



PEG O' MY HEART

By J. Hartley Manners

A Comedy of Youth Founded by Mr. Manners on His Great Play of the Same Title—Illustrations From Photographs of the Play

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CHAPTER XI. The Chichesters.

ALARIC sat on the edge of her chair and put his arm around her shoulder and tried to comfort her.

"Don't you worry, mater," he said. "Don't worry. I'll go down and tell 'em what I think of 'em—exactly what I think of 'em. They can't play the fool with me. I should think not, indeed. Listen, mater. You've got a son, thank God, and one no bank can take any liberties with. What we put in there we've got to have out. That's all I can say. We've simply got to have it out. There! I've said it."

Alaric rose and, drawing himself up to his full five feet six inches of manhood, glared malignantly at some imaginary bank officials. His whole nature was roused. The future of the family depended on him. They would not depend in vain. He looked at Ethel, who was trying to make the best of the business by smiling agreeably on them both.

"It's bankrupt!" wailed Mrs. Chichester.

"Failed!" suggested Ethel cheerfully. "We're beggars," continued the mother. "I must live on charity for the rest of my life, the guest of relations I've hated the sight of and who have hated me. It's dreadful—dreadful!"

All Alaric's first glow of manly enthusiasm began to cool. "Don't you think we'll get anything?" By accident he turned to Ethel. She smiled meaninglessly and said for the first time with any real note of conviction:

"Nothing."

Alaric sat down gloomily beside his mother. "I always thought bank directors were blighters, God heavens, what a mess!" He looked the picture of misery. "What's to become of Ethel, mater?"

"Whoever shelters me must shelter Ethel as well," replied the mother sadly. "But it's hard—at my age—to be sheltered."

Alaric looked at Ethel, and a feeling of pity came over him. It was distinctly to his credit since his own wrongs occupied most of his attention. But, after all, he could buffet the world and bring a living out of it. All he had to do was to make up his mind which walk in life to choose. He was fortunate.

But Ethel, reared from infancy in the environment of independence—it would come very hard and bitter on her. Alaric just touched Ethel's hand, and with as much feeling as he could muster he said:

"Shocking, tough, old girl." Ethel shook her head almost determinedly and said somewhat enigmatically and for her heatedly:

"No?"

"No?" asked Alaric. "No—what?"

"Charity!" said Ethel.

"Cold blooded words," and Alaric shuddered. "What will you do, Ethel?"

"Work."

"At what?"

"Teach."

"Teach? Who in the wide world can you teach?"

"Children."

Alaric laughed mirthlessly. "Oh, come, that's rich! Eh, mater? Fancy Ethel teaching grubby little brats their A B C's! Tush!"

"Must!" said Ethel, quite unmoved. "A Chichester teach?" said Alaric, in disgust.

"Settled!" from Ethel, and she swept her fingers slowly across the piano.

"Very well," said Alaric determinedly. "I'll work too."

Mrs. Chichester looked up pleadingly. Alaric went on: "I'll put my hand to the plow. The more I think of it the keener I am to begin. From today I'll be a workman."

At this Ethel laughed a queer, little, odd, sn-critical note, summed up in a single word, "Ha!" There was nothing mirthful in it. There was no reproach in it. It was just an expression of her honest feeling at the bare suggestion of her brother working.

Alaric turned quickly to her. "And may I ask why that 'Ha'?"

"Why, I ask you? There's nothing I couldn't do if I were really put to it—not a single thing. Is there, mater?"

His mother looked up proudly at him. "I know that, dear. But it's dreadful to think of you—working."

"Not at all," said Alaric. "I'm just tugging all over at the thought of it. The only reason I haven't so far is because I've never had to. But now that I have I'll just buckle on my armor, so to speak, and astonish you all."

Again came that deadly, cold unsympathetic "Ha!" from Ethel.

"Please don't laugh in that cheerless way, Ethel. It goes all down my spine. Jerry's always telling me I ought to do something—that the world is for the worker—and all that. He's right, and I'm going to show him." He suddenly picked up the paper and look-



Alaric Drew Himself to His Full Height.

ed at the date. "What's today—the 1st? Yes, so it is—June the 1st. Jerry's coming today—all his family too. They've taken Noel's folly, on the hill. He's sure to look in here. Couldn't be better. He's the cove to turn to in a case like this."

