

CHAPTER I

Madame Fabre - Lusignan temporarily finished admiring her wrinkled visage in the silverbacked hand glass, straightened her fine lace cap, hitched her bed jacket up around her bony shoul-ders and yelled, "Entrez!" in a voice that had often evoked applause in la Comedie Française, in the best theaters of London and New York. She tried it again in a higher key as the door was slowly opening and, finding her voice with a lovely timbre this morning, went on to curse the war, the times, all things in general; especially life here at the Chateau Philibert, now that all the servants had gone to fight or to do war work and there was left only this ancient jackass, Rudolph, and the aged Florian, the gardener, who was deaf and sullen and, she often thought, had really been dead for ten years-old zany,

Rudolph entered with a tray on which were coffee in a grand silver pot, Tokay grapes, crescent rolls and a fresh copy of La Presse. More war news to spoil her day. Accursed be the war that had. along with so many more precious things, taken her pretty maid Felice who used to come in, all big black eyes and olive skin and cherry-red lips, who used to say, "Ah, heaven! But Madame Mimi is fresh and lovely this morning. How little the years affect true beauty."

Little liar, mused madame, grinning, and just then remembering to pop her teeth into her mouth. Still it had been pleasant to hear those things and to have Felice smooth the bed and straighten the pillows and shyly touch her arm. Now there were no attentions like that from the staid, white-headed Rudolph-nothing at all like that. In-

"Bateche!" Madame screamed a good French-Canadian expletive as the hot coffee showered over the bed, over her legs, over the paper she had just taken from the tray. "Son of a misbegotten goat, what do you do here! Drunkard, imbecile, homicide! You have decided to scald me to death. You-"

"Madame!" Rudolph stared at her piteously; he looked as if he were about to cry. Rudolph, who had been her butler these last ten years, who in all that time had lived behind a wall of silent servitude and respect. The mask of the menial was gone now. She saw only an old man, tired, broken, afraid. As soon would she have expected the sphinx to break out in

"What is it then, my old one?" Madame's eyes were like black diamonds, full of fire always, full table life. She loved to tell how her dear friend Sarah Bernhardt-la divine Sarah whose protegee she had been, had loved her eyes, had said there was a separate life in her grand eyes. "Do not goggle like a Gaspe codfish, Rudolph," said the old dame pet-tishly. "What the devil is the matter with you?"

"The paper, madame. The-"
"Oh, Lord, but the man is mad. What paper? I know the wallpaper is ugly, but my husband would have a pattern of cupids and rose wreaths. Or do you mean La Presse?"

"I mean La Presse, madame. I mean-"

"Yes, it is stupid. But-" "This-this, madame-" The butler's shaking finger pointed to the picture on the first page. It was that of a smiling pretty girl and two little ones, a boy and a tiny moppet with long thick curls. The caption said: "Princess Meridel of Gratzen, with her little cousins, Pol Martin and Rosine, arrive in Quebec to seek refuge with rich uncle

in Canada." Madame looked from the picture to Rudolph and her thick grayblack brows wriggled like caterpillars, "So what?" she had acquired this elegancy from the American radio. "So what?"

"I, madame"-Rudolph drew a deep breath and there was-oh, miracle!-sweat upon his forehead -"I am the rich uncle in Canada." Madame pushed her teeth back

with a loud click and looked quickly at the old-fashioned, tasseled bell-pull. No one to hear if she did yank it. Even the cook was gone and Rudolph was in charge in the kitchen. Maybe if she screamed -one of her very best screams, that of the mad witch Giselle in The Black Cauldron, say-that deaf fool Florian would hear and come running with a sickle or a fork to kill this crazy man-

"Please, madame-please!" Rudolph Morpin seemed to know what she was thinking. "Will you hear me before you cast me into the street? I—I am a colossal liar."
"That is nothing." Madame waved her hand airily. "Nothing

"I come from Gratzen, madame," continued Rudolph miserably. "There I was the Baron Rudi de Morpin. There I was-'

"Ah!" Madame forgot her coffee-



'Son of a misbegotten goat! Drunkard, imbecile, homicide! You have decided to scald me to death. You---'

took an Egyptian cigarette from the ivory box on the taboret. Rudolph lighted it for her. The glittering black eyes studied him through the smoke. "Continue,

He bowed stiffly. "It was a poor little country, Gratzen. We of the ruling family had nothing. And Iwell. I was-

"You were the-what is it we -dark mutton."

