

"The Masked Hostess"

by BLAIR STEVENSON

CHAPTER XXXI.
It was Stefano who fired the shots which Nathalie heard as she turned at the gate and headed the yellow roadster for Brookville. From the position in which he sat facing Niccolo, it was possible for him to be aware of any person at the door or on the stairs of in the hall without relaxing his watch on Niccolo.

As Stefano understood Ferris's plan in respect to Nathalie, all Ferris wanted of her was to have her sell him The First. If she refused to sell, Ferris, beaten, could do nothing but go away. He could not understand at all why Niccolo had been placed on guard over him. He asked him finally, speaking in Italian as before:

"Niccolo," he said, "why are we adjourning here indoors on so pleasant a day?"

Niccolo shrugged his shoulders. "Niccolo," said Stefano, "observe that each of my hands is still in a pocket. Holding what you do not know. Now let us imagine that you were a candle."

The man's face became miserable.

"Signor," he implored, "I will tell you a little. The signora above must not be permitted to go from here and have negotiations with the banker Signor Fount. That is as much as has been confided to me."

Stefano made him no answer for just then the part of one eye of his which was not on Niccolo saw a feminine hand on the banister rail and he knew that Nathalie was creeping downstairs.

He knew that Niccolo would turn if he heard her—turn certainly when he heard her start the motor car outside the door; for Stefano was sure that she would try to gain it and speed away.

While she was still on the stairs he calculated the distance between him and Niccolo and considered the probable weight of the chair on which he sat.

As Nathalie ran down the last of the staircase Niccolo started and turned his head to look out in the hall. Stefano sprang from the chair he was on and threw it.

The chair hit Niccolo and he went over. Instantly Stefano was on him, stunned him with a champagne bottle, and took his pistol.

He ran outside and, when he heard another car start from the stables, waited until it was at the gate and turning the way Nathalie had gone. Then he fired two shots each at the two rear tires. Both tires blew out, but the car continued on its course with its rear wheels flat.

He could see, though, as he watched it driven away, that it could never catch up with Nathalie. Then it stopped a few hundred yards down the road and a second car came out of a grove of evergreens and the men who were in the first car all sprang



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out and swarmed into the second. When that car had gone Stefano ran to the car that had been abandoned and drove on flat tires to the first telephone available, where he called up Monty Delaine and then Mrs. Pemberton Swayne.

Nathalie gave her car all the gas it would take and still stay on the road when she heard the revolver shots behind her. It was a car designed for speed and she was a fine driver.

It gave her a sense of triumph that she was ahead and that the road was clear. As she knew the country well she began to plan the journey to her aunt's by by-roads instead of main roads when she saw the motor behind her had stopped. She slowed sufficiently to be able to glance back once, and saw that those who were in pursuit of her were leaving the car they had started in and crowding into a fresh one. Then she sent her car ahead as fast as she dared drive it. She began to be aware that the motor behind her had power too and was holding the distance between them, even if it was not gaining. And it came to her that she had no driver's license and that if she continued at her present speed along any main highway she would surely be halted or overtaken by a policeman. The road was on led straight to a main

thoroughfare, so at the next turn she swerved into a second country road.

(To be continued tomorrow.)

The Rev. C. C. J. Carpenter, one time captain of the Princeton wrestling team, will be instructor of a boxing class at Savannah, Ga., where he is rector of an Episcopal church.

thoroughfare, so at the next turn she swerved into a second country road.

(To be continued tomorrow.)

TWO GUN SLEUTH PACIFIES INDIANS

SPOKANE Wash. (AP)—"Two Guns" Hart, picturesque chief of Indian reservation police, once again has proved that he performs as the hero of any good thriller should.

On Uncle Sam's payroll the name appears as Richard J. Hart, special federal officer, but the Indians on three reservations on the three reservations that know him as the representative of "The Great White Father," long ago named him "Two Guns," thanks to his ambidexterity with a six-shooter.

"Two Guns" completed his last typical job of "always getting his man" when he brought in Charles Cherrapin, Spokane Indian wanted for the murder of his wife, after several days of tracking the fugitive through heavy timber.

Cherrapin was heavily armed but gave himself up as soon as he learned it was Hart who was on his trail.

Hart has had a hand in the capture of more than 20 murderers while covering 12 different reservations. In the last year he has brought in three Indian killers. He has been cowboy, soldier and police officer.

A "beat" of more than 200 square miles, with supervision over more than 800 Indians, is Hart's domain. He travels afoot, in a car, horseback, on snow shoes and skis. In summer he has tracked men by the imprints they made in soft pine needles of the forests, and in winter he has followed them through the snow.

Under him are three Indian police. His work is different from that of regular officers or detectives, for the criminals he captures are outdoor men, and there are few informers to aid him.

"The Indian who kills a man is different from the white," Hart says, "for he will not talk about it, and he has no regrets. He usually feels that he was justified, and forgets it. He rarely has a guilty conscience. That makes it harder to pin anything on him."

Home-Making Helps

By ELEANOR ROSS

Getting the Most Out of a Vacuum Cleaner.

WHO hasn't succumbed to the temptation of spending five to ten dollars more when buying a vacuum cleaner to get the attachments? They were fifty little gadgets—half a dozen more or less, each with its special purpose. A little brush to be screwed on for cleaning upholstery, another for curtains, a blower for books and so on. If each were scrupulously and regularly used for its appointed purpose what a spotless spot a household would be!

But like many another overly mechanical tool, this one wasn't used to the full. Of all the buyers of vacuum cleaners attachedments there is very few who use the attachments anywhere near as much as they need the vacuum cleaner as it stood—for rugs. The much trouble unscrewing one set of things from the vacuum cleaner to screw in another, and then go over the process backward.

