

## HOLDING A HUSBAND

Adele Garrison's New Phase of  
Revelations of a Wife

## What Made Dicky Laugh at Madge.

My hands trembled as I set down the bowl of flowers I was arranging. I am afraid if I had followed the first primitive impulse which seized me, I should have thrown bowl, flowers and water at my husband's head. I even had a second's malicious enjoyment of the picture Dicky would have presented with the water streaming down his collar, before I controlled my voice and asked quietly:

"Why don't you go for more information on the subject of Rita Brown to the person who gave you your first insight into the matter?"

Dicky looked frankly astonished, then a bit uneasy.

"Meaning—," he said.

"Edith Fairfax," I returned squarely.

I expected one of his rages, but for some reason or other, perhaps because of his sudden realization that I had observed his actions of the evening before more closely than he had thought, he contented himself with the question, most familiar to me through his long usage of it:

"What the devil do you mean by that?"

Madge Astonishes Dicky.

I can remember the time when Dicky's expletives shocked me into disgusted silence. But I think, like most wives whose husbands relieve their feelings with occasional abstractions, I have grown so used to them that I do not often resent them.

"Exactly what I said," I returned. "By the merest accident, I happened to overhear you and Alfrid talking last night at the Paige dinner. From your conversation, I gathered that according to Edith, Madge was in it somewhere, therefore I am not surprised at your present quest for more information."

Dicky's face as he listened to this little speech was one to provoke laughter from a person vowed to mournful silence.

Amusement and chagrin were so personified in his features that my tugging risibles pleaded with me to forgive him.

"Well, I'll be—," was all he found breath to say at first. Then he grinned reluctantly and infectious. I struggled with my dignity for a second or two, then I, too, smiled, and the next minute we were laughing heartily together.

"Get your hat and sweater," Dicky commanded, "and let's get out into the air. I've got a lot to say about Rita Brown that didn't come from Edith. You are awfully wise, old dear! but mighty careless about leaving incriminating papers around. You'd be just the caper for the third act of a melodrama."

He was very much like the third act of a melodrama himself, with the mysterious air he assumed as we walked out into the grove of long-leaved pines behind the house. To a question of mine as to his meaning, he returned airily:

"You'll know all in good time, dear heart! A dame with your gift for sleuthing should be able to possess her soul in patience."

The Tell-Tale Message.

What had he discovered? I racked my brain with the question as we walked through the pine woods to the bank of the little lake which I had first seen upon the day of Major Grantland's warning to me not to go outside the house unaccompanied by my husband, my father or some other man.

Indeed, I had never seen it after that first time. I had felt a certain disinclination to visit it alone, for the memory of Hugh Grantland's warning lingered unpleasantly in my mind, even after all necessity for acting upon it had vanished. But now, with Dicky by my side, a smiling, good-natured companion, instead of a grouchy one, the picturesque little sheet of water, its waves dancing in the sunshine, appealed to me strongly.

I turned to Dicky impetuously.

"Don't talk of anything unpleasant for a few minutes," I pleaded.

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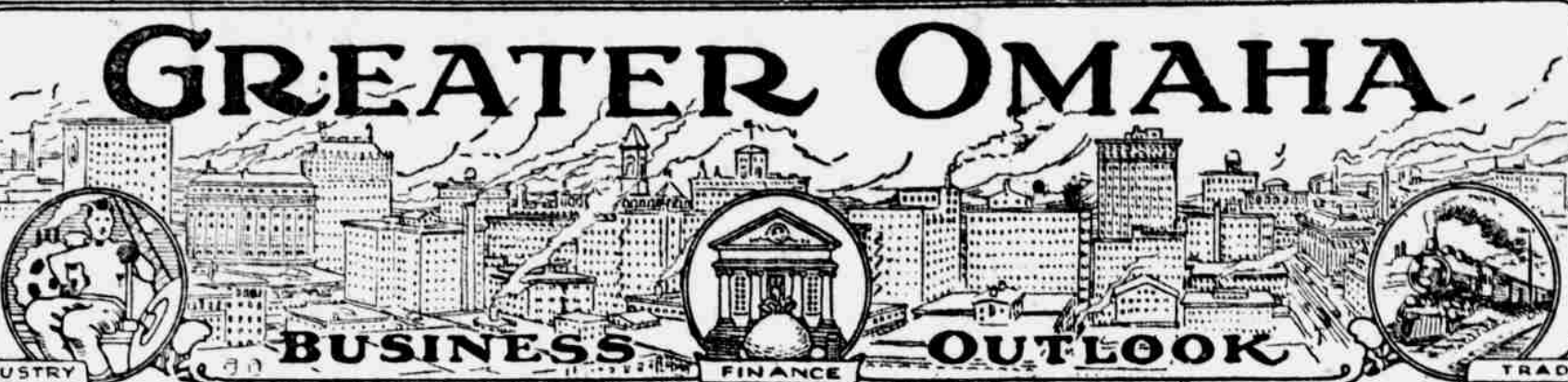
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## A City of Comfortable Homes

By PAUL GREER

Visitors to Omaha can hardly have missed seeing a handsome little booklet that has been prepared for advertising the city. Designed to show that this is the logical distributing center for the middle west, it contains a map showing its central position, together with pictures of several of its leading industrial and commercial activities.

Opposite a photograph of the trading floor of the grain exchange is the explanation that Omaha is the only real primary grain market with all receipts direct from the country and not from other markets.

On the next page is a vista of the stock yards, showing thousands of beef cattle awaiting sale in the pens. Omaha, we are informed, ranks after Chicago as a live stock market.

A picture of the loading of a string of freight cars with thousands of tubs of butter bears the boast that we have first honors in butter production.

"Omaha is first in lead ore reduction," is the statement accompanying a picture of the American Smelting and Refining company's immense plant on the river front.

"Omaha is thirteenth in bank clearings, although thirty-fourth in population. Its clearings increased faster last year than those of any other leading financial center." The illustration accompanying this fact is the splendid marble interior of one of the banks.

A view from the automobile show is given to impress the fact that "Nebraska owns more autos in proportion than any other state."

What does this all signify?

Is it not possible for a city, as well as a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?

Perhaps. But it is not so with Omaha. Toward the end of this little booklet is a photograph of a simple row of dwelling houses. "Omaha is a city of comfortable homes," runs the legend.

Here in a single glance, the visitor may take in the purpose of all the whirl and hum of industry. The race for power, wealth and position would be utterly barren of real accomplishment if it were an end instead of an accessory.

The success of any city is to be measured by the welfare of its people. This proposition is double-barreled. When a city such as Omaha offers freedom from vast slum areas, and substitutes good homes at moderate rents, together with opportunity for inexpensive and clean recreation, it prospers in many ways.

The best news that could come is that money for home building is to be more plentiful, and this promises to keep Omaha still a city of comfortable homes and contented population.

It is thus Omaha in the past has secured a high class of workmen. Greater stability in the supply of labor and a reduction in the number of floaters are other results of proper housing facilities. Did you know that the average cost of replacing employees who quit or who are discharged is estimated at \$100? The problem of labor turnover is to eliminate the expense of hiring and teaching men who will not stay long enough to benefit their employers or themselves. Better living conditions play a leading part in keeping down this item of expense.

Life is "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together." Contented people are more efficient—worth more to themselves, to their employer, and to the community.

That city and those employers who give working people a square deal will surely reap more than is sown. This spirit of friendly and intimate relations is probably more existent in the middle west than in the districts where industry has grown to more immense proportions.

Omaha, pre-eminent in many lines of industry, can maintain its position, its self-respect, and the respect of its neighbors by continuing to be the city of comfortable homes.

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