

"The Masked Hostess"

by BLAIR STEVENSON

CHAPTER XXVII.

What Monty had done was to sell land to Jack Ferris for close to a half million dollars.

He had achieved it by playing Ferris against Pound and Pound against Ferris, and Ferris had prevailed because he was the better gambler and bolder man. But the price Ferris had been compelled to pay had hurt, and Stefano realized as Monty unfolded his tale of the day's negotiations, that Ferris would soon be crying for results at The Flrs, for Monty had left him in an ugly mood.

Monty exhaled with rapture that he had worked Ferris up to the buying point and compelled him to buy on a hunch and without the inside knowledge which Ferris possessed of why Monty's land had invisible value.

"With th' l'il ole bean I did it, Stef," he chuckled and took a pull at the bottle he held to carry himself through the rest of what he had to say:

"Member that day I said I had to meet a man at Mineola? That was Ferris. Reg'lar houn' boled egg. Offered me fift' thousand dollars that day an' pulled a contract out. That set me thinkin'. Why did he want work so fast?"

"When I's clear like a bell I got a headpiece on me, Stef. Cer'n amount o' bone in it but pretty good headpiece. I stall' foxy ole Ferris off an' went home'n did some hard thinkin' an' next day borrowed a car from a friend an' took a long drive all over the place. Examined a lot of long islan' that day an' put two an' two together good and plenty."

Monty took another pull at his bottle and elucidated further.

"Wha' fore ole tighwad Ponn' who's nothin' but a chisel'n secon' mortgage man and Ferris who'd be a cop all th' res' of his life suddenly both come easin' up to me with land propos'uns? Day after day, firs' one'n then th' other. Looked peculiar to me. But that day I rode all over th' place all by myself I got the answer right out o' th' air. Couldn't be wrong about it. Stood to reason. Plenty o' main thorf'ares all 'long the south side o' Long Islan' and plenty all 'long the north side but not singl' damn one right through the middle. So when next time Ferris comes pus-syfootin' after me—th' was today—I tol' him I knew all about th' big road th' was comin' through and th' I was in on the play. Then I watched th' whites of his eyes. They moved. Then I had him."

While Stefano covered him with congratulations Monty had further



"Love me a lot, of course," he breathed in her ear.

recourse to his champagne bottle and in the amazing fashion of drinkers like Monty, recovered clear articulation.

"Stef," he said, "that land I sold lies right next to this land, and that means that this land is worth a lot of money. More than mine, for there's more of it, and it's longer the right way of the new road. What I want you to do is help me find Nathalie Van Slatok. Sylvia and Sylvia's mother have an idea she's bound to come looking in here some night. You know her don't you? Met her at Southampton, at Sylvia's house. Sylvia says you did. All right, Stef, you're an awful good egg. You keep your sober old lamps on the lookout for her while the rest of us are awillin', and if you catch a sight of her wake me up, no matter how drunk I am."

"Evn' I'm like this," he added the clarity of his speech suddenly deserting him again. Upon which, closing his eyes peacefully, he was instantly asleep.

Stefano leaned back in his own chair and began to think rapidly

and closely. He disposed of Ferris in his mind first. He had the usual aristocrat's point of view toward all people like Ferris, and, in addition to his contempt for him, he saw clearly enough what Ferris—actually—was attempting to do. See Nathalie's lawyers, trump up some explanation of his interest in her land, say nothing to them of the road that was to be

WORD HUNT

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In the English language there are TWELVE WORDS (each having just seven letters) that begin with the letters AFF

One of them is AFFABLE—Courteous, gracious, civil. Easy to be spoken to or addressed. YOU supply the others.

2	A	F	F			
3	A	F	F			
4	A	F	F			
5	A	F	F			
6	A	F	F			
7	A	F	F			
8	A	F	F			
9	A	F	F			
10	A	F	F			
11	A	F	F			
12	A	F	F			

Graciously, courteously.
One who makes an affidavit.
A notice to be posted; a placard.
Related by marriage; from the same source.
Joined in affinity.
Fastened, or attached, to. United, or connected with. Also, annexed; subjoined.
One who affixes.
To oppress; grieve; distress. To inflict injury.
To reinforce. To strengthen.
An open insult. To insult openly.
To betroth or espouse. To join closely, as in bonds of faith. Also, to make affidavit.

