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HOW A WAR WAS PREVENTED.

(Original.)
The essential features of this story constitute a notable newspaper scoop.

One evening at a ball at the German embassy at Paris M. de B., a brilliant young journalist then representing the London Times at the French capital, was standing looking on at the dancers when a girl possessing a Tonic cast of countenance passed leaning on the arm of the German ambassador. Her eyes met those of De B., and though she lowered them modestly, still there was that in her expression which revealed to the young journalist that he had made an impression. He sought the ambassador and begged an introduction. It was granted, and De B. was presented to Marie von Ullenstein of Berlin, a niece of Prince Bismarck.

De B. met the fraulein often in society, and at every meeting the mutual pleasure appeared to be greater than at the previous one. Within a few weeks he was encouraged to make her a proposition of marriage. She acknowledged that she was greatly pleased with him, but that no definite answer could be given without consultation with her family, and especially her uncle, the chancellor.

"You think," she added, "that I am seizing upon a pretext to put you off. To convince you to the contrary, I will confide to you what this engrossing subject is. Our government, fearful that France, displaying such remarkable recuperative powers, will soon grow strong enough to take revenge for the blow received in the late war, is about to pick a quarrel with the French, march on Paris and level it."

The imparting of such a remarkable piece of news to him, a journalist, by a niece of the real ruler of Germany threw De B. into a fearful state of doubt. What could it mean? He soon left the fraulein, going to another apartment to think. Two Germans near him were talking together, and he heard one of them mention the name of Marie von Ullenstein, whereupon the other added, "It is said that the chancellor intrusts her with many delicate bits of diplomacy."

The words did not reassure the listener. He left the embassy, went to his apartments and by a whole night thinking of his strange adventure. What should he do? Whether the news the fraulein had given him was true or false, it was his duty as a Frenchman to impart it to the president of France. But this compelled the betrayal of a confidence reposed in him by the girl he loved. After a terrible mental struggle he sent the information to his paper. Its publication attracted considerable attention for the time being, then was dropped by the public as a piece of manufactured news.

De B. kept away from Marie von Ullenstein. The day after the publication of the news she had given him he heard that she had left Paris. One of two things was probable. Either she had been recalled by her uncle to be punished for revealing state secrets or she had manufactured the news to test him. As time passed and he heard nothing of German preparation to invade France he made up his mind that the latter hypothesis was correct. In either case his mental sufferings were almost unendurable, loving desperately, as he did, the girl whose confidence he had violated.

Then came an offer from a Paris paper for him to act as its Berlin correspondent. A burning desire to see Marie von Ullenstein once more, even though she spurned him, decided him, and he went to Berlin. It was not long before he met her in company. To his surprise she nodded to him and smiled. Her action convinced him that she had manufactured the news she had given him and, finding him unworthy, had become indifferent to him. Eager to learn the truth, he took the first opportunity to join her.

"Well," he said, "you saw that I regarded my duty instead of my love."
"Don't let us talk of that," she replied. "Your act did no harm."
"No," he said gloomily. "There is no harm in manufactured news."
"The news was not manufactured. You did your duty. Why have you not written me?"

"I? Write you after having revealed your secret?"
"I expected you to reveal it. Indeed, I wished you to do so."
"Why?"

"If I had intended the secret to be kept, I would not have imparted it to you. Your duty to your country compelled you to reveal it."
"You used me as a tool, then?"
"Yes."

"And your consent to consider me a sutor was a part of your scheme?"
"It had nothing to do with my scheme."
A flood of joyous relief welled up in De B. "You have given me one confidence," he said. "If you are not displeased with me, give me another. Explain."

"I have no times," she replied, "been intrusted by my uncle with delicate diplomatic maneuvers. He had been long worried by the war party who were determined to destroy France, thus antagonizing the civilized world. Finally they carried the day, and war was decided on. My uncle commissioned me to go to France and let out the secret, especially for England, expecting that power would interfere. I chose you as my medium. As soon as the news was published in England word was communicated by the British minister here that if we attacked France we must also attack England. That settled the matter."

Later the betrothal of M. de B. and Marie von Ullenstein was announced.
WINSLOR JENKINS.

SWEET PEAS.

Two Magnificent Varieties That Bloom in Profusion.

Two magnificent new varieties of sweet peas are described in Gardening as having the way and fitted standards of the Countess Spencer type, and the wavy wings are so infolded over the keel that this is almost hidden. Trials have proved that they come ab-



WHITE SPENCER SWEET PEA.

solutely true from the selected seed, the one being pure white, the other a pronounced primrose or creamy yellow, holding its own as to color with any of the so called yellow varieties and surpassing them all in size of flower, length of stem and vigor.

The vigorous growth is, in fact, a characteristic of these fine varieties, the vines being stout with heavy foliage, often growing twelve feet high and covered with flowers that retain their great size continuously throughout the season.

Small Fruits.

Open winter days afford the opportunity for trimming the small fruits. Among raspberries remove the dead wood and cut the laterals back to a length of twelve inches. This is supposed that they have been cut in July to induce branching. But if not the top third should be cut off, says Iowa Homestead.

The same method should be followed in handling the blackberry rows. Those who are growing tender varieties have already trimmed and laid down for winter. But a great number of our readers are growing the hardy Snyder, which does very well without protection.

