

SOMETHING TO SELL

By Francis A. Corey

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At the ringing of the doorbell a blush blended suddenly with the happy smile on Elizabeth Mellen's lips. It was Teddy Davenport, of course! Hadn't he called regularly at this hour of the afternoon for weeks and weeks?

"I'm so glad you've come, Teddy," she cried, giving him both her hands.

She always had for him this warm, impulsive greeting. But Davenport was not responsive for once. The slender, jeweled hands were quickly released. His lips were so answering smile. There was a new line in his face.

"Something has gone wrong, Teddy," she said in her quick, direct way.

"Yes."

"Is it so very, very bad?"

"As bad as it well can be," he groaned.

Elizabeth paled a little. Teddy was not one to take alarm at nothing. But instead of asking what troubled him she drew a little nearer and said:

"Let the unpleasant news wait. Yesterday we were debating whether we would announce our engagement at once or not until next month. Why not settle the question now?"

"That's the very thing I came to talk about!" he exclaimed. Then he went on hurriedly, before she could make any response.

"Elizabeth, I'm glad now that we took no one into our confidence. 'Twill make things easier and better for you. You are so weakling; you may as well have the truth straight out. I very much fear that everything will have to be given up."

She looked at him for a moment as if stunned. "What—what do you mean?"

"You know, dear, nearly my whole fortune was put into Lookout mine. I so wanted to double it. Then I'd be as rich as you. A man likes to have as much money as the woman he weds. So I took a desperate risk. Everything promised well at first, but I've just had

an inspiration and she acted upon it at once. Crossing the wide hall to a small room at the rear of the library, she took the telephone directory from its shelf, ran her finger down the long column of names until she came to the letter B. Then she called up Mr. Sanford of the legal firm of Sanford & Rollins, and the following conversation took place:

"Mr. Sanford, you have charge of Mr. Theodore Davenport's business affairs?"

"Yes."

"Is it true that his Lookout shares have greatly depreciated in value?"

"Excuse me, madam. That is a private matter. I cannot discuss it with a stranger."

"You needn't be afraid. Mr. Davenport has just gone from here. I'm Miss Elizabeth Mellen of Gramercy Park."

"Oh—ah—yes!" It was curious—the change that had come into the voice at the other end of the wire. "Of course, then, it is quite unnecessary to keep anything back. The mine is in very bad shape—even worse than Davenport is aware."

"I'd like to have a talk with you, Mr. Sanford, if I may. Can you call at my house this evening at 8 to meet my business manager?"

"I will come with pleasure, Miss Mellen."

"Thanks. Of course you understand that Mr. Davenport is not to know of this."

"You can rely upon my discretion."

"That is all. Goodby until 8."

The following afternoon Elizabeth sat waiting with flushed cheeks and shining eyes. On the stroke of the clock Teddy bounded up the steps. Without giving the servants a chance to announce him, he rushed into the drawing room and caught her in his arms.

"Such wonderful news, my darling!" he cried joyously, kissing her. "Sanford has sold my Lookout shares at par to somebody with more money than brains! The mine can't be in such a hopeless condition as I was led to believe. Sanford dropped a hint that the new owner has been investigating privately and knows what he's about. Well, he's welcome to make what he can out of it. It's off my hands, thank heaven! And now we will announce our engagement as soon as you please."

"Then let it be tomorrow, Teddy," Elizabeth murmured, with downcast eyes.

There was a punctured silence.

"I—I have a prejudice against long engagements," she whispered presently.

"Why not be married—in three weeks?"

"You darling!" he cried.

At the first stop on their wedding journey Elizabeth dived to the very bottom of her trunk for a mysterious package. With this tightly clutched in hands that shook a little in spite of herself, she confronted her husband of an hour.

"Teddy," she began rather tremulously, "it is the custom to make gifts on an occasion like this. Suppose you and I inaugurate a new departure. I have something to sell if you can be induced to buy."

Smiling into her solemn face, he asked teasingly:

"Is it a kiss?"

"Of course not. How absurd! But—see for yourself."

He stared hard at the half dozen documents she spread out on the table; then as the truth dawned slowly upon him his face grew white.

"These are Lookout mine certificates made out in your name! Elizabeth," he cried, sharply, "explain! What does this mean?"

"Oh, Teddy, forgive me," she pleaded, kneeling beside him in the adorable humility of a proud but loving woman.

"I couldn't give you up. I could not. And I saw a way out of it, thank heaven. I bought up these shares of yours secretly!"

She stopped, silenced by a bitter cry.

"And I'm a poor beggar after all," he groaned.

