

SERIAL STORY

BLACKOUT

BY RUTH AYERS

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CAST OF CHARACTERS
MARY CARROLL—American fashion expert, in London during wartime.
VINCENT GREGG—soldier of fortune, in love with Mary.
CARLA MARCHETTA—a mysterious London socialite.
DR. GILBERT LENOX—surgeon serving with British army.

YESTERDAY: Mary accepts Gilbert's proposal. They are to be married Saturday, before he leaves for the front. Lenox gives her money to buy a wedding outfit and Mary is surprised to find she has not lost her interest in fashions. Then at the registry she hears herself answering—"I do!"

CHAPTER XV
In the bright winter sunlight Mary found herself relaxing under the doctor's thoroughly competent guidance. He'd saved her life when she had been at death's door and now he was determined on further salvage of the pitiful thing he'd saved.

Somehow, the shock of seeing Vincent Gregg with Carla Marchetta no longer seemed so appalling. The blight of loneliness, terrifying and chilling, seemed to lessen when she was with Gilbert. When the clerk in the registry asked if she, Anna Winters, took this man, Gilbert Lenox, for her lawfully wedded husband, she hesitated only a second. Then her voice, which had been so muffled, spoke up clearly—"I do!"

After the brief words of the registry marriage service, Mary and Gilbert started back to the Soho rooms. Gilbert's arm was tucked in hers in a comradely fashion as they walked, giving her a feeling of protection. Even more, she felt an unexpected sense of elation, now that the wedding service was over.

She was still in love with Vincent Gregg. She always would be. But the fact that she had seen him with Carla that day no longer seemed so frightening or so cruel. This marriage at the registry gave her a new status. She was Mrs. Gilbert Lenox. No longer did she have to masquerade as Anna Winters. A great surge of tenderness for the serious, red-headed American doctor came over her.

"You've saved me from absolute defeat," she tried to say. "You've got a heart as big as you are, Great Heart—that should be your name—or maybe Sir Galahad."

Gilbert looked down at her, small and trim by his side. He even managed a smile, although Mary could tell he wasn't thinking of her now. He was impatient to be on the way to the base hospital at the front.

Almost mechanically he replied, "You're already looking up your self, my dear. That outfit does something for you."
It did, too. The simply styled dress was a line that reflected her eyes and the veil on the small hat shadowed the twisted right cheek. Her hair was still colorless and dull and the glowing opal tones of her skin had been blotted out, likely for all time, by the drab pallor. But a new uplifting of her courage radiated from her.

In the apartment, Gilbert began to pack a few intimate possessions. "This is my mother," he said, showing her a photograph of a sweet-faced woman. "We're mid-westerners. There have been doctors in my family ever since covered wagons moved across the prairies."
Mary was glad he talked. Snatches of anecdotes and recollections...

Advertisement for Century Club Whiskey. Features a bottle of Century Club Straight Bourbon Whiskey with a price tag of \$1.75 for a quart and 95¢ for a pint. The bottle has a label that says 'This Whiskey is 4 Years Old'. Below the bottle, it says 'BOTTLED CARBONATED BEVERAGES'.

ing incidents about his boyhood and his home in Missouri.
"Have you a girl at home?" she asked abruptly. Red flamed in her face when the words were said. "Oh, I'm sorry. You haven't asked anything about me or the man I love. I've no right to ask you."
"That's quite all right," Gilbert answered. "Girls maybe, yes. But as I told you that day on the sun porch at the hospital, I've never been in love—real love. That's something different. It has to be."
Mary was at his side at once. "Some day you'll find someone who's crazy about you. I know it. You have everything to offer a girl."

She went on in a rush of words. "What you're doing for me now, giving me your name while you're in France—letting me use your money until I can repay it—all that is chivalrous and generous beyond words. But when you come back to England, I'll be all right again. You've pulled me through and I feel the worst is already over. The marriage can be annulled quietly and I'll never stand in your way. Even now, I envy the girl who'll be your real wife—your sweetheart."

