

Judge Varney's Encouragement

By AGNES BOOTH

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Dexter Fairfield pushed open the door of Judge Varney's office, closed it again quickly, and scanned the signs on the outside, his face perplexed and his broad shoulders elevated doubtfully.

After a little hesitation he again opened the door, and hurried through the outer office to the judge's private room. Within this shelter, he dropped limply into the nearest chair.

"Thought I'd struck the wrong trail," he gasped, "when I opened the door and saw that bunch. Your business must have increased amazingly, Varney!"

"Did they gaze admiringly at you?" the judge asked quizzically.

"Great Heavens! I don't know. I didn't even dare look at them. I was never so scared before! Why, the room seemed full of girls—hundreds of 'em!"

Judge Varney laughed softly.

"There are only six."

"But can't you see that I'm weak—actually fainting from the shock? Six pretty girls—"

"You said you didn't look at them," the judge interposed.

"I didn't, but after seven years in Wyoming any girl is pretty. Now tell me about them."

The judge's keen gray eyes sparkled humorously. "Well, I hope I've secured a year's supply of stenographers."

"I see; laying in a stock against a time of need," approved Fairfield.

"A good scheme, Judge."

"I can't keep one more than a



Scanned the Signs on the Outside.

couple of months. Miss Allen left last week."

"Jimmy Drayton the lucky man?"

"Yes. I've determined not to be left alone again—helpless—unable to write a letter."

Fairfield nodded, with a commiserating glance at the empty right sleeve of his friend.

"So I wrote to my sister in Kansas City to engage some stenographers for me. Bess has really a most remarkable talent for analyzing character. I need no reference if they pass her inspection."

Fairfield chuckled—he had met Miss Elizabeth Varney.

"But, Varney, six! How can you—"

"Now, Fairfield," the judge interrupted plaintively, "when I come out to your ranch I don't ask embarrassing questions about the number of herders you employ."

"Oh, I beg your pardon."

"To be perfectly honest, I'm acting partly for your benefit. I've had some nice girls here and you never once tried to win favor with any of them. I thought you might be less bashful—less like a petrified clam if there were several together."

"I see, 'safety in number.' Is this why you sent for me? You're very good to encourage me in this way, but I'm doomed to lonely bachelorhood," Fairfield sighed mockingly.

"You deserve to be," his friend snapped testily, "but Wyoming has ten single men to one single woman and it's not fair to the state. Go back east and bring a wife home with you."

Fairfield's tanned face grew grave.

"There was once a girl," he began hesitatingly.

"And there are plenty more," added the judge unfeelingly.

"Not for me. That's why I'm a bachelor."

"Did she marry the other man?"

"I don't know. She was too young then to marry anybody. I was a fool—most boys are—and my folly cost me my place in college and—"

"Suspended?" queried the older man. "I was 'vacationed' for three weeks when I was—"

"No," answered the other doggedly, "not suspended. Expelled, fired—kicked out!"

"No need to treasure the kick the rest of your life," the judge suggested kindly.

"It cost me also—home and—and name! I was given \$500 and told to go west—and die!"

"Part of the advice was good—you came west."

"I followed it all. That boy died, all right."

"You've lived—like a man! I've known you seven years. About nine-

teen, were you, when—"

"When I played fool? Twenty. I've never touched a drop of liquor since, Judge Varney!"

"And the girl."

"She was the daughter of one of the professors. Seventeen then, and I know, now that I'm older, that she cared for me. But I was an 'undesirable' from the first, and I never had a second alone with her—she was so infernally well chaperoned! Her mother meant her to make a great match. The girl gave promise of wonderful beauty, and for some reason the professor hated me as the devil hates holy water!"

"M—m," murmured the judge thoughtfully, "I think I can account for your expulsion!"

"I was as proud as I was foolish. I made no attempt at justification, perhaps if I had—Oh, what's the use? It's past and gone! Let the dead past bury its dead!"