"Nothing of the sort," she declared eagerly. "You've been too busy getting ready to be married to watch the market reports, I suspect. Lookout shares touched par three days ago, and they went up three additional points yesterday. You've made a hundred thousand!"

"You mean that you have," he cried, clasping her in his arms.

Hang on to the Plow.

An old English gentleman, a school teacher, who some years ago resided in one of the small towns of Ohio, was an agreeable teller of stories, but deemed it beyond his reputation as a raconteur to tell one that did not surpass any that had preceded it. A farmer, having come to the village, remarked in the presence of his friends that he had been plowing all the week with four horses, breaking up new ground, and dwelt upon it as being a very big thing.

"Pshaw!" said the old Englishman. "That's nothing. I have seen in England fifty yoke of oxen hitched to one plow."

The remark seemed to occasion general surprise.

"And," continued he, "the funniest part of the whole thing was that while the plow was on the top of the hill the leading yoke of oxen was on top of another hill, and the forty-nine between the plow and the leaders were suspended between the two hills. And there was another matter connected with it rather strange. In the course of the day the plowman, becoming rather careless about driving his team, ran into and split a big oak stump. The plow passed safely through the split, but before the plowman got on

it was through it closed up and caught him by the coat tail."

"Did it tear his coat?" asked a person of inquiring turn.

"Not a bit of it," replied our veracious narrator. "He hung on to the plow handles and pulled out the stump."—Buffalo Times.

DRY FARMING.

Explanation of the Principles of the Campbell System.

What western people have become accustomed to call the "Campbell system of dry farming" consists simply in the exercise of intelligence, care, patience and tireless industry. It differs in detail from the good farming methods practiced and taught at the various agricultural experiment stations, but the underlying principles are the same.

These principles are two in number: First, to keep the surface of the land under cultivation loose and finely pulverized. This forms a soil mulch that permits the rains and melting snows to percolate readily through to the compacted soil beneath and that at the same time prevents the moisture stored in the ground from being brought to the surface by capillary attraction, to be absorbed by the hot, dry air. The second is to keep the subsoil finely pulverized and firmly compacted, increasing its water holding capacity and its capillary attraction and placing it in the best possible physical condition for the germination of seed and the development of plant roots. The dry farmer thus stores water not in dams and artificial reservoirs, but right where it can be reached by the roots of growing crops.

Through these principles a rainfall of twelve inches can be conserved so effectively that it will produce better results than are usually expected of an annual precipitation of twenty-four inches in humid America. The discoverer and demonstrator of these principles deserves to rank among the greatest of national benefactors. He has not merely made two blades of grass grow where only one grew before, but he has made it possible to cover with wheat and corn, alfalfa and other useful crops tens of thousands of square miles of fertile land on which nothing but sagebrush, cacti, Kansas sunflowers and bunch grass are now found.—John L. Cowan in Century Magazine.

Wings of riches are as unsatisfactory as the stings of poverty.

A man's most bitter enemy is the ex-friend who can no longer work him.

Even the man who expects the unexpected is apt to be surprised when it happens.

A man is seldom as old as he feels or a woman as young as she says she is.

The faster a man lives the quicker he will occupy ground floor space in a cemetery.

It's an easy matter to obtain peace. All you have to do is let the other fellow have his way.

Some things are rather difficult to understand, especially when they are explained by some one who doesn't understand them.—Chicago News.

The Changeless Moon.

Under existing conditions—and the conditions have existed on the surface of the moon for perhaps millions of years—it is a physical impossibility that the face of the moon should change one iota. There are neither outside nor inside influences that can be brought to bear to make a change in the configuration of "our silvery sister world." Her internal fires have long since died out, and there is an utter absence of both air and water. Existing under such conditions, it is utterly impossible that the face of the moon should undergo change or disintegration even in the course of a hundred million years.

Pronunciation.

There is a story that Tennyson, hearing at a dinner party somebody pronouncing knowledge with a long o, jumped up from the table, rushed at his fellow guest and shook hands with him. "Among the faithful, he!" he exclaimed, and he proceeded to denounce in vehement terms the iniquitous mispronunciation of the English language. It is remembered that a greater English poet—Byron, to wit—did not agree with him, as a couplet in "Don Juan" shows:

No, no; I'd send him out betimes to college. For there it was I picked up my own knowledge.

Lightning Flashes.

A four inch black disk, marked with a white cross and rotating fifty to sixty times a second, has been used by a German at night for studying lightning flashes. Some flashes caused the cross to appear once, others brought it out several times, and repeated observations confirmed the view that the discharge is very variable. The duration of some seemed to be about the one-thousandth part of a second. Others were shorter, and some were evidently not more than a thirty-five thousandth part of a second.

