211 138 PAGE FOUR



CHAPTER VIII

Dr. Warner upon meeting the postman offers to deliver two letters to Mrs. Maturin, owner of the Pole Star House One of these letters is from the British government ordering her to hold herself ready to take care of evacuees, unless she prefers to take care of dependent relatives. Mrs. Maturin is much upset over these orders, but dutifully mails an advertisement to the London Times offering accommodations for four people "in a hotel far from military objec-tives." John Wynter reads the ad and decides to go to Pole Star House. He tells his chief about it and departs Mrs. Manvers-Pollock, a guest at Pole Star House, believes that signaling is going on at the hotel. She tells Wynter and he notes a tiny winking signal-dot. dash, dot, dash. John rushes out to the point and nabs the signaler.

"It's my young lady, sir," and then out came all the stupid story. They were busy at the hotel and sometimes at the last minute he couldn't get out and then he couldn't let her know because she lived up on the top of the hill and there wasn't time."

"Who is your young lady?" "She's housemaid up at the Grange," said Alfred, almost weep-

"But don't you know that you are not allowed to signal?" said John sternly.

"Who cares here?" burst out Alfred. "There's Miss Hannan, up at the shop, wink, wink, wink with her shutters; I've seen her only she doesn't know. And I'm not going to tell anyone either and be cursed for it. Wink, wink, wink, back from the sea, too, once there was. And me not going to say anything about

"I see." How bright the moon was now, thought John.

"Well, Jim," he said, "I think you've had a lesson tonight that

you won't forget in a hurry." "Alfred, sir," put in the boy. "Alfred Cummins, Sir."

"Well, Alfred, I am quite sure that you won't try this signaling game again. You don't want to help the enemy do you? And it might help him to see a light on a beach like this.

"No, sir," said Alfred humbly. "And I should advise you not to say anything about Miss Hannan's signaling either. It does no good, and you have told me, so that's enough

"Yes, sir," said Alfred, vastly relieved at this let-off. "But if I happened to be out any night and saw it, should I tell you, sir?"

Horrified at his first instinct, which was to answer in the negative, John set his teeth. "Yes," he said. "But you will have to tell me at once. Come to Pole Star House

"Love is the very devil; I've gone through it and I know."

"Yes, I know the type of thing how was he going to endure it, now and intelligence," said the chief in-cisively. "A type I abhor, neither hot or cold." that he was embarking on this endless hideous job of rounding up the girl he loved. Five o'clock. As he "Right!"

LANDANTER STATE STATE OF ALL METERS AND

THE JOURNAL, PLATTSMOUTH, DEBRASEA

stood there the old clock in the hall accommodatingly wheezed out the hour. Should he go up to London and tell his chief that he must be set free from this job? That someone else must take it on. That although he entirely realized that in his profession personal consideration counted for nothing at all, he was not able to adapt himself to such an outlook. John Wynter buried his face in his pillow and groaned

His groan deadened the soft open-ing of the door. "Your tea, sir." Grace, in cap and apron, stood there

"Good God, how did you know I was awake?" A fine gentleman decided Grace, smiling her cozy little smile. Such grand pajamas, all stripes and silk and open at the throat.

"I heard you open your door, sir," said Grace, feeling very pleased with herself.

John, stuffing a pillow at his back, prepared to drink his tea and eat his bread and butter slowly. A priceless servant that, he thought. Tea, yes, it was clearing his brain He would get off to London that morning on the nine forty-five, see the chief and tell him as much as he thought fit. He would tell Mrs. Maturin at breakfast; it was just as well that she should accustom herself to his unexpected comings and goings.

"When shall we have the pleasure of seeing you back?" Joan was standing in the hall smiling. What n owfr



nd ask for Mr. Wynter anyone what you want to see me for; just ask for me and go out and stand on the cliff and I shall join you immediately

"Yes, sir," Alfred suddenly felt important. This was like being a detective.

"And now I think we had better move on. And look here. This affair is between you and me entirely, do you see? I know the police sergeant well and he's prepared to let me do anything I like down here, anything within reason, that is. So all you have to do is to keep your mouth shut until you have something to tell me, in which case you must come straight to me as I have already told you."

"Very good, sir," and with a respectful salute Alfred started to clamber back over the rocks.