Mary's eyes lowered and her hands twisted miserably in her lap.
Gilbert bent down to her. Before either of them were aware of it, he had drawn her to her feet and encircled her shoulders.
"You want to watch out, Mrs. Gilbert Lenox, or you might be the girl I fall in love with." His voice grew husky.

In a breathless move, he had stroked her in his arms, held her as lightly as if she'd been a doll. The new tenderness Mary felt for him began to flame into something stronger. She waited, half hopeful, half fearful that his lips would press down hard on her mouth.

The spell broke. Gilbert kissed her—but lightly, almost in a brotherly way, and put her down. Mary remembered her unsightly face. No, Gilbert Lenox would never fall in love with her. It was pity, not a glimmer of love, that had made him give her his name.

When he had packed his few things and put a worn Bible in his pocket, Gilbert wrote out a few addresses and directions to her.

"It's not that I'm afraid," he said. "There's really no danger at all. I'm to be well behind the firing lines—not that I wouldn't like to be right in the thick of the fight. But medical gets the breaks in these wars and if that's where I can help most, that's where I've got to stay. Still, even in the medical corps, I'm going to be pretty far away and it's best to leave some instructions."

When Mrs. Simmons brought tea, Gilbert gravely announced their marriage to her.

The lodging house landlady blinked. "Oh, I say!" she began. "A bride? Congratulations. I might have guessed after your taking such good care of her."

"You're to look after Mrs. Lenox while I'm gone, understand?"

"I will indeed," the worthy Britisher said. But all the time, Mary could read in the candid face the thoughts that went on behind it. Mrs. Simmons was obviously thinking, "Handsome Dr. Lenox, him to be added with such a poor little nobody of a girl!"

As they had their tea, Dr. Lenox did not refer again to the brief, business-like ceremony at the registry. It was as if they'd been two people who'd signed a contract to make them partners for a stated time at the end of which they would go their separate ways.

Nor did Gilbert talk an more about his departure. Instead, he was very much the physician in these last few minutes with Mary Carroll. He called her Anna, of course, and every time he said the word, Mary felt a trace of guilt. But it was too late now to tell him her real identity.

"Dr. O'Connell is doing special surgery in the same base hospital where I'll be stationed," Gilbert said. "I'll give him the history of your injury and all the facts about it so when he comes back to London he'll be posted on the case. But now, my dear, all the help he can give you isn't going to be worth anything if you don't cooperate. You're terribly run down—no color, no appetite, and your nerves playing havoc with you."

(To be continued)

DANCE
CANYONVILLE
Community Hall
Saturday, May 18
Dale King and His Band
40c and 10c

Advertisement for Bottled Carbonated Beverages. Features a woman's face and the text 'BOTTLED CARBONATED BEVERAGES'. Below it, it says 'Request our brand. Request our "BIG CHIEF" Brand at your Favorite Dealer. Roseburg Dairy & Soda Works Telephone 186'.

Seattle Moves Up To Second Place

(By The Associated Press)
The Seattle Rainiers moved into second place in the Pacific coast league race by defeating the Portland Beavers 4-3 in the ninth inning in Seattle last night.

Barrett yielded only four hits as he bested Hilcher in a tight mound duel. Hilcher only permitted five hits before the eventful ninth when three Rainier singles and a costly Portland error enabled the Seattle nine to come from behind with three runs.

The Portland misdeed occurred when both Pacheco and Reich attempted to cover first base on what appeared a certain out on Schuster's infield sacrifice hit. Pacheco caught the ball but Reich was charged with an error for being in the way. Schuster later scored the winning run.

Oakland's loss of second place was large due to the efforts of the Los Angeles heavy batting staff which pounded out 14 hits off Oakland pitchers Mulligan and Vern

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Yoncalla, Myrtle Creek Teams Face Title Game

The annual Douglas county B league playoff for the hard ball championship of the county was scheduled at the Oakland baseball diamond this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock.