NOTE: Proper nouns, obsolete and archaic words, extremely unusual technical and scientific words, words that would offend good taste and those plurals or nouns and singular verbs that are formed by the addition of a or s, are purposely excluded from Word Hunts.
(Turn to Classified Page for Answer to Word Hunt)

Knowing When to Use Hot or Cold Water Assures Cooking Success

The Home Kitchen
By ALICE LYNN BARRY

PURE water is responsible for some of the minor tragedies in the new housekeeper's kitchen. "I can't seem to make soup with the fine flavor that mother's homemade soups always have," complained one young wife. "and I use lots of vegetables and a bit of beef and shiobone, just the way she does."

What she had overlooked however, was the little matter of temperature. Since she cooked vegetables by themselves in hot water, she took it for granted that the water added to vegetables and meat for soup must be boiling hot.

Whether water for cooking should be boiling or cold depends on what results are expected. There's only one general rule that can be depended on for guidance—heat expands protein substances like meat, eggs. If you want to keep the juices in meat, it's necessary to sear the outer surfaces quickly by heating in a very hot pan. On the other hand, if it is desired to extract the juices from meats and vegetables, then the water should be cold and the cooking over a low flame so that all flavor gradually flows into the water. As to the vegetables, the temperature of the water depends on whether they are green vegetables, starchy, or the dried variety. Dried vegetables need soaking in cold water for several hours before cooking—preferably overnight. And veg- gables that are to be cooked nicely if soaked in very cold water for an hour or so before cooking.

Add boiling water to any vegetable that is to be served as such, and don't merely cooked to appear as a soup or sauce.

All of the green, succulent vegetables—celery, tomatoes, spinach, cucumbers and so on—are watery in themselves, contain very little starch, and their value lies in their mineral salts and flavor. Overcooking destroys these important elements. So excess cooking won't make them better but worse—stringy and flavorless. Starchy vegetables need cooking in boiling water, and the water kept at the boiling point. Potatoes, carrots, turnips if cooked in water that merely simmers are not nearly so water and cooked four minutes.

cut through it, and induce them to induce her to accept a price for it that would make Ferris the possessor of it at a trifle above the amount of Pound's mortgage.

It called him, so that his dark eyes were sombre with wrath, as he realized how Ferris had used him as a pawn in his purposes; but he put that thought behind him as not relevant to Nathalie's interests as he decided that Ferris could go hang.

Then his thoughts focussed firmly on Nathalie and himself. Did he want to marry her and how much did his new knowledge that she was rich weigh with him in a question of whether he wanted to marry her or not?

After a moment's hard thought he decided that there wasn't money in the world to make him marry any girl in the world just for her money. That was that. He had been used to money all his

life, knew just what it was worth and wasn't worth, and it wasn't as good as his liberty. He had been tempted. Now he was no longer tempted. But he would gladly surrender his liberty to a woman he genuinely loved.

And did he love Nathalie? Amazingly he decided he didn't. He had seen her out of disguise at Southampton. She had delighted him but not struck fire from him. Why had she stirred him to his depths here at The Flrs?

Because of the very clearheadedness which was part of the reason why he was a great polo player, and because he was Latin with a native zest for romance and mystery, he saw with crystal sureness that it was the romance in him which had swept him forward while they were romantically in the house together; he in the role of patron and protector and she in alien vestiture and made allur-

ing by her mask.

"And the dear girl doesn't dote on me either," he announced aloud. "I'll go ball on it. Hullo! both sides and all the way. Bless me if I shan't put it to her direct and relieve her mind of it. I know she'll throw me right straight over—I can't be wrong."

He walked right in and took Nathalie away from the man who had her. They moved out on the dance floor among a roomful who were not noticing them or cared what they were saying, for the tidal wave of Monty's champagne had engulfed the house.