Back in the shaded hall of Pole Star House, John Wynter wondered what he should do next. He had promised to tell Mrs. Manvers-Pollock what had happened. But the drawing room was empty; everyone had gone to their rooms so it must be later than he thought. He locked the front door carefully.

"You!" As he walked along the little gallery Mrs. Manvers-Pollock opened her door. Clad in a long dressing gown she looked taller than usual.

"I say, you weren't really worried about me, were you," he asked. "I thought perhaps someone had killed you.'

"Did you say anything to anyonc?"

"That was brave of you," said John warmly, "I shall have no fear of telling you exactly what happens in future

lock stood there just staring at him.

Everything had its place in the scheme of things, thought Mrs. Manvers-Pollock drearily, except herself.

John slept badly. He could hear again the stilled yelp of young Cummins when he caught him across the mouth. Why didn't he bite him, wondered John, wandering vaguely down the long dim corridors of semiconsciousness. It would have burt fiendishly with those squaredoff white teeth-the cycleeth a little longer than the others.

He woke early in the pitch dark, Hours until he got his early tes;

Elmwood

By Journal Field Representative

Mrs. Asa Fellows of Lincoln spent

Miss Betty Cloments, stationed at

Evtheville, Ark., spent the week end

with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dean of Ne

braska City were Sunday guests of

Mrs. Dean's parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Mrs. Cora Gerbling has gone to liams.

several days visiting her daughter.

Mrs. Ebler, and family.

Clements.

Elmer Corbin.

proof." Wynter was! "I hope the day after tomorrow," said John, standing aside to allow

Mrs. Manvers-Pollock to pass into the dining room. "You aren't leaving us, are you?" Mrs. Manvers-Pollock's hard eyes seemed to blink. He was going.

Just as she had got to know him, he was going. "Only for two days," said John, putting his hand on her arm. "And I've got to hurry or I shan't catch

my train." Mrs. Manvers-Pollock stared bleakly out of the window. Two days . . . what would she find to do for two days? Where did Monsieur go for tea? wondered Mrs. Manvers-Pollock suddenly. Was he becoming entangled with that aban-

doned woman who lived in the little cottage perched up on the cliff? London is a city of mysteries,

especially in wartime. And, although he was accustomed to it, John Wynter felt it again as he walked along the bare echoing corridors of one of the most mysterious official buildings of them all.

On the way up in the train John had decided to make a clean breast of it. By doing this he would stand stairs. or fall, and if he fell he could get into one of the regiments scheduled for the East. He would marry Odette before he went, and if he came back safely he would have lived down his failure to make good in the way they wanted him to make good. And if he didn't . . . And now he sat smoking and trying to breath slowly and evenly. "You wanted to see me," said E.9. "I can give you exactly half an own way. hour. Go on, you've got something

to tell me." John began, while the chief listened and made little marks on his blotting pad. Another of Fergus Leiter's victims; well, perhaps it was just as well. "How old is the girl

"About twenty-four." "Good looking?"

thing.'

families.

friends.

"Lovely." "An expert at this sort of thing?" "No, decidedly not." "Has anyone seen the signaling apart from the Cummins boy?" "No, I should say not." John hesitated, "Battle Point is such an odd place. Nobody seems to carethere might not be a war down there. Nobody will say anything

California, is visiting her father,

Fred Kuntz, and other relatives.

about any one else for fear of being involved. You know the type of him in good stead again

Nora, Nebraska, to spend Decoration Jce Marshall of Portland, Ore. day with her children and their is a guest at the home of his mother.

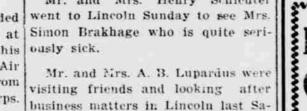
Mrs. Bess Robb, Pearl Shreeves and Marjorie Miller of Lincoln were for ministers, at Wesleyan univer-Thursday guests of Mrs. Robb's sity.

mother, Mrs. L. A. Tyson. Over two hundred members are ex-Mrs. William Long of Lincoln is pected to attend the annual Alumni

three places will be vacant because that many arc in the service. Miss Helen Kuntz of Los Angeles,

Miss Janice Reeder of Plattsmouth Mrs. Myrtle Robertson has receivspeaf the week end with her grand- ed word that she is the grandmother of Sioux City, Iowa, are visiting Mrs. parents. Mr., and Mrs. Harry Wil- of a daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Pierce.

Everett Lindell of Murdock.



Plattsmouth

"No."

"Good night." Mrs. Manvers- Pol-

"Good night," and then John went away.

