louis Armstrong, deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska. To all persons interested in said estate:

Notice is hereby given that William A. Armstrong and George T. Sidwell on December 5, 1919, filed in this court a duly authenticated copy of the last Will and Testament of Louis Armstrong, deceased, as admitted to probate and allowed in the Probate Court of Cook County, Illinois, and which Will relates to both real and personal estate and also their petition praying that the said instrument be admitted to probate and that letters testamentary be issued thereon, upon the estate of said Louis Armstrong, deceased, and that said petition will be heard before the County Court in the court house in the City of North Platte, County of Lincoln and State of Nebraska, on the 27th day of December, 1919, at nine o'clock a. m., at which time any one may appear and contest the probate of said Will, and show cause, if any there be, why letters testamentary should not be issued to said petitioners.

Dated at North Platte, Nebraska, December 5, 1919.

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

In the United States District Court,

For the District of Nebraska,

North Platte Division.

In the Matter of Frank W. Campbell, Bankrupt.

Case No. 73, in Bankruptcy, Voluntary Petition.

Order of Referee on Proceedings for Discharge.

In said District on this 6th day of December, A. D. 1919, before Walter V. Hoagland, Referee in Bankruptcy at North Platte, Nebraska.

This cause came on for hearing upon the filing and reading of the bankrupt's petition for Discharge and it is ordered that a hearing be had upon the same on the 15th day of January, A. D. 1920, before said Court, at North Platte, in said District, at 10 o'clock in the morning and that notice thereof be published in the North Platte Tribune, a newspaper printed in said District, and that all known creditors and other persons in interest may appear at the said time and place and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petitioner should not be granted. And it is further ordered by the Court, that the referee shall send by mail to all known creditors copies of said petition and this order, addressed to them at their places of residence as stated.

WALTER V. HOAGLAND, Referee in Bankruptcy.

Taken Up.

Taken up on or about September 1st by the undersigned who resides a half mile north of the Platte Valley school house, a roan bull, about 3 years old weight about 1000 pounds, bunch on right hind knee, no brand. Owner call, prove property, pay charges and take animal away.

ALPHA OLSON.

NOTICE.