

The Masked Hostess

by BLAIR STEVENSON

CHAPTER VIII
A little more than five minutes of brisk walking brought her to the station and as she stepped to its platform she saw the name on its signboard "Brookville." A man wearing a hackman's license badge left one of the automobiles she had seen and came toward her.

Of why he had lent Nathalie's father fifty thousand dollars on a run-down estate and why when the bank foreclosed on the property, Pound meant to become its purchaser through a dummy buyer and in due course resell it for half a million or more.

brings less than the amount of the bank's mortgage when it is sold. But the tenant—I am not at liberty to give his name—is a bachelor who expects to entertain on a somewhat generous scale and will require the services of a hostess to assist him. He has asked that I make inquiries and find him a suitable person if possible. His only condition is that she be a well born woman. He is prepared to make every guarantee that while in his house she shall be treated as a woman of her station is accustomed to being treated by a man of honor. He is prepared also to pay her handsomely for her services. But I have told him I know of no one. Have you perchance anyone in mind to whom his proposal might be of interest?"

"Will you please explain something? How can this place be Brookville? I have always understood that Brookville was a large village with a bank in it and was only a station here and one or two houses."

The appropriation for the highway was to go through at the next session of the legislature. It was all cut and dried. Pound had reluctantly made the contribution required of him to help "see it through."

Swifly through her mind there had begun to run the possibilities latent in the offer to a girl situated as she was. It would pay well and last for nearly three months. Out of the money she earned she could repay the Waldorf. If she could accept the situation under a false name she would be secure from the law while she stayed at the Firs.

"To the bank," she said as the hackman went to the front of his ancient car and started up.

"Nathalie looked at the sign 'Brookville,' again and answered the man's question with a question of her own:

"Where please?" Nathalie was barely able to articulate the words. "At the Firs. His car will be at the gate leading into the grounds."

count on me," said Nathalie. A few minutes later she left the bank and hurrying to the nearest drug store entered a telephone booth and called up John Sloan. (To be continued.)

Shaw
SHAW, Nov. 2.—Several of the young folks of this community attended the basket social given at Aumsville Friday evening.

Silverton
SILVERTON, Nov. 2.—Chickens to the value of forty dollars were killed by dogs recently on the O. Poulsen farm a few miles north of Silverton.

Pratum
PRATUM, Nov. 2.—This week's social calendar was well filled. Beginning Monday evening with a modern charivari party in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hensch

The Return of the Fireplace— Even the Heatless Variety

times unreasonable demands for a fireplace in the home. City apartments are now commanding higher prices when they boast of "genuine, wood-burning fireplaces."

Home-Making Helps
By ELEANOR ROSS

of logs. And with the growing popularity of these old-fashioned comforts, there have been a growing number of modern accessories which help to make the care of the fireplace easier.

surprise awaited Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hensch at their home in the form of a miscellaneous shower sponsored by the Ladies Aid.

Friday evening a Halloween social under the auspices of the Epworth League was enjoyed by the young people.

Pratum folks are not extremely selfish, at least not more so than folks from any other community, but when the papers stated this week for the second time during the past several months about the prizes on sheep awarded to J. J. and G. H. Thompson from the MacCleary district

but when Macleay gets the credit that rightfully belongs to Pratum that is a different story.

Mr. and Mrs. Alva Burgeheart of Shaw spent several days in Portland visiting with relatives there.

Ben Hortsch of Longview, Wash., visited over the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hortsch.

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Sheldon and children Kaythra and Wayne were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Amort. The Sheldons recently returned from the east after spending a year there. They are now residing in Salem, which was their former home.

Mr. Adolph Haugen, who has been quite ill with pneumonia the past week, is reported as being improved. Mr. Haugen is being cared for at his home east of Silverton.

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The Thompsons live only a short distance east of Pratum, come to Pratum from 3 to 10 times a week and it is doubtful if they see Macleay once in five years.

Arthur Cordier who was severely burned near Donald almost 3 weeks ago, is expected to be able to come home before long. He has been in the Oregon City Hospital since the accident happened.

Mr. Esther Payne from Pine Ridge, Oregon, and son Howard, spent several days with her brother and sister Frank and Mary Schapp here at Pratum.

How to Play BRIDGE

Series 1929-30 by Wynne Ferguson

Author of "PRACTICAL AUCTION BRIDGE"

ARTICLE No. 10
The most difficult of all problems that arises at the auction is the one dealing with justifiable bids. Just how far one should go in a difficult question and one that requires judgment of the highest order is a matter that was held in one of the championship games at the recent Auction Bridge Congress. The bidding of this hand decided an important match, so note it carefully:

Hand: ♠ 9, 8, 7, 5, 4, 3; ♥ 10, 9, 8, 5, 2; ♦ A, K, 2; ♣ none

Score, rubber game. If Z dealt and bid one no trump, what should A do?

With a two-suit hand of this type, A should certainly bid two spades, and then if overbid by his opponents he should show his heart suit. If his partner has any help at all for either suit, A has a good chance for game. A double of one no trump with this hand would be most unwise. Never double a no trump hand unless you hold a two-suit hand.

With two suits and a hand of this type you give your partner a picture of your strength. A should bid two spades and Y should bid two hearts.

What should B do? Should he pass the two spade bid or should he show his own suit? A's bid of two spades over a no trump bid shows a good hand and one that should be prepared for a bid by partner. The fact that B has a singleton spade makes it imperative for him to deny the spade suit if he has any other justifiable bid. The question, therefore, is whether or not B's seven-card club suit, headed by the queen ten, is a justifiable bid.

Ordinarily such a suit holding does not justify a bid, but in this case the two factors, (1), the fact that A has bid over a no trump and thus shown a very strong hand and (2), the fact that B has a singleton of his partner's suit, justify a bid of three clubs. Such a bid cannot hurt much and it may prevent A from going on with his spade bid. Such a bid by B must be regarded by A as a most emphatic denial of the spade suit. Z will pass a three club bid. He has great

POLLY AND HER PALS



"A Rushin' Bath"



"The Asset Becomes a Liability"



"Mother Aggie's Chicks"



"A Business Trip Mixed With Pleasure"



TILLIE, THE TOILER



LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY



TOOTS AND CASPER



"What Will Uncle Everett Do When He Learns That Montimer Casper is Going to Lose \$48,000.00?"



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