Rudolph bowed his white head. 'I was the black sheep madame. I was exiled. I was very young I vowed to them all that I would become a great man, that I would be wealthy, that I would own a chateau that would make the castle of Gratzen look like a cow-shed. So, madame—" he faltered. He bit his lip. He looked miserably out at the great green park, the wonderful gardens and vast lawns of the Chateau Philibert, which the biscuit-made millions of Jean Pierre Gossec had created high up here in the loneliest part of the Laurentian Mountains. All this had come to Jean Pierre's widow, whom in youth he had adored on the stage as Mimi-Fabre. Ah, he had adored his Mimi, had little rolypoly Jean Pierre. The memory of the way he had loved her, cherished her, watched over her, seen never a change in

"Continue, my friend," she said. "I like to hear this-this phan-

her in the years, made her gentle

Rudolph drew himself up. He was no longer the butler-no need for that self-effacing mask any -he was the Baron de Mor-Baron Rudi. "So, when I pin. came to this grand place, this Chateau Philibert, I-I made them think, those in Gratzen, that it was mine. I had pictures of myself taken as I stood in the great doorway. in the park, by the mirror lake, in the grand salon. The under chauffeur was a good man with his camera. Always I was dressed in my morning coat and striped trousers, like a gentleman. I have letter paper and envelopes with my name and crest and Chateau Philibert, St. Didier des Montagnes, Quebec, on them. I never dreamed that I would be found out. No one in Gratzen ever had money enough to come to America. Now little Meridel and these children, Pol Martin and Rosine, come to me for succor, for food, for shelter. To me!" He turned away. "I shall procure you some fresh coffee, madame. I am sorry-so sorry."

"Bring some brandy," said madame, "along with the coffee." When Rudolph had gone she hopped, muttering, out of bed, a queer, skinny old creature in bright crimson pyjamas. Old of face, old of body, with an unruly crown of curly white hair that gave her. with the strangely young and vivid black eyes, an elfin, gamin look as if she were a little girl made up for a play to portray an old, old When Rudolph returned she was reclining on her chaise longue at the door opening onto the balcony, wearing a morning gown of

peach-colored silk and blue mules with great white pompons. "I have bathed in some strange liquids, Rudolph," she giggled, "but it is the first time I showered with coffee. I am not sure I like it." "It was unpardonable clumsiness, madame, even under the circumstances. How can I tell you-"

"Don't try." "My successor will be one, I trust, who is not a liar, the leader of a double life, a deceiver however innocent of-of helpless chil-

"Yes," said madame absently. "Yes, we'll see that we don't get any more kings in disguise or grand lamas masquerading as house

"But you will permit me to stay until the children come? It will not be easy to-'

"Don't be a fool, baron! Don't be a gross imbecile! Of course you wet less that were cold now, jerked | will stay. When I spoke of your herself higher up on the pillow and I successor I meant-very simply-

a man to buttle. You, of course, "But how-"

"Name of God! He asks how! It is all very simple. You stay on as the Baron de Morpin, here in your Chateau Philibert.'

"But you, madame-"
"I?" The bright ev "I?" The bright eyes danced and sparkled. "Well, I have thought of that. At first I dwelt on King Carol and his friend, Madame Lupescu. I thought I should play Magda to your Carol." She grinned flendishly as Rudolph crimsoned and busied himself with the coffee, slowly and ultracautiously. "That is out. You are definitely not the romantic type. So I shall be your housekeeper.'

"But, madame-"Stop making objections. This place is like a museum and it's dull as a morgue and it is the mercy of the good God that has caused some excitement to happen. It will be good to have these little ones. There is no reason in the world that they should ever know you were the butler. We can have a new man in the morning. I'll phone to Gabriel Follet at once." "But will it not be cruel to de-

"No!" screamed madaing coffee into her saucer. "No! No! No! But it would be cruel to have them learn, after being bombed and torpedoed and frozen and starved, that they are very likely to be at least frozen and starved again, my old one.

ceive them, to let them think-

She lowered her voice as she saw the hurt, the trouble, the defeat in Rudolph's pale blue eyes. After all, he had dreamed of greatness once, of the high places, of ease and opulence. "I did not mean that you would be unable to maintain them, but three is quite a number and children need so much! Believe me, too, you will be doing a kindness to a lonely old woman. Not in years have I had the prospect of such fun or looked forward so much to anything. You must do as I tell you, Monsieur le Baron. I must begin calling you

Rudolph stared at Madame Fabre - Lusignan, comprehension coming like a slow dawn into his eyes. He moistened his lips with his tongue and made an involuntary move toward the wing collar that had suddenly become too tight. He blinked his eyes fast and his voice was a bit unsteady when he said, "There are no words, madame-none that I know in any

language, to express-' "There may be some in Siwash." said the old lady, biting on a roll, "but skip it, Rudi. When do the young ones arrive?"