The Yoncalla high school team defeated Drain 8-7 last Friday to win the right to represent the north section of the county in the playoff. Myrtle Creek high school defeated Glide last Tuesday 6-3 to win the southern title. These two teams have been perennial rivals on the baseball diamond and another exciting game is expected Friday.

Starting pitcher for either team has not been announced but Cox or Applegate will probably open the mound for Yoncalla while Andy McDougall or Gordon Dyer, a pair of southpaws, will probably pitch for Myrtle Creek.

Probable starting line-ups and batting orders are:
Myrtle Creek—Rust, 2b; A. McDougall, p or D; Wallace, lf; Shirliff, cf; Buell, ss; D. Dyer, 3b; H. McDougall, rf; Marcum, c; G. Dyer, p or lb.

Yoncalla—Rice, ss; Main, 3b; Whittemeyer, cf; Cox, p or cf; Applegate, p or lf; Mathis, 1b; Dodd, rf; Thompson, c; Palmer, 2b.

Boston Red Sox Boost League Lead

(By JUDSON BAILEY)
Associated Press Sports Writer
The Boston Red Sox aren't fooling with those gestures they're making toward the American league pennant.

Without any spectacular string of victories, the Red Soxers have won 21 of the 24 games they have played this spring and eight out of nine since they took over first place in a display of authority against the Cleveland Indians May 6.

They increased their margin over the second place Indians to three full games yesterday by outslugging the St. Louis Browns for a 7-5 victory. The same maneuver expanded their lead over the last place New York Yankees to nine and one-half games.

Unless New York gets going soon the McCarthymen may find themselves with too big a handicap to overcome. The Yanks haven't had a chance to play for four days, rain catching them again yesterday at Chicago along with five other major league games. In fact the only other contest that escaped the weather was at Boston, where the Chicago Cubs handed the Sox their sixth successive defeat, 5-4.

The Cincinnati Reds and Brooklyn Dodgers attempted to play the deciding game of their series yesterday in the fourth inning. The downpour, but rain halted activities pour washed out home runs by Werber and Goodman which had put the Reds ahead 2-1 at the time.

Here on Business—L. DeWard, of Sutherland, was a business visitor in this city yesterday.

Glen Elliott Beats Idaho on Two-Hit Mound Job

(By The Associated Press)
After a five-game lapse the Washington Huskies finally got back into the win column of the northern division, Pacific Coast conference race yesterday by defeating the Oregon Webfoots 9-5 in a baseball game in Seattle.

Seven runs on four hits and four Oregon errors put the Huskies way out in front in the fourth inning. Harold Thompson led the attack with a double.

The Webfoots got four runs off Pitcher Dick Izzard in a ninth inning rally.

The victory gave Washington an even break in the two-game series.

The Oregon State Beavers scored their second straight over Idaho Vandals in Moscow 9-1 behind the two-hit pitching of 20-year-old Glen Elliott. Elliott held the Vandals hitless and runless in all but the fourth inning when they got their two hits and one run.

DON'T FORGET
Rhododendron Day
May 19 at Florence, Oregon
Program
Boxing matches Saturday evening at 8:00 p. m.
Queen's Ball Saturday evening at 10:00 p. m.
Crowning of Queen at 11:00 a. m. Sunday.
Pet Parade at 12:00 noon.
Free Sea Food Dinner at 1:00 p. m.
Baseball Game at 2:30 p. m.
Dancing afternoon and evening.
MAY 19
FLORENCE, OREGON

PHONE 21
TAXI
PHONE 21

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Now—your gas company gives you ironclad assurance of these big exclusive advantages with its unmatched 10-year guarantee.
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The 1940 SERVEL ELECTROLUX Gas Refrigerator
HERE'S WHY PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE ARE CHANGING TO SERVEL ELECTROLUX!
"It's wonderful to think how many years we've had our Servel Electrolux without ever having to have anything done to it. I guess that proves its freezing system is simpler and better. I do know our gas refrigerator is always silent."
—Mrs. C. W. Sutherland, 150 Melrose Street, Auburndale

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