"That's right," the judge agreed heartily, "you've shown your worth here in Wyoming. You've lived white—playing the game of life like a man. You've made good with the money you were told to die on. You'll be a rich man before you are forty. Now if you'd only forget that girl—"

Fairfield raised an impatiently interrupting hand. "You mean well, Varney, and I'm not wearing my heart where the daws can get at it, but—there'll never be another girl for me. I know it when I was a boy. I know it now."

"Suppose," mused the judge, in a voice of unwonted gentleness, "suppose you were to meet her again. Suppose you found you were right in believing she loved you long ago. Suppose she still cares—"

Fairfield's tanned face paled, and his strong, brown hand pulled impetuously at his collar.

"Don't, Judge, you only open an old wound! We won't mention it again. I don't know what possessed me to speak of it now—even to you!"

"But if you should meet her," the judge persisted, "and could get a chance to see her alone?"

"Great Heavens, man!" cried the other, roughly, "I'm no longer a boy. I wouldn't wait to see her alone! One look into her eyes would tell me all I want to know and I'd take her into my arms if all the world stood staring."

Checking himself abruptly, he walked toward the window, asking in an altered tone: "Will you go to lunch with me, Varney?"

"If you'll wait about ten minutes; I must sign some letters first."

Fairfield answered absently, looking from the window with eyes that saw nothing of the familiar scene before him. He heard the door open from the outer office; he was conscious that the judge was speaking to some one. He did not turn—his thoughts were back in the past he had tried to forget. He seemed to see again the shy little girl whose eyes had answered the words he could not speak, whose sorrowful face had looked down at him from her window when he, defiant and reckless, had turned to shake a boyish fist at the college walls he was leaving in disgrace.

A gentle hand touched his arm and a sweet voice said: "Dexter, I hope you haven't forgotten?"

"Grace!"

It was the cry of a strong man with empty arms and yearning heart a cry that was answered by clinging arms.

"I'm not conducting a matrimonial bureau exactly," the judge explained later, "but when this young lady addressed the district judge asking assistance in locating a certain Dexter F. Windsor, but only in case the said Windsor is not married, my suspicions were aroused, and I wrote to her to come on and help me identify the—chump!" he finished fondly, his hand on the young man's shoulder.

In a Tropical Forest.

Dr. Charles H. Townsend, director of the New York aquarium, who recently spent a month in and about the straits of Magellan, contributes to the Popular Science Monthly an account of his experience. The perpetual snow line is only 2,000 to 3,000 feet above tide water, and yet in the summer season wonderful flowers and ripe berries are to be gathered, while humming-birds, parrots and flamingoes abound. Fortunately there are no mosquitoes. "No ordinary description can convey a clear idea of the generally impenetrable character of the forests, which are more tangled and difficult than those of the tropics. Fallen trees and branches cover deep-lying the whole forest floor, these in turn being mostly concealed with mosses and large plants, the whole always saturated as if by a recent rainstorm. After clambering over decayed logs, heavily blanketed with mosses, one may land waist deep in boggy vegetation. Progress is possible only by constant and laborious climbing over obstructions."

Archaeological Discovery.

A record of very great interest concerning the celebrated siege of Jerusalem by Vespasian's army, under the command of Titus, has been discovered in upper Egypt, consisting of a wooden panel, with raised borders, or frame, bearing a Latin inscription of some fifty lines, of which thirty-seven are still perfectly legible. Apart from its historical importance this relic, with the exception of the tablets found at Pompeii, containing some accounts of a banker there, is the most valuable specimen ever found.

GENERAL NEWS OF NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

NO REFUSAL GIVEN.

Witness Says Importers All Paid For Underweighing.

New York—As the corollary to the statement, made recently from the witness stand by George T. Lunny, alleged go-between of importers and government weighers in bribery operations, that he had never known a weigher who would not accept a bribe, James P. Hyland, formerly an assistant weigher, testified that he had never met an importer who refused to pay for underweighing.