A Sweet Dream Ended.

Ethel—Bobby Jones died very suddenly. I hear. I suppose his widow is inconsolable? Ethel—Yes, poor dear. She was looking forward so happily to divorce proceedings and alimony.—New York Press.

Turned Down.

Ted—I never yet met the woman. I thought I could marry. Ned—You're lucky. The three I met I thought I could.—New York Times.

CITY NOTICES.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Committee on Streets and Public Ways, the Superintendent of Streets and the City Surveyor, have filed a certificate of the completion of the improvement of Fourth street, from the south line of Astor street to the south rail of the Astoria and Columbia River Railroad track, by Dill and Young the contractors, in accordance with general ordinance number 3247 and the contract therefor. That unless objections are filed against the same, the same will be accepted by ordinance at the next regular meeting of the Common Council.

OLAF ANDERSON, by THOMAS DEALEY, Deputy. Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

Dated Astoria, August 21, 1906. 8-21-3t.

NOTICE OF IMPROVEMENT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the Common Council of the City of Astoria has declared its determination and intention to improve the intersection or crossing of Bond street and 6th street. Said improvement shall be made by grading said crossing to the established grade and outside of the sidewalk area to 12 inches below the established grade, a construction of sidewalk corners, the sidewalk corners on the east side to be cement and on the west side wooden corners, and the street shall be filled in and macadamized to the depth of 12 inches with crushed rock when thoroughly rolled and the portion of the crossing occupied by the tracks of the Astoria Electric Co.'s street car tract and one foot on each side of the rails thereof shall be macadamized by it at the same time. In matters of detail said improvement shall be constructed according to the plans and specifications therefor to be prepared by the City Surveyor as hereinafter provided and general ordinance No. 1901 and any matter of construction and drainage found necessary to make the improvement safe or substantial shall be done by the contractor whether specified or not, without extra charge.

That the costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises benefited by the same which said lots, lands and premises are included in the special assessment district including all lots, lands and premises so benefited to-wit: Lots 7 and 8 in block 11, lots 5 and 6 in block 12, lots 1 and 2 in block 22 and lots 3 and 4 in block 21, all in that part of the city of Astoria laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney, in Clatsop County, Oregon.

OLAF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

NOTICE OF IMPROVEMENT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the Common Council of the City of Astoria has declared its determination and intention to improve Harrison Avenue from the West line of that part of the City of Astoria laid out and recorded by John M. Shively to the center line of 10th street. Said improvement shall be made by grading said street to the full width thereof to the established grade thereof.

In matters of detail said improvement shall be constructed according to the plans and specifications therefor to be prepared by the City Surveyor as hereinafter provided and general ordinance No. 1901 and any matter of construction and drainage found necessary to make the improvement safe or substantial shall be done by the contractor whether specified or not, without extra charge.

That the costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises benefited by the same which said lots, lands and premises are included in the special assessment district including all lots, lands and premises so benefited to-wit: Lots numbered 5, 6, 7 and 8, in block 90, lots numbered 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 in block 91, lots 5, 6, 7 and 8 in block number sixty-nine (69) lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 in block 92, lots numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, in block 93; and lots 1, 2, 3, and in block 94 all in the part of the City of Astoria laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney in Clatsop county, State of Oregon.

OLAF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

8-22-9t.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT Special Assessment Roll No. 127, made for the purpose of defraying the costs and expenses of improving Duane street from the West line of Tenth street to

CITY NOTICES.

the West line of Sixth street, has been made by the Board of Assessors and filed with the Auditor and Police Judge and marked and numbered "Special Assessment Roll No. 127;" and that the Committee on Streets and Public Ways of the Common Council has been appointed a special committee of the Council to sit with the Board of Assessors as a board of equalization to consider, review, equalize and correct said assessment roll and that the 8th day of September, 1906, at the hour of 2 o'clock p. m., in the Council Chambers in the City Hall has been fixed as the time and place of said meeting of said board of equalization.

OLAF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT Special Assessment Roll No. 126, made for the purpose of defraying the costs and expenses of improving Irving Avenue from the east line of Eighteenth street to the West line of Adair's Astoria, has been made by the Board of Assessors and filed with the Auditor and Police Judge and marked and numbered "Special Assessment Roll No. 126;" and that the committee on Streets and Public Ways of the Common Council has been appointed a special committee of the Council to sit with the Board of Assessors as a board of equalization to consider, review, equalize and correct said assessment roll and that the 8th day of September, 1906, at the hour of 2 o'clock p. m., in the Council Chambers in the City Hall has been fixed as the time and place of said meeting of said board of equalization, at which time all objections to said roll will be considered.