A very common cause of failure with currants is to let the bushes get too thick, and the result is very small fruit. In such cases half or two-thirds of the old wood should be cut away. Always select the oldest stalks to remove.

The bushes should be left open and only the most thrifty of the new shoots spared to take the place a year or two later of the present bearing wood.

Follow the same plan with the gooseberry. Just a hint to the amateur grape grower: It is better to trim the vines now than later in the season. Two main stems from one root is enough to leave to be trained up fan shape.

HAPPY MONTHS.

An Odd Custom Observed in England at Christmas Time.

"Happy months" is the name applied to the little mince pies made at Christmas time throughout England and served to any guests who may call at the house during the holidays.

The saying is that for every one of these tiny pies one eats a happy month will come during the year, only the pies must be given to the one who eats them.

When one calls at the house the little pies are brought forth with a glass of wine or a cup of tea, and, however well satisfied one may already be as regards one's appetite or how many of these "happy month" pies he has already eaten, it is considered a marked breach of etiquette to refuse the little pie, although one is allowed to take it home and eat it later. This, however, is not very often done, for who would refuse the coming of a happy month by refusing to overtax the stomach for just one more little pie?

In some parts of England these little pies are literally made by the dozen, so there will be plenty of them for family and friends. They are made of the richest of puff paste, too, which, at the best of times, is an indigestible goody, and the crust is filled with a mince meat filling that is even richer than the crust.—Suburban Life.

CEYLON ELEPHANTS.

The Only Species in Which the Males Have No Tusks.

What a sight for a Ceylon elephant hunter would be the first view of a herd of African elephants—all tuskers! It is a singular thing that Ceylon is the only part of the world where the male elephants have no tusks. They have miserable little grubbies projecting two or three inches from the upper jaw and inclining downward.

Nothing produces either ivory or horn in fine specimens throughout Ceylon. Although some of the buffaloes have tolerably fine heads, they will not bear a comparison with those of other countries. The horns of the native cattle are not above four inches in length.

The elk and the spotted deer's antlers are small compared with deer of their size in India. This is the more singular as it is evident from the geological formation that at some remote period Ceylon was not an island, but formed a portion of the mainland. It is thought that there must be elements wanting in the Ceylon pasturage for the formation of ivory.—Ceylon Manual



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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COOS.

L. G. Masters,

Plaintiff

vs.
Sarah Conner Riggs, Christina Conner Riggs, Ellen Conner Darnell, Alice Conner, Emma Conner Lower, Mary Conner Smith, Martha A. Cecil, Warren Conner, Jobe Conner, William Conner, Samuel Smith and J. H. Cecil, and James Conner, son of John Conner, deceased; Ann Conner, daughter of John Conner, deceased; John Doe Riggs, husband of Sarah Conner Riggs; Richard Roe, husband of Christina Conner Riggs; John Smith Darnell, husband of Ellen Conner Darnell; James Jones, husband of Alice Conner; Robert Lower, husband of Emma Conner Lower; Mary Conner, wife of Warren Conner; Jane Conner, wife of Jobe Conner; Kate Conner, wife of William Conner; Margaret Conner, wife of James Conner, and John Brown, husband of Ann Conner, defendants.

Suit in Equity to Quiet Title

SUMMONS

To Sarah Conner Riggs, Christina Conner Riggs, Ellen Conner Darnell, Alice Conner, Emma Conner Lower, Mary Conner Smith, Martha A. Cecil, Warren Conner, Jobe Conner, William Conner, Samuel Smith and J. H. Cecil and James Conner, son of John Conner, deceased; Ann Conner, daughter of John Conner, deceased; John Doe Riggs, husband of Sarah Conner Riggs; Richard Roe, husband of Christina Conner Riggs; John Smith Darnell, husband of Ellen Conner Darnell; James Jones, husband of Alice Conner; Robert Lower, husband of Emma Conner Lower; Mary Conner, wife of Warren Conner; Jane Conner, wife of Jobe Conner; Kate Conner, wife of William Conner; Margaret Conner, wife of James Conner, and John Brown, husband of Ann Conner, defendants.

In the name of the State of Oregon: You are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit:

Within six weeks from the 23d day of March, 1908, and if you fail to answer on or before the 4th day of May, 1908, that date being the last day of the time prescribed in the order of publication of this summons, judgment will be taken against you for want thereof for the relief demanded in plaintiff's complaint, a succinct statement of which relief is as follows:

That the title of the plaintiff to the real property described in said complaint, and to-wit: The northeast quarter of the southwest quarter, lot two and the north half of lot three, all in section twenty-one, township twenty-six south, of range twelve west of the Willamette meridian, Coos county, Oregon, be quieted as against the defendants and each of them; that the defendants and each of them be forever enjoined and restrained from setting up any claim of right, title or interest in or to the above described real property or any portion thereof; for his costs and disbursements herein, and for such other and further relief as to the Court may seem equitable.

This summons is served upon you by order of Hon. John F. Hall, Judge of the County Court of Coos county, Oregon, which said order was made on the 23d day of March, 1908, and by which said order you are required to answer the complaint in said suit on or before the 4th day of May, 1908.

Dated March 23d, 1908.
JOHN S. COKE,
JOHN D. GOSS,
Attorneys for plaintiff.

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