Hyland was the chief witness of the day in the trial of George E. Bedell and other ex-customs officials on charges of making fraudulent weights. He said he sometimes took off 50 per cent from the weights and sometimes did not weigh cargoes at all, but merely guessed at the weights.

Hyland was assistant government weigher from 1891 to 1909. On the stand, he was asked if he had ever done any underweighing.

"I underweighed the very first cargo I was assigned to weigh," was the reply of the witness. He said he continued underweighing from that time on, receiving most of the corruption money from "Big George" Lunny, who has been described in the testimony as the "go-between" for importers and weighers in bribery operations to secure underweights. The underweighers always got half the amounts of the duties out of which the government was defrauded, Hyland testified.

Hyland said that at one time he was not satisfied with the amount of his "rake-off" at one dock, and offered Bedell \$50 a ship if he would transfer him to a more fruitful field. The transfer was made, the witness testified. Bedell was chief clerk to Deputy Surveyor Vail. He paid Bedell, on the average, just what he promised to, Hyland declared.

RECOGNITION NEXT STEP.

Satisfactory Adjustment With Nicaragua Thought Near.

Washington—Events are moving towards a satisfactory adjustment of the relations between the United States and Nicaragua. It was admitted at the State department that the Estrada government was to be recognized immediately, as far as it was possible to do so at this stage.

It is pointed out that there are various degrees of recognition, and as Estrada's government is, after all, a provisional one, the recognition would be on that basis.

Estrada's representative in Washington will be Senor David Arrellano, who achieved fame in this country and brought on his head the wrath of Zelaya by conducting a public demonstration in Managua in honor of the accession of Taft to the presidency.

SURETY COMPANY LIABLE.

Supreme Court Decision Protects Bank Guaranty Fund.

Guthrie, Oklahoma—Three surety companies, banking the funds of the Oklahoma school land office on deposit in the wrecked Columbia Banking & Trust company, of Oklahoma City, when the institution failed, were held liable for \$140,000 by a decision of the State Supreme court. At the same time the bank guaranty fund was relieved of responsibility for the same amount.

By the same court decision a Kansas City company, which had already paid \$30,000 bonds on state funds, and surety companies protecting the Oklahoma County deposit approximately \$70,000, are prevented from the recovering from the bank guaranty fund, which is thus \$240,000 better off by the Supreme court decision.

China's Imports Decline.

Washington—The growing commercial interdependence of Oriental countries, as against their former dependence on the Occident, is shown by the latest figures of China's foreign commerce, which have just reached the department of commerce and labor. In most cases China's imports from Occidental countries indicated a decline. The largest actual gains in imports were in merchandise coming from India, Japan, Russia, French Indo-China and Singapore. The figures show a larger decrease in imports from the United States than from any other of the special countries of the world.

Prince Hsun is Honored.

Honolulu—Prince Tsai Hsun, minister of the Chinese navy and uncle of the young emperor of China, arrived here on board the Manchuria. The prince is on his way to the United States to make a study of naval problems. He was given an elaborate reception here. Escorted by Governor Frear, the Chinese naval minister and his retinue were taken from the waterfront to the scene of the reception under guard of soldiers and marines.

Eastern Cities Growing.

Washington—The population of Springfield, Ill., is 51,678, an increase of 17,519, or 51.3 per cent as compared with 34,159 in 1900. The population of Watertown, N. Y., is 26,730, an increase of 5,034, or 23.2 per cent, as compared with 21,696 in 1900. The population of Oswego, N. Y., is 23,368, as compared with 22,199 in 1900. The population of Cohoes, N. Y., is 24,708, compared with 23,910 in 1900.

DEAD TIMBER TO BE SOLD.

Government Would Dispose of That Killed by Forest Fires.