Jarvis, a white haired, dignified butler, who had served the family man and boy, came in at this juncture with a visiting card on a salver.

Alaric picked it up and glanced at it. He gave an expression of disgust and gave the card back on the salver. "Christian Brent."

For the first time Ethel showed more than a passing gleam of interest. She stopped strumming the piano and stood up, very erect and very still.

Mrs. Chichester rose too. "I can't see any one," she said imperatively. "Nor I," added Alaric. "I'm all strung up." He turned to Jarvis. "Tell Mr. Brent we're very sorry, but—"

"I'll see him," interrupted Ethel, almost animatedly. "Bring Mr. Brent here, Jarvis."

As Jarvis went in search of Mr. Brent Mrs. Chichester went up the great stairs. "My head is throbbing. I'll go to my room."

"Don't you worry, mater," consoled Alaric. "Leave everything to me. I'll thrash the whole thing out."

As Mrs. Chichester disappeared Alaric turned to his calm sister, who, strangely enough, was showing some signs of life and interest.

"Really going to teach?"

"Yes."

"Right! I'll find something, too—very likely a doctor. We'll pull through somehow."

Ethel made a motion toward the door as though to stop any further conversation.

"Mr. Brent's coming," she said, almost impatiently.

Alaric started for the window leading into the garden. "Jolly good of you to let him bore you. I hate the sight of the beggar myself. Always looks to me like the first conspirator at a play."

The door opened, and Jarvis entered and ushered in "Mr. Brent." Alaric hurried into the garden.

A few words of description of Christian Brent might be of interest since he represents a type that society always has with it.

They begin by deceiving others; they end by deceiving themselves.

Christian Brent was a dark, tense, eager, scholarly looking man of twenty-eight years of age. His career as a diplomatist was halted at its outset by an early marriage with the only daughter of a prosperous manufacturer.

Brent was moderately independent in his own right, but the addition of his wife's dowry seemed to destroy all ambition. He no longer found interest in carrying messages to the various legations or embassies of Europe or in filling a routine position as some one's secretary. Even being an intensely social being he drifted into a drawing room—the living of the drawing room—where the close breath of some rare perfume meant more than

the clash of interests and the conquest of a woman greater than that of a nation. Just at this period Ethel Chichester was the especial object of his adoration.

Her beauty appealed to him. Her absolute indifference to him stung him as a lash. It seemed to be little his powers of attraction. Consequently he redoubled his efforts.

Ethel showed neither like nor dislike—just a form of toleration. Brent accepted this, as a dog a crumb, in the hope of something more substantial to follow. He had come that morning with a fixed resolve. His manner was determined. His voice waned as a cress. He went tenderly to Ethel the moment the door closed on Jarvis.

"How are you?" he asked, and there was a note of subdued passion in his tone.

"Fair," replied Ethel without even looking at him.

"Where is your mother?" suggesting that much depended on the answer.

"Lying down," answered Ethel truthfully and without any feeling.

"And Alaric?"

"In the garden."

"Then we have a moment of two—alone?" Brent put a world of meaning into the suggestion.

"Very likely," said Ethel, picking up a score of "Robbers" and looking at it as if she saw it for the first time, all the while watching him through her half closed eyes.

Brent went to her. "Glad to see me?" he asked.

"Why not?"

"I am glad to see you"—he bent over her—"more than glad."

"Really?"

He sat beside her. "Ethel," he whispered intensely, "I am at the crossroads."

"Oh!" commenced Ethel, without any interest.

"It came last night."

"Did it?"

"This is the end—between Sibyl and myself."

"Is it?"

"Yes—the end. It's been horrible from the first—horrible. There's not a word of mine—not an action—she doesn't understand."

"How boring!" said Ethel blandly. "She would see harm even in this?"

"Why?"

"She'd think I was here—to—to"—He stopped.

"What?" innocently inquired Ethel. "Make love to you." And he looked earnestly into her eyes.

She met his look quite frankly and astonished him with the question, "Well, aren't you?"

He rose anxiously. "Ethel!"

"Don't you always?" persisted Ethel. "Has it seemed like that to you?"