"Love me a lot, of course?" he breathed in her ear.

"Not a particle," replied Nathalie at once and they both laughed long and happily at the truth of it and the relief of it.

"Capital!" said Stefano, still holding her close. "The usual reason one fancies—just made up your mind you're mad about some other chap. Out with it—yes?"

"Absolutely correct," Nathalie answered promptly. "It's just overwhelmed me in the last half hour. I'm simply filled with it, but I won't out with it. He's a young lawyer and he lives in New York."

"I say, look here, you delightful girl—"

Stefano was about to inform her that—speaking of lawyers—he had just been told some tremendous good news about her. But at that moment Monty, having come out of his deep slumber, toddled in from his sleeping porch.

"Say, Stef—nev'r mind about th' girl we were talking about. Jus' got hold of bigger n' better idea. I know a fella can fin' her. Johnny Sloan—ol' college frien' mine. He's her lawyer. N' dead in love with her. I watched the whites of his eyes. They moved."

And so Stefano, sportsman to the last ounce of him, said nothing to her about her great good fortune, having decided that Sloan and not he was the fitting man to communicate the prodigious news. (To be continued tomorrow.)

When you order the Statesman it is delivered to you by the little merchant in your neighborhood.

Turner

TURNER, Nov. 19 — Mayor McKinney was much pleased with his success at the Pacific International Livestock exposition this year, as he sold the entire herd of 19 registered Hereford young bulls and heifers that he took down for sale.

Mr. McKinney has made exhibits for nearly 20 years and finds the demand for cattle much better some years than others.

Mrs. E. S. Prather who has been ill and confined to her home and much of the time bedfast, is able to be out again much to the delight of her friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barber entertained house guests this week as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carlson, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Barber and son Harold, and Miss Margaret Bovard, of Longview, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barber and family moved from Longview a year ago to the H. R. Crawford farm.

POLLY AND HER PALS



"Using His Bean"



By CLIFF STERRETT

TILLIE, THE TOILER



"A. K. O. For Loyalty"



By RUSS WESTOVER

LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY



"Hot On The Trail"

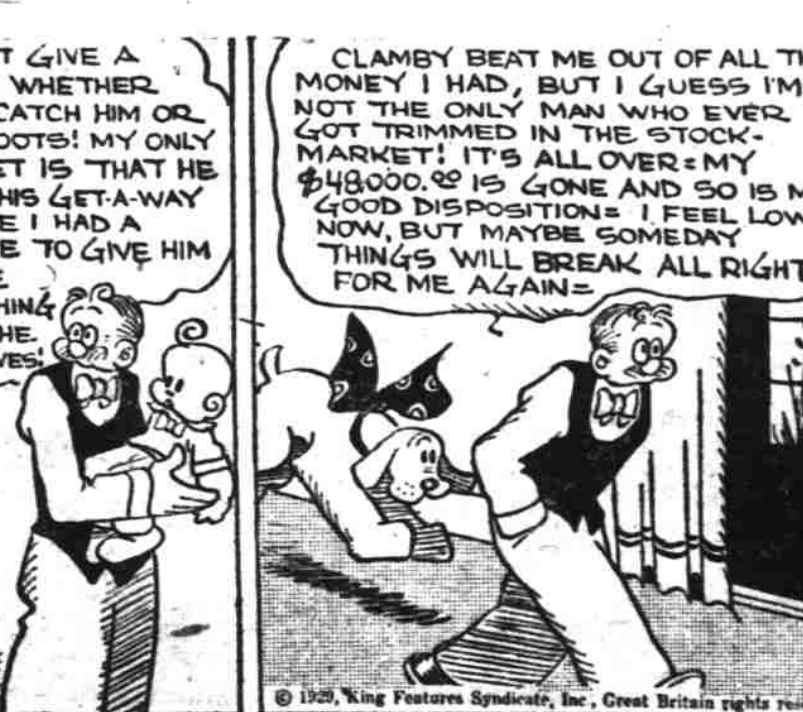


By BEN BATSFORD

TOOTS AND CASPER



"Can Spareribs Retrieve the Family Fortune?"