Washington—Government timber that was killed by the recent forest fires that swept over large areas in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, is to be sold as speedily as possible by the forest service, provided purchasers can be found. A great deal of this timber, though killed by the fire, is entirely sound and fit for the mill, provided it is cut and removed within two or three years. It is this timber that is to be sold.

The sales will be made under the direction of the district foresters having jurisdiction over the states in which the big fires occurred; and these officials will be at liberty, if they so desire, to sell this burned timber at lower rates than have heretofore been asked for mature timber sold from forest reserves. There will be no instructions issued by the Washington office directing the sale of this timber at reduced prices, as the district officers will be permitted to exercise their best judgment. It is the desire of the forest service, however, that all timber killed by the fires be cut and removed as early as possible, and it is also the belief of the Washington office that a reduction in price might well be made as an inducement to mill men who are so situated as to be able to handle this timber.

In the main, the lands burned over by the August fires, so far as they lay within the boundaries of the forest reserves, will be kept in reserves, and will be reforested. Some of the lands, however, that prove to be chiefly valuable for agricultural purposes, now that the timber is burned off, will be opened to homestead entry. It is the understanding of the officials in Washington that the bulk of the land is suitable principally for forest purposes, however, and this land will in time be replanted unless it naturally reforests.

RESTORE VALUABLE LANDS.

Large Areas Eliminated From Forest Reserves.

Washington—Under a plan of cooperation outlined by Secretaries Ballinger and Wilson, and now being carried out by the officials of the Interior department and department of agriculture, material areas of agricultural land, is to be eliminated from forest reserves and restored to the public domain. Some of this land has already been restored; a much greater area is expected to be restored during the coming winter, when reports on this summer's field work are collected and maps submitted to the heads of the two departments.

There seemingly misunderstanding in the minds of many as to just what Secretary Ballinger and Secretary Wilson are undertaking to do. Their purpose is simply to take from forest reserves lands that are not properly included in such reserves—lands that are not primarily valuable for their timber, or as protection to water supply. In other words, they are seeking to meet strong objections that have been raised against forest reserves in times past, by removing one cause for complaint.

EXTENDED CONTROL URGED.

Beveridge Tells Bankers Government Should Supervise Trusts.

Evansville, Ind.—Urging government supervision of meat-packing companies, the "steel trust," the "sugar trust," the railroads and other great corporations, Senator Beveridge told the delegates to the convention of the Indiana Bankers' association that he "could see no reason why moral obligations should have to be made legal obligations for bankers and not for other persons in whom there is placed a public trust."

He added, "I spoke of packers, railroad management, steel trust and sugar trust men. And if the government controls banks, as it does, why should not it control railroads and other public corporations. The relationship to the people is just as great, if not greater than that of the banks."

Packers Give Bail.

Chicago—Seven of the 10 officials of the Chicago packing companies indicted by a Federal grand jury for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law appeared in the Federal court and gave bail for their appearance. Each defendant was obliged to furnish three bonds for \$10,000 each.

The three men who did not furnish bail are Louis F. Swift, president of the Swift & Co., who is in Europe; Thomas J. Connors, superintendent of Armour & Co., who is now returning from Europe; and Francis A. Fowler, department manager of Swift & Co., who is ill. Judge Landis ordered bench warrants issued for the defendants, but after attorneys for the absentees explained why they had failed to appear the order was recalled.

Conservation Must Wait.

Washington—Congress may attempt further conservation legislation next winter and some bills urged by the administration may become laws, but there is little chance that any measure looking to the so-called "conservation of water power" can be passed in the limited three months of the closing session of the 61st congress, for there is too much diversity of opinion as to how water powers should be "conserved."

INSURGENCY WINS.

Poindexter Carries Washington by Big Majorities.

Seattle, Sept. 14.—Insurgency swept the state of Washington yesterday like a tidal wave. Poindexter is believed to have carried nearly every county in the state, with the possible exception of Pierce.

Late returns indicate that Warburton, insurgent, has carried the Second congressional district by a good plurality over McCredie, incumbent.