However, there is a new type of cleaner that ensures its use for all purposes. Ordinarily it is fitted with a short handle, so that its regular use is encouraged for every kind of household dusting—not merely one. Pick it up to brush clothes, or upholstery, or wicker: furniture or mattresses or draperies. If you want to sweep rugs, then it's merely a matter of exchanging the short handle for a long one. That's a simple, quick process, hardly any more trouble than attaching a plug to a socket.

Incidentally (but rather important) these new hand vacuum cleaners cost half as much as the other style—even less. And as they make it convenient to do all the dusting by the vacuum method, they are a first-rate investment even for the new housekeeper with a limited budget for mechanical conveniences.

FEDERAL WORKERS OVERRUN BULGARIA

SOFIA, Bulgaria—(AP)—Bulgaria is suffering from a surplus of government employees. She must get rid of 10,000 of them not only for reasons of economy but because she has promised the League of Nations to do so in return for the help of that institution in procuring a stabilization loan.

In 1911 there were 49,000 civil servants in Bulgaria among a population of 4,400,000. Now, with 5,750,000 people within her boundaries, she has 84,000 functionaries, besides a large number who are not on the regular lists of the civil service. These figures exclude the officers and men in the army.

GREYNA GREEN NOW OPPOSED BY CHURCH

GREYNA GREEN, Scotland—(AP)—Threat of a curb on the matrimonial enthusiasm of visitors to the peaceful little village has been renewed, this time by the United Church of Scotland.

The freedom of weddings which has marked the town just across the English-Scottish border has been called "scandalous" by Dr. John White, the first Moderator of the recently united church, and he plans to ask Parliament for legislation to put a stop to the practice.

"We shall approach the government soon with a suggestion that the Scottish marriage law be amended to conform with the stricter provisions of the English law," he said.

"In seeking to find a practical remedy for the scandal of the marriages of the Greyina Green type, care must be taken that any proposed legislation shall not in

WORD HUNT

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In the English language there are NINETEEN WORDS (each having just six letters) that begin with the letters B R A. One of them is BRACED—fastened tightly, or held firmly. Also encircled; girdled.

YOU supply the others.

2	B	R	A		
3	B	R	A		
4	B	R	A		
5	B	R	A		
6	B	R	A		
7	B	R	A		
8	B	R	A		
9	B	R	A		
10	B	R	A		
11	B	R	A		
12	B	R	A		
13	B	R	A		
14	B	R	A		
15	B	R	A		
16	B	R	A		
17	B	R	A		
18	B	R	A		
19	B	R	A		

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 s or es, are purposely excluded from Word Hunts.

(Turn to Classified Page for Answer to Word Hunt)

any indit way injuriously affect the marriages solemnized by a minister after the proclamation of the bans.

"I have suggested that such marriages should take place in the presence of a registrar and should be preceded by public notice. Such notice, even if it is only three days, would prevent hasty unions, which are sometimes the frolic of a holiday or the freak of a market day."

For generations Greyina Green has held the world's record for spur-of-the-moment weddings. In 1856 a law was passed making it necessary for one of the contracting parties to have lived in Scotland at least three weeks. But determined lovers found was out of this restriction.

Blacksmiths, innkeepers, ferrymen or anybody else who happens to be handy can perform the ceremony with perfect authority under Scottish law.

The Problem of Baby's Food --- and Health

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

THAT baby is fortunate, indeed, who can be fed by its own mother for the first nine or ten months. In Japan and elsewhere breast-feeding continues for two or three or even four years. It is well this is so, because the lack of high grade cows' milk there would create a great social problem if this were not the practice.

North America's mothers are glad to make all the sacrifices needed to give their babies the advantage of breast-feeding. There is no doubt it is an advantage—a tremendous advantage—particularly during the Summer months.

There are always dangers of germ or bacterial growth in the milk we buy. Unless it is properly kept it will speedily spoil. Low temperature is essential to its safety.

There is no worry in this matter if the mother is able to nurse her baby. Her milk will be pure and rich and sweet.

Unfortunately, mother's health may not permit her to do what she is eager to do. No matter how well she may look, too, there may be an insufficient supply of milk.

Dr. Holt, in his book on infant-feeding, says this: "Statistics show that the mortality of bottle-fed infants during the first year is fully three times as great as those who are breast-fed."

Perhaps there are other factors involved in these statistics, but yet it must be conceded that it is a marked disadvantage to the baby not to have mother's milk. But if it cannot be had, painstaking attention to the care and preparation of the milk will go far toward averting danger.

Sometimes the baby can be fed partly from the breast and the balance made up for by the use of the bottle. The point about this discussion is that I am anxious to point out the importance of giving all the natural milk possible.

The progress of the child is the best test of the efficiency of its feedings. If it increases in length and weight, has clear skin and bright eyes, it is pretty certain that all is well.

The scales have an important part to play in the management of the infant. They show that the food is nourishing the child, or that it is not.

Weighing immediately before and right after feeding will show how much breast milk is actually consumed. In this way the fact that the supply is scanty will be quickly discovered. What makes a full meal depends on the age of the infant, from three ounces at four weeks old to six ounces at five or six months.

- Answers to Health Queries**
- BOBBIE, Q.—What should a girl of 14, 5 ft. 11 in., weigh?
A.—What do you advise for blackheads?
A.—What will increase the growth of the eyelashes?
A.—She should weigh about 118 pounds.
A.—Correct the diet and keep the system clean. For further particulars send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and repeat your question.
L.—Try application of 1% yellow oxide of mercury ointment at night before retiring. This should make the lashes darker and should also increase their growth.
B. B. Q.—What is the cause of a face looking blotchy and bloated?

POLLY AND HER PALS



TILLIE, THE TOILER



LITTLE ANNIE ROONEY



TOOTS AND CASPER