"Yes," she answered candidly; "by fastidiousness, never straightforwardly."

"Has it offended you?"

"Then you admit it?"

"Oh," he cried passionately, "I wish I had the right to—to"—Again he wavered.

"Yes?" And Ethel looked straight at him.

"—make love to you straightforwardly." He felt the supreme moment had almost arrived. Now, he thought, he would be rewarded for the long waiting—the endless siege to this nervous woman who concealed her real nature beneath that marble casing of an assumed indifference.

He waited eagerly for her answer. When it came it shocked and revolted him.

(To Be Continued.)

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SUNDAY, MAY 9, IS MOTHERS' DAY

Governor Morehead Asks Fitting Observance of Day.

PROCLAMATION IS ISSUED.

Kansas Protests Against Nebraska's Embargo on Live Stock and Hints at Retaliation—Railway Commission Makes Telephone Directory Order.

Lincoln—Following the custom of the last few years, Governor Morehead in a proclamation designated Sunday, May 9, as Mothers' day and asks that a fitting observance of the day be followed.

The proclamation follows: "Gratitude is one of the cardinal virtues; to remember gratefully acts of kindness bestowed is an evidence of true nobility; to exemplify this by word or deed is commendable in all.

"One day of the year has been selected in which this may be shown in a manner that must tend to make our eyes and hearts better. It is the day when we show by some outward token how dearly we esteem the one who gave us birth, and watched over us in our infancy and youth, and who has at all times been our best friend. That friend is mother.

"In keeping with the custom of the last several years in this state, and in many others, I take pleasure in naming the second Sunday in May Mothers' day, and would suggest that everyone wear a flower of some description during that day as an indication of the special recollection of mother.

It is a beautiful custom and worthy the attention of everyone. The day is intended to start in the mind splendid recollections of the past, and will make that Sunday more sacred than it otherwise would be. It would be well if special mention of the day be made in all the churches throughout the state.

"I therefore recommend that Sunday, the 9th of May, be observed as Mothers' day and trust it will be recognized as generally as circumstances will permit. JOHN H. MOREHEAD."

Governor Morehead has issued the proclamation calling for the election to be participated in by Omaha and the territory embraced in senate bill 12, the annexation bill. The election will be held June 1. The proclamation follows:

"By virtue of the authority in me vested, and in accordance with the law of the state of Nebraska in such case made and provided, I, John H. Morehead, governor of the state of Nebraska, do hereby proclaim that on Tuesday, the first day of June, 1915, there will be held a special election in the usual voting places in the metropolitan city of Omaha and the cities of South Omaha and Florence and in the village of Dundee, in Douglas county, state of Nebraska, at which there will be submitted to the electors of said cities and village the following question:

"Shall the cities of South Omaha and Florence and the village of Dundee be consolidated with the metropolitan city of Omaha."

"The ballots used at said election shall provide for a 'yes' and 'no' vote in the usual manner on the question."

The state live stock sanitary board at a meeting held at the Lindell hotel, listened to the emphatic protest of the state of Kansas against the quarantine bars that Nebraska has raised against Kansas live stock as a precaution against the foot and mouth disease. The protest was voiced by F. T. Hedrick, representing the Kansas City Stock Yards company, and in a strong letter from J. H. Mercer, state live stock commissioner. The latter in his letter made veiled threats of retaliation should not Nebraska lift its quarantine.

Kansas now has a quarantine bar against Nebraska, hogs, sheep and cattle, which are admitted only by permit. No permits have been issued for a month past. What shape retaliation would take is not known unless it would be to extend the quarantine to horses and mules. Kansas protests against the Nebraska quarantine on the grounds that the territory is free under the interstate rules. The same thing holds true, however, of other territory that Nebraska has quarantined against.

The board has called another meeting for May 1 and has invited the Kansas commissioner to appear before it at that time.