Humphrey has been defeated in the First district, and William La Follette, of Pullman, a cousin of Senator La Follette and an insurgent, has been elected to succeed Poindexter.

The vote of King county, with 47,000 voters registered, was probably only 30,000, and Poindexter's plurality in the county is estimated at 6,000. Poindexter carried Judge Burke's own precinct.

Incomplete returns from 30 polling places in Pierce county and Tacoma give Burke 41, Poindexter 1,376 and Ashton 1,336. At this rate Pierce county will give Ashton a small majority.

Twenty-six precincts, city and county, in Pierce county, give McCredie 339, Laypool 338 and Warburton 1,333.

Poindexter's plurality in Whatcom county is estimated at 2,000.

Poindexter's plurality in Clallam county is estimated at 300.

At Poindexter's headquarters, his lead is estimated as high as 30,000.

STORM DAMAGES COTTON.

Crop on 250,000 Acres in Texas Is Ruined by Wind and Hail.

Galveston, Tex.—A severe wind hail and rain storm which swept over four or five counties did untold damage to crops, especially to the cotton crop, which was either stripped from the fields by the wind or ruined by hail of a size unprecedented in Burleson, Brazos, Houston, Grimes and Walker counties.

From reports just received it is estimated that the cotton crop was ruined on about 250,000 acres, which includes a few thousand acres of other crops.

In Burleson county, along the hillsides, thousands of acres of unpicked cotton were beaten down by the hail and later washed into the swelling streams by the heavy rains.

GOLD THEIVES WATCHED.

Detectives Suspect Alaskans and Wait for Them to Dig Up Ingots.

Seattle—It is settled in the minds of detectives that the \$57,000 robbery of gold bullion in transit from Fairbanks to Seattle was committed on the Yukon river steamer Tanana, and the men who are supposed to have stolen the precious ingots are under surveillance.

But the gold is buried in the earth, the detectives say, and even if they arrested the real criminals, they could not convict them and they might not recover the gold. So they purpose to starve the thieves out; to watch them until they dig up the gold and try to sell it. Any man who tries to sell Tanana gold at any market in Alaska or the United States will be held for examination. Reports of a second express gold robbery are false.

Maine Goes Democratic.

Portland, Maine—Maine went Democratic Tuesday. It elected Frederick W. Plaisted, of Augusta, a Democrat, as governor, upset the heretofore solid Republican delegation in at least two, and possibly all four of the congressional districts, and to the surprise of the political leaders, Democratic as well as Republican, the last returns indicate the possibility that the next state legislature will be Democratic. The senate surely will have a Democratic majority. The house complexion is in doubt.

Suspected Leper Found.

New York—A man believed to be John Kokas, the Greek leper of Salt Lake City, who broke quarantine there, evaded interception in Chicago, and escaped eastward, was arrested here, as he was about to buy a ticket for Greece. The man gave his name as Peter Coropulas, of Salt Lake City, 30 years old, and denied vigorously that he was a leper. His appearance was hideous, and the hospital authorities say they believe he is a leper.

Falls to Fly Over Irish Sea.

London—Aviator Astor Loraine, who recently failed by 300 yards in his attempt to fly across the Irish sea, announced that he will make another try during the coming week. Loraine's failure was due to defective soldering in his petrol tank. Although he shipped sufficient petrol for the trip, the tank developed a leak, which continued during the last three miles of the trip, and Loraine was compelled to give up.

Walsh Estate Not Great.

Denver—The estate of the late Thomas F. Walsh, which had been appraised as high as \$100,000,000, was worth only \$6,500,000, according to the inventory filed by Judge S. A. Osborn, representing the estate. Of this valuation, \$3,000,000 is Colorado property.

Socialists Are Arrested.

Salt Lake City—Six members of the Socialist Labor party were arrested here, one after another, while trying to hold a street meeting at the corner of Second South and State streets, in defiance of the orders of the chief of police.