"I should judge from the little I have digested of the press account that they will be here on tonight's train. They know the name of the station, St. Didier des Montagnes."

"They speak French? English?" "I do not know. But I think it is likely that, apart from their own tongue, they speak Swiss, perhaps Austrian, with little French or Eng-

"It is well then. They will travel in ignorance, even were there any to tell them you do not own the Chateau Philibert." "Some day they'll have to know,

madame." "Oh, baptism! Tell them then you lost it in a poker game. Now I shall talk to that sly lawyer, Gabriel Follet, on the telephone and have him send a staff. I'll also tell him that my home is now the house of my guests, the Baron Rudi de Morpin, the young Princess of Gratzen, the royal cousins."
"It sounds like a dream, ma-

She smiled up at him over the white telephone, like an old pixy. "I begin to live again, Baron. I must also call my nephew, Roger Fabre, and tell him the same story. He would be one to come blunderng in and spoil things. I take it, Rudolph - Baron - it would ruin everything if the pretty Meridel

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Paul Bornemeier. Lieut. Roscoe the week end with the family.

Mrs. Orville Jullian of Chicago is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Miss Betty Clements W. A. S. P. spent the week end with her parents, ary for Wm. Stock. on his farm in Mr. and Mrs. Gry Clements and re- South Bend precinct. turned to her base in Arkansas Monday morning.

Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Totman.

Sgt. Harry Krall is here on a furlough to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Krall.

Corp. Ronald Thimigan of Camp Leonard Wood, Mo., is home for a furlough and is spending it with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Thimigan. Corp. Thimigan spent many months in Alaska and the Alutians.

By Journal Field Repre

Maynard Schliefert came home Sunday morning to spend a three-day leave with relatives.

the Wm. Neuman home

be held at the parish hall Thursday atternoon July 13th instead of Wed- to Mr and Mrs. Carl Oberle Frinesday the 12th.

Mrs. Anna Snelt and Loretta Plamig of Omaba spent the week

Father James Hennessy returned Thursday from Brainard, Minn., where he spent his vacation fishing. He reports a good time and plenty oaby of Wichita, Kansas, spent Lakes, and Merle McWilliams, son in Indian Territory. of good fish.

Herman Stchlmon of Omaha visited with relatives over the Fearth. Mr and Mrs. Walter Kupke of York are announcing the arrival of Mrs. G. H. Palmer on Tuesday were AN APPRECIATION a son, July 5th. Mrs. Kupke was Mr. and Mrs. Perry Rose and son, I wish to thank my friends for formerly Miss Eula Schliefert

Miss Lizzie Fauers entertained he proochle club Thursday afternoon High scores were won by Clara Pearson, first, Leona Darveaux, second, and Loretta Sheehan rived on Saturday morning of this received the traveling prize.

spent the Fourth in Louisville at the H. A. Koop home. Mrs. Louise Stollman of Omaha

Mrs. R. K. Bergmann and Jack

s visiting her son. Frederick, and family Wm, Neuman and family of Lou- Wichita, Kausas.

sville spent Thursday evening with his mother, Mrs. Martha Neuman.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Vogel of South Bend were Sunday evening callers afternoon of this week. Her daughat the Philip Flaming home

Mr Andrew Schliefert who has not been well for some time, became cal aid was sommoned and at present he is improving.

Ted Harms left Friday evening for Chicago, where he expects to find employment.

Miss Lorene Dall of Omaha spent the week end with home tolks.

MURDOCK

August Rieke combined a field of wheat Wednesday that yielded 20 lushels per acre and tested 58. It was the first new wheat deilvered to the local elevator.

L. W Rase was in Lincoln Wed nesday for repairs to be used in his garage

Ray Ganilin and family spent last week end with his parents in southeast Kansas.

Paul Schewe has been busy the past week, putting a new roof on his farm residence.