Governor Morehead appointed a list of delegates to the national convention of charities and correction, which meets in Baltimore, May 12 to 19. The list is as follows:

Dr. J. A. Leavitt of Normal, Mrs. J. A. Leavitt of Normal, Lincoln Frost of Lincoln, Rev. F. L. Wharton of Lincoln, Howard Kennedy of Lincoln, W. T. Fenton of Lancaster, Mrs. W. T. Fenton of Lancaster, N. T. Harmon of Lancaster, Rev. O. M. Johnson of Bethany, William M. Clifford of Lincoln, Father Joseph Reusing of West Point, Rev. C. E. Bowen of Imperial, J. A. C. Kennedy of Omaha, Mrs. H. L. Keefe of Walthill, Harry C. Keefe of Walthill, Dr. H. R. Carson of Norfolk, Miss Lena E. Ward of Millard, Rev. F. P. Moran of Denton, Mrs. N. J. Crossland of Wayne, M. Adressen of Omaha, Dr. G. E. Williams of Havelock, Bishop George A. Beecher of

Kearney, J. N. Dryden of Kearney, Dan Morris of Kearney, F. W. Herminghaus of North Platte, W. V. Hoagland of North Platte, Mrs. W. V. Hoagland of North Platte, Miss Lyda J. McMahon of Geneva, Dr. J. M. Talcott of Crofton, Dr. F. A. Sedlacek of Omaha, E. C. Maggi of Lincoln, Dr. Lenore Perry Webster of Washington D. C.

An order has been issued by the state railway commission covering the printing of advertisements by telephone companies in directories. A complaint was made by Representative Stebbins of Dawson county against the Gothenburg Telephone company for its manner in inserting advertising in the directory published by them.

The complaint stated that the advertisements were inserted in the center of the pages and thus the names were separated and, according to the complaint, made it difficult to find the names needed. The order comes as an agreement entered into and specifies that advertisements may be placed at the top and bottom of pages not to exceed one inch in depth so that the names all appear together on the page.

John W. VanZant, chief accountant of the interstate commerce commission, connected with the telephone department, is in Lincoln checking up the books of the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph company, according to a custom started by the commission in which all the most important companies are checked each year. This is the first visit of the accountant to Lincoln.

The state engineer, the Lancaster county surveyor and the city engineer of University Place are to co-operate in planning and supervising the paving in front of the state farm between Lincoln and University Place. The legislature appropriated \$35,000 for this purpose. The road is a part of the Omaha-Lincoln-Denver highway. The work will be started shortly, although the appropriation does not become available until some time in July.

Senator Peter Wink of Kearney has asked the state board of control for the loan of teams from the industrial school at Kearney to assist in the work of hauling material for the mile of paving that is to be laid in front of the school along the Lincoln highway. The paving is to constitute a "model mile."

Acting State Veterinarian Klein received word from Kearney to the effect that Jim L. Watson of Columbia Mo., had pleaded guilty to selling a jack without registering the animal under the stallion registration law. Watson was fined \$50 and costs, the latter amounting to \$18.20.

Prosecution was instituted by County Attorney Tolleson upon the complaint of the state veterinarian. In order to secure the plea of guilty and thus dispose of the case the more readily, prosecution on thirteen counts was nolle. The state authorities inspected the fourteen animals alleged to have been illegally sold. One of the fourteen was rejected.

"I want to conclude by saying that I am opposed to the system of a legisla-ture composed of two houses; I think the senate should be abolished," said State Senator Laurie J. Quinby, in his talk to the Omaha Philosophical society.

"Think of the absurdity of one house going over all the details of a bill, with the arguments and all, and with the facts and figures at hand, and then think of that bill being thrown into a brand new house that will go over the same ground with it. Think of that bill getting into the senate when the representatives who introduced it and knew its every detail are not able to be present in the senate to help it along."

Honore M. Davis of Ord has tendered his resignation as assistant chief clerk of the house of representatives. Copies of the resignation were filed with Chief Clerk Poits and with Governor Morehead. The resignation is made necessary by the assumption by Mr. Davis of the office of postmaster at Ord. It is only a technical observance of the law to guard against the highly improbable contingency of a special session of the legislature.