BIG AIRSHIP BURNS

Zeppelin VI Destroyed By Benzine Explosion and Fire

Three of Crew Hurt—Balloon an Entire Wreck—Had Been in Passenger Service.

Baden Baden—The latest type of Count Zeppelin's inventive genius met with disaster here when the dirigible balloon Zeppelin VI took fire after an explosion while being warped into her shed. A score or more of men were engaged in the task of housing the airship when a benzine tank in the rear gondola exploded, setting fire to an adjacent compartment. The explosion of this compartment was followed by the explosion of the 16 others.

There was a gush of flames and the whole structure was destroyed in a few minutes. Three of the crew were injured.

Nothing remained of Count Zeppelin's latest model except a tangled mass of aluminum frames.

The shed also caught fire, but the blaze was put out without serious damage. Several workmen were burned, but none fatally.

The igniting of the benzine occurred while workmen were cleaning the machinery, during which the benzine holders were open. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained.

Zeppelin VI, during the last 18 days, has made 34 passenger trips, covering about 2,000 miles, and carrying more than 300 passengers. The flights of the dirigible were made regularly, often in unfavorable weather.

This is the fifth serious accident which has befallen the Zeppelin dirigibles.

The Zeppelin VI was under charter of the Passenger Airship company, having replaced in the passenger service the recently wrecked Deutschland. It was transferred from Friedrichshafen to this place, and after being fitted with improved propellers and new features, made a trial trip on August 19. It proved to be the speediest of its type, and it was announced that it would maintain a speed of 33 miles an hour.

The dirigible was reconstructed to carry 10 passengers, and in the last few days had made several trips. Many Americans were among the excursionists. Baron Rudolph Goldsmid-Rothchild had chartered the airship for the use of a private party. He had agreed to pay \$500 for the first two hours of the excursion, and \$250 for each additional hour.

FALLIERES SEES DIRIGIBLES.

French Army Corps Use Aeroplanes in Field Maneuvers.

Grandvillieres, France—President Fallieres, accompanied by the president-elect of Brazil, Marshal Hermes Fonseca, Premier Briand and foreign military attaches, witnessed the operation of dirigibles in the army maneuvers. Three dirigibles and six aeroplanes, including those manned by Latham and Paulhan, took prominent part in the operation.

Thus far aeroplanes have given better results than the dirigibles, which for two days were prevented from leaving their stations by high winds. Army officers are enthusiastic over the results.

General Picquart, commanding the Second corps, and General Meunier, commanding the Third corps, each morning before 7 o'clock were in possession of an accurate description of the location and movements of each other's forces. Meunier outgeneraled Picquart, succeeding in turning the latter's position.

Britain Told to Leave.

Geneva, Switzerland—The annual meeting of the permanent committee of the Young Egypt party, the aim of which is autonomy and which has just opened here, afforded an opportunity of which several Egyptians availed themselves to attack ex-President Roosevelt because of his speeches at Khartoum and London. Among the epithets applied to the colonel were "vulgar blusterer" and "self-advertiser." The committee sent a telegram to London demanding immediate evacuation of Egypt by the British.

Man Tells of Murders.

Denver—Michael Siften, a Polish laborer, who came to Denver from Pueblo a few days ago, related to Chief Armstrong, of the Denver police, a remarkable tale of a series of murders alleged to have been committed in Pueblo several years ago. Siften says he is able to account for a dozen mysterious disappearances and crimes. He did not tell of them before, he said, because of fear. The crimes were committed at a boarding house.

Drug Sale to Be Stopped.

Pittsburg—A country-wide campaign against the illegitimate traffic in narcotics and habit-forming drugs began here when the National Association of Retail Druggists went on record as favoring a national law along these lines.

Portugal Exiles Monks.

Lisbon—The monastery of the Spanish Jesuits at Aldeira-Ponte has been closed by a government decree, and the Jesuits have been expelled from the country. They are warned that if they return to Portugal they will be arrested.