Miss Rosnoggle of Garland was

W. O. Weddell learned a few days ago that another one of his grand-Starting Mash \$3.85

Dick Brummer and family and

The Journal representative was out of town several days the first

discouraging, some fields have shown service. wonderful improvement during the past week. The wheat yield will also be below the average.

completed the building of a gran- on Monday of this week.

foot International combine which he examination. He left on Monday of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Fox of Scotia will use for custom work Paperts this week for Washington, D. C. have been visiting at the home of to send it to Dakota as the harvest where he is a civil service employed

shi Journal Correspondence

and other relatives and friends.

Mrs. Emma Henriksen and Mrs. Habel and Marilyn moved to Lincoln this week. Both Mrs. Henrikthe Goodyear plant.

M.r and Mrs. Frederick Stohlman Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duffield and ir ends. The Altar Society card party will

A son, Garry Lee Earl, was born day, June ce, at the Eryan Memoriai hospital in Lincoln.

asi Sacurda; and visited until Sun- hier Hughes of Lincoln. day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs

their vacation with the former's c. Mrs. Ethel McWilliams, is received parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fisch-

Guests at the home of Mr. and Raymond Palmer of Chicago, and Cpl. and Mrs. Charles Talmer and

Edward Winkler of Kearney arweek and will spend several days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Winkler and other relatives.

Miss Caroline Reitter arrived home on Wednesday of this week from Alva, Okla., where she visited an aunt. Mrs Rockenbach and family at Alva, and a cousin at

Mrs. Ray Wall entertained the Woman's Society of Christian Service at the church on Wednesday ter, Miss Doris Wall, was a guest.

Miss Ruth Caddy and Mrs. Richard Schroeder of Lincoln visited their seriously ili Wednedsay night. Medi- parents. Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Caddy. on Monday of this week. Ruth. who was graduated from the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing in June, is awaiting an assignment by the government, but in the meantime is supervising at the St. Elizabeth hospital.

> Mrs V. I.. Urga and son left for Omaha the latter part of this week where they make their home with the fermer's sister, Mrs. Kenneth

Reduced Prices ON FEED!

The war isn't over, but we are reducing our feed prices as follows:

26 per cent Free Mash or Pellets

Breeding Mash\$3.35 All Mash or Pellets. . \$3.30 Busy Bird \$3.15

Mash or Pellet Growing Mash\$3.60

PLATTSMOUTH CREAMERY THE HOME OF

CASCO BUTTER

Mrs. Belle Jack of Lincoln and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Olson and daughter of Hailam were the dinner A. H. Ward and son, Russell, have guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde West

Harmon Rullifson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Rullitson recent-Paul Stock has purchased a 12-ly passed a very good civil service Mrs. Floyd Althouse.

Birthday Party

in cetel-ration of Mrs. S. E. Allen's 89th birthday antiversary on July 6th, Mrs. Keith Althouse of Lincoln entertained a number of the members of her family in her honor. new places, getting into crowds, be-Those present were the honoree, coming overheated and cooling off Mrs Rex Reardon came from Mrs. R. I: Morgan, Mrs. Frank quickly, these are the times we pick California and is visiting her par- Clements, Mr. and Mrs. George Alt- up infections. ents, Mr and Mrs. Dick Schwegman Louse, Mrs Inez Munn and Mr. and Try to maintain a high level of re-12. Floyd Althouse.

Boys in Service

sen and Mrs. Habel plan to work in Mrs. Harola Dorn, was inducted which are rich in vitamins, such as into the Navy in June and sent to milk, eggs, butter, fresh vegetables the Great Lakes for training.

Mrs. H. E. Smith and grandson, (pl. Robert Wayers came from brickael Urga, left for Kansas City Camp Switt, Texas, the first of the last Saturday morning where they week and is enjoying his furlough met Pvt. and Mrs. Urga. They also with his parents, Mr. and Mrs Otto visited Mr and Mrs. Lee Peters and Wayers, and other relatives and

and family and Mrs. Martna Neu- family of Ossawatomie, Kansas Mrs. | Technician Corporal Charles man were Sunday dinner guests at Smith and Mrs. Urga and son re- Palmer arrived in Nebraska on Monturned to Eagle on Wednesday of day of this week. He will have unin July 20th to spend with his fammy and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Palmer.

