Adele Garrison's New Phase of

CHAPTER 144

WHY ALFRED DECLARED HE WAS IN A "BLUE FUNK"

Dickey is always most puncwe have had a quarrel that some your catechism every night?" ore will suspect all is not perfectly serene between us. Because of this, I could not tell

hadn't a care in the world. "Leila! Sweetheart!" I heard

girl's flowerlike face, kissing her rith blissful oblivion of our presence and that of the taxi driver, who was looking from the motorcar at us with evident enjoyment. "Well, Madge!" Dicky pecked

at my cheek carelessly. "Where's REVELATIONS OF A WIFE the rod? I know you've got one in pickle for me somewhere for attending that bachelor dinner without asking your permission, Lucky dog!" He apostrophized Alfred. "You probably won't even get a remonstrance or a reproachful look at this stage of the game. But just you wait till the little girl tillous in his courtesy to me be- has worn her wedding ring for a fore outsisiers, always afraid when spell-I'll bet you'll go through

Alfred looked up absently. "What did you say?" ne re-

marked blankly, then flushed boywhether he had really forgotten | shly at Dicky's shout of laughour unpleasant parting, or was ter. Leila, however, womanlike. only feigning to do so, when he had been able to give apparently followed Alfred Durkee up the undivided attention to Alfred's walk, his face insouciant as if he tender murmurs and yet hear everything Dicky had been saying. "You're perfectly horrid, Dicky-Affred marmin as he bent to the bird!" she pouted. "I don't believe

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Madge ever says a word to you, aithough she ought to thrash you soundly about every other day."

Leila Feels Self-Reproach

"Oh, say not so, gracious lady! Prithee, make it only once a week. Do you hear, Alf, how these women do together stick? You didn't Prune Handling is Business think you were getting such a ferocious female, did you? Better break off the match. There's time yet, you know."

Leila's eyes met mine for a shame-faced instant, and I knew she was thinking how nearly working 50 employes, receiving, Dicky's jesting words had come to

"I'm not afraid." Alfred smiled fruits come in by the truck load fatuously at Leila. "But if I were from the dryers. When a Statesin your place, Mrs. Madge, I man representative visited the wouldn't stand for any such as- plant Friday there were four persions as the Dicky-bird is hand- trucks waiting to unload. A trucking out. But then, of course, you load of prunes isn't especially improbably do have to trim him up posing in appearance. A sack of a bit now and then. Now I'm go- prunes weighing 100 pounds isn't ing to be the one and only model big, but they pack down heavily husband-never need a bit of dis-

"Leila'd better keep you in a glass cage and charge admittance day" I retorted, with the suspicion prunes are weighed as they come of an edge to my laugh. I had into the plant, and then they are been so absolutely magnanimous followed by a lead-penciled sleuth, in my mental attitude toward the literally or figuratively, up to the bachelor dinner that it irritated me absurdly enough to have Dicky pretend that I meant to call him form. They follow a schedule like to account for attending it. . .

Another Crisis Passed

"Tuesday!" Dicky ejaculated. 'That's right! You do hop over the broomstick next Tuesday. Your time is short, old man, I only hone you don't get in the blue funk I did. It came over me all of a sudden that I was leaving my free, gay life behind, and I dropped the ring and nearly swooned away, Madge had to slap my hands to bring me to enough to go on with the ceremony."

"Probably if she could have seen into the future she'd have let you die," Alfred drawled, "You see, she wasn't drawing the matrimonial prize Leila is. But honestly, folks, there is something I'm in a blue funk over, but it isn't the wedding. It's that family dinner tomorrow night, when all the cousins and the aunts look me over to see if I'm worthy to be let into the family. You're coming, If I don't have some practical northern Yankees to back me up I'm going to be smothered, I know I am, by the mere weight of the family tree represented there."

I looked quickly at Leila, wondering if she would be offended by his laughing reference. But her face was untroubled, and I saw with relief that she had adopted a sensible attitude toward Alfred's propensity to tease.

"You'd better not let Aunt Dora hear you mention the word 'Yankee' if you want to marry me, sir," she laughed, "She's the dearest, most unreconstructed old rebel you ever saw. You stand very high with her, for some incomprehensible reason"-she glanced at him with pretty coquetry-but her liking would never stand that

"You're too saucy altogether," Alfred announced abruptly, "I'm going to take you home and discipline you. You'll surely be there his shoulder as he whisked Leila unceremoniously and laughingly down the path.

"With our ears pinned back and after them, then turned to me and slipped his arm under mine.

"If you'll get down on your bended knees, Ill forgive you" he said quizzically, and with the old familiar joking formula I knew that once more a quarrel between us had been patched up.

(To be continued)

guest of which we wot is the wohalf an hour saying good-by and letting the flies into the best room in the house.-Exchange.

the plik, the broken, the vkin-dishment is located right here in called, is called. But an acton-Salem only a few blocks from the

still filled a tip it led to at hearing o, which many have been packed the prime you is not enthered. or sulpment, and many more will blat it is expected that all of the have to be shapped if the influx students will return next week.

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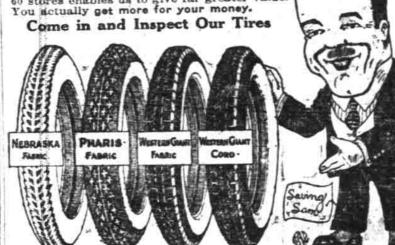
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