By JIMMY MURPHY

HAVE A THOUGHT FOR FUTURE GOOD HEALTH

Nature May Wink at Occasional Lapses in Right Living, but You Can't Cheat Her for Long, Warns Dr. Copeland.

By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M.D.
United States Senator from New York.
Former Commissioner of Health, New York City.

WHAT a man depends upon what he gives his body. Of course, it depends, too, on what he does with his body. But that is another story.

In the last analysis, health is made by sunshine, air and food. You cannot hope for vigor and long life without giving thought to these essentials.

Food is the fuel, air the oil and sunshine the electrical equipment of the human machine. An abused automobile will limp along on defective fuel, oil and electrical energy, but for smooth running and certainly for reaching the given destination, the three essentials must be supplied.

Eating is a simple act, but the choice of foods to be eaten is considerable of a problem. It takes knowledge to select them properly.

It is surprising how many men and women thrive in spite of the air they breathe. For a long time they bear without apparent damage what most of us would regard as unbearable air.

In the Black Valley of Ireland, as I have told you, they have no sunshine for four months of the year. The mountains are so high and so closely placed that the sun during this period never reaches this dark place. In sections of the earth the sun is out of sight for half the year.

The inhabitants of those regions live, of course, but according to our standards, they are not normal. Nobody can be normal without the hope of a little sunshine every day.

Pure food in balanced measure, pure air taken into habitually well-lunged lungs and sunshine to vitalize life's processes—in these lie the secret of long life and abounding energy.

Surely, there is no need to argue about these things. You know they are true.

But I must ask you: Knowing the vital importance of air, sunshine and food, why do you fail to appropriate to yourself a full measure of their benefits?

You can't cheat nature. You may think she will overlook your neglect. I admit her generosity, but, mark you, there is a limit to her kindness. She may wink at your neglect for a few days, but she will not wink at a habit of neglect that is certain to meet her displeasure.

Every day you observe the simple rules of hygiene is like a visit to the bank. You are storing up energy and resistance against the evil day of possible ill health and accident.

You need not become a "crank," evertary about your habits. But by establishing a routine of good living, you will add years to your expectation of life.

Answers to Health Queries

WORRIED. Q.—What causes the hands to swell especially the knuckles?

A.—This symptom usually means that some sort of infection is present in the system. Have the teeth, tonsils, sinuses, kidneys, int' stines and gall bladder investigated. Correct any discoverable defects. Electricity and gentle massage are beneficial. Eat simple food and avoid constipation.

R. F. L. C.—What causes the lower lid of my left eye to quiver?

A.—You should consult an eye specialist for treatment.

E. E. W. Q.—I am a woman of 42. What should I weigh and how can I reduce?

A.—Since you did not state your height I cannot tell you what you should weigh. Cut down on sweets

and starches and take some regular exercise daily. For full particulars send a self-addressed, stamped, envelope and repeat your question.

E. R. C. Q.—What should a girl weigh who is twenty-one years old and 5 ft. 3 ins. tall?

A.—For her age and height she should weigh about 123 pounds.

2.—Weight reduction is purely a matter of self-control as regards the diet. Exercise is, of course, essential. For particulars send a self-addressed stamped envelope and repeat your question.

E. J. Q.—What can be done for callouses?

A.—I would suggest that you soak your feet in warm water before retiring and apply warm linseed oil. In the morning bathe the feet again and scrape away the dead tissue.

2.—You should have a thorough physical examination to determine just what the cause of your trouble may be. The diet should be watched carefully and constipation avoided. For further information send a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

F. B. Q.—What is the best way to know if cocoa butter will help to fill out hollows in the face.

A.—It may help, by massaging into the skin.

ANXIOUS. Q.—What do you advise for superfluous hair?

A.—Send self-addressed stamped envelope for full particulars and repeat your question.

W. M. S. Q.—What causes the fingers to swell at times?

2.—If the heart is normal, how many times should it beat per minute?

A.—This may be due to poor circulation.

2.—About 72.