Mrs. Wesley Huston has heard from her grandson, Sgt. Melvin Lughes, who is stationed in Alaska Sgt. Keith Trumple of Buckley lie is well and enjoying his work. end with Mr. and Mrs. Philip Plam- Field, Colorado, flew to Lincoln He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed- summer cold does not clear up soon,

Two members of this year's grad- a cold." .- C. A. Selby, M. D. Vailey Trumble and other relatives. Lation class are in the navy. Eldon Crandell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen ing his instruction at Doane College, Fouchek & Garnett

Darrell of Fremont, Mr. and Mrs the cards, flowers and personal calls I have received during my illness,

Though the prospect of a good Lennedy and family while both Mr. and also the W. C. T. U., and the Bornemeier of Lincoln Air Base spent corn crop in this vicinity is rather Kennedy and Mr. Urga are in the Royal Neighbor Lodge for remembrances. These acts of kinduess were all greatly appreciated. Mis. Wesley Huston.

That Summer Cold

When a cold is not "just a cold' it is something which needs the advice of a physician. If a cold lasts more than a few days, call your doctor because it probably is not just a

Such symptoms as chilliness, followed by lever, an aching back, sore inroat or persistent cough, pain in the chest need professional attention at once.

In the summer time, when many of us are away from home, eating in

sistance by sleeeping at least eight hours a night; wear the proper clothing for the weather; eat a good-Charles Doran, son of Mr. and ly amount of the protective toods and fresh fruits. Be sure that the milk and water are safe. Wasn your hands before preparing, serving or eating food. Try to choose clean public eating places and avoid crowds. Have a medical check-up regularly. Be sure to see a physician if you have trouble breathing; if colds hang on; if you have a persistent cough; or if you need correction of any abnormal nose or throat condition.

Give prompt attention to the first symptoms of a cold-rest in bed; keep warm and dry; dring plenty of water, fruit juices and milk. If the call a physician, it may not be "just

The first oil well completed in Mr. and Mrs. Earl Fischer and Crandell, is in training at the Great Oklahoma was in 1889, near Chelsea,

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Regular, Ball or Atlas Doz. Pts. 59c; Doz. Qts. 69c___ Cake Flower Swansdown 234 American Beauty Dinners 43 Points, Misson Sliced Macaroni 3 Pkg. 25 Peaches Only 12 Points, Hunt's Prune No Points, Del Monte Diced No. 21/2 28 Carrots Derby Salad, Horseradish Style Cream Corn No.2 13 Mustard

Armour's Star, T.1 Large Pork Steak . 37¢ Bologna Swift's Premium Skinless Spare Ribs Weiners Beef Steak 5 Pts. 25° OldFashion .. 39 Popular Brands Grade A Hamburger .. 25¢ Sliced Bacon , 30

Plattsmouth Prices in this ad effective JULY 10 through JULY 12 subject only to market changes in fresh fruits and vegetables, and meats. We reserve the right to limit quantities,

Elmwood By Journal Field Representative

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bronn attend-Thursday afternoon.

zales. Capt. Gonzales returned to Nai- discharge from the navy. per Field, Dorthan, Alabama on Wednesday and Mrs. Gonzales and little

calling on other friends.

cent operation.

Capt. and Mrs. Donald Gonzales Roy Sterner is again busy with have been guests of Mrs. Emily Con- his usual duties after an honorable

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Greene arrived home Friday from a visit to Rev. daughter wil stay for a longer visit. ann Mrs. Andrew Janssen at Buck-

daughter Barbara, Mr. and Mrs. Porte, Indiana with another daugh-James Tolhurst and daughter Patty ter, Mrs. Currin Shields and son, of Raymond and Mrs. Harry Volpe Burk. Mr. Shields is stationed at an over-Sunday guest of Miss Geraland daughter Jan were guests of the Camp Custer, Mich. Mrs. Shields and eine Schmidt. Henry Monning family Sunday and little son accompanied the Greens home for a visit.

a furlough to visit with his mother.

Herbert Lorenz returned to Cali- Roy Gamlin and family were Capitol fornia after a short visit with his Beach visitors Tuesday evening. his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tolhurst and hannon, West Virginia, and at La- is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. pick up some important news items.

Mr. John Kuntz who is in the Mrs. Grace Blessing returned home nephews had been killed overseas. ed the funeral of Mr. Bronn's mother, Bryan hospital in Lincoln is re- Tuesday after spending the winter One was killed about a year ago Mrs. Lucy Bornn age 94, at Rocca ported recovering nicely from a re- in California. Pvt. Richard Bless- and one reported a prisoner in ing of Bruning Air Base is home on Japan.

Mrs. Joe Schoenberg of Chicago of the week and may have failed to