OLAF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria.

NOTICE OF IMPROVEMENT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the Common Council of the city of Astoria has declared its determination and intention to repair Commercial street from the East line of Ninth street to the West line of Fourteenth street. Said repairs shall consist of removing all the old street decking from curb to curb including the crossings and between Ninth and Tenth street straightening up the strangers so as to bring the street to the established grade and fillings in where necessary to do so, and by replanning the street on the existing stringers from the East line of Ninth street to the West line of Fourteenth street with good sound yellow fir lumber 4 inches in thickness by 12 inches in width.

All old material that is suitable for use in repairing streets shall be taken away and stored by the Superintendent of streets as the same is taken up by the contractor and that which is worthless shall be removed by the contractor at his own expense and not dumped under the roadway.

In matters of detail said improvement shall be constructed according to the plans and specifications therefor to be prepared by the City Surveyor as hereinafter provided and general ordinance No. 1901 and any matter of construction and drainage found necessary to make the improvement safe or substantial shall be done by the contractor whether specified or not, without extra charge.

That the costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises benefited by the same which said lots, lands and premises are included in the special assessment district including all lots, lands and premises so benefited to-wit: Commencing at the northwest corner of lot 8 in block 25 in that part of the city of Astoria laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney, and running thence south along the East line of said tract "A" and also the East line of block 136 in that part of the City of Astoria laid out and recorded by John M. Shively to the southeast corner of said block 136 in said Shively's Astoria and thence running west along the south line of said block 136 to the southwest corner thereof and thence running north along the west line of said block 136 to a point where the west line of said block 136 would be intersected by the South line of lot 4 in block 62 in that part of the city of Astoria laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney if extended East on a straight line, and running thence west through the middle of blocks 62, 61, 60 and 26 in McClure's Astoria to the southwest corner of lot one (1) in block 26 and thence running north along the east line of

CITY NOTICES.

Ninth street to the place of beginning and containing all lots, lands and premises within the said above described district which includes all lands, lots and premises benefited my said improvement or repairs.

OLAF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police of the City of Astoria.

LEGAL NOTICES.

NOTICE TO TAX PAYERS.

The Board of Equalization of Clatsop County, Oregon, will attend at the office of the County Clerk of Clatsop County, Oregon, on Monday, August 27, 1906, and daily thereafter until and including Saturday, September 1, 1906, to publicly examine the assessment roll for the year 1906, and correct all errors in valuation, description or equalities of land, lots or other properties and it shall be the duty of all parties interested to appear at that time and place for the purpose of correcting any errors that may appear in said assessment roll.

T. S. CORNELIUS, Assessor, Clatsop County, Oregon. Astoria, Oregon, August 6, 1906. 8-5-25t. (D. & W.)

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SEASIDE, OREGON.



HE STARED HARD AT THE HALF DOZEN DOCUMENTS.

a wire from headquarters. The mine has gone smash—water, you see—utterly worthless. Nobody would take it as a gift."

"Oh, Teddy, I'm so sorry!" she said.

"Of course it means financial ruin. I'll have to begin again at the bottom of the ladder. It may take years to work my way up. It would be unjust to you to ask you to wait. I will not do it. I give you back your promise. You are free."

A sudden trembling of the white lips showed what the words cost him. The look on his haggard face went to Elizabeth's heart. She was deeply in love with Teddy Davenport. She loved him for his handsome face, his manliness, his courage and strength, his high notions of honor. With a swift, impulsive gesture she slipped two slender white arms, lost at the elbow in enchanting frills of lace, about his neck.

"But I don't want to be free," she cried. "Oh, what a goose you are, Teddy! As if I hadn't money enough for us both and wouldn't deem it a privilege to share all I possess with you!"

He released himself resolutely from the clasping arms.

"Yes, Elizabeth, I know you would do it, and willingly, if I would permit the sacrifice. But I will not. How can I take so much and give nothing in return?"

"You will give yourself. That is enough."

"Not from a man's standpoint. Don't tempt me. I had this light on by myself before I came. I shall always love you, always be true to you, but until fortune smiles again we can be only friends."

Elizabeth loved him the better for his unyielding firmness and pride. And he had gone she stood for a hour time at the window, the light came on of her beautiful eyes. What a pity that so patry a thing as the loss of fortune should wreck the happiness of two lives! Could nothing be done?

Suddenly a thought came to her. It