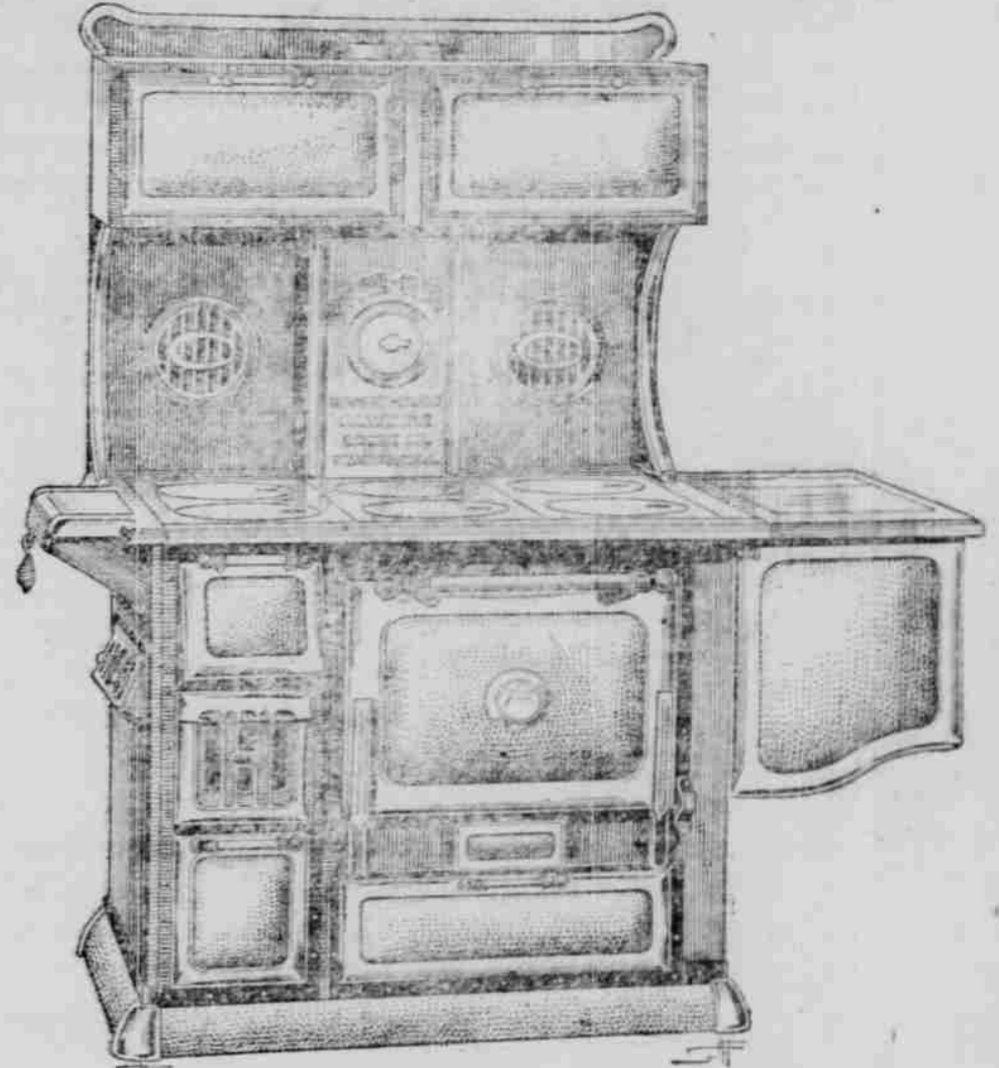
The Dramatic club of the state university presented the play "Monsieur Beaucaire" before the convicts at the state prison. Leon Snyder of Alma and Miss Ella Williams of Buffalo, Wyo., appeared in the leading roles. This was one of the very rare times when all the convicts were allowed in the chapel in the evening. The prisoners followed the lines of the play closely and applauded heartily.

N. J. Lindl, state printing commissioner, affects surprise at a newspaper rumor, emanating from Wahoo, to the effect that a primary may be held to select a successor to Postmaster Mauck. Mr. Lindl says that he received the appointment some time ago and has already filed his bond. The newspaper story quoted Charles J. Ryan, who was a candidate for the office.

During five days of last week auto mobile license applications came into the office of the secretary of state to the number of 1948. This is an average of almost 400 a day and is said to be the largest number of applications ever received at the office for any previous week. This has compelled the secretary of state to put on an extra force of clerks to meet the rush.

W. S. Summers of Seattle, former attorney general of Nebraska, at one time United States district attorney for Nebraska, was a state house member. He is now practicing law in Seattle.

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G. P. EASTWOOD



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