Salem Market Quotations

FRUITS
(Buying Prices)
(The prices below supplied by a local grocer are indicative of the daily market prices paid to growers by Salem buyers but are not guaranteed by The Statesman.)

Apples, gravensteins, bu.	.50
Bananas, lb. on stalk	.06
Hands	.06½
Cantaloupes, crate	.80
Grapefruit, Calif., Sunkist, crate	2.50
Ground Cherries, lb.	.10
Grapes, bskt, 22½c; 25 lb. lug	.40
Huckleberries, qa.	1.00
Dates, fresh, lb.	.14
Lemons, crate	5.00
Oranges, crate	$2.65 to 3.15

VEGETABLES
(Buying Prices)

Beets, doz.	.25
Cabbage, lb.	.02
Carrots, local, doz.	.25
Cauliflower, Seattle	.70
Celery, Utah, crate	1.35
Celery hearts, doz.	.80
Lettuce, Wash.	1.25
Onions, boiling, 10 lbs., No. 2	.14
50 lbs.	.80
Green onions, doz.	.25
Radishes, doz.	.30
Peppers, green, local	.02
Parsley	.40
New Potatoes local, cwt.	1.50
50 lb. bags	.40
Spinach	.60
Squash, summer, doz.	.40
Danish, doz.	.30
Hubbard, lb.	.01½
Zucchini squash, flat	1.05
Turnips, doz.	.40

NUTS

Walnuts, 1937, lb.	10 to .16
Filberts, 1938 crop, lb.	13 to .16

HOPS
(Buying Prices)

Clusters, nominal, 1937, lb.	10 to .12
Clusters, 1938, lb.	18½ to .22
Fuggles, top	nominal

WOOL AND MOHAIR
(Buying Price)

Wool, medium, lb.	.22
Coarse, lb.	.22
Lambs, lb.	.18
Mohair, lb.	.23

EGGS AND POULTRY
(Buying Price of Andresen's)

Large extra	.32
Medium extras	.27
Large standards	.28
Pullets	.15
Colored frys	.16
Colored medium, lb.	.15
White leghorns, lb. No. 1	.12
White Leghorns, frys	.13
White leghorns, lb. No. 2	.10
Heavy hens, lb.	.15
Roosters	.05

LIVESTOCK
(Based on conditions and sales reported up to 4 p.m.)

Spring lambs, top	6.00
Lambs	3.00 to 3.50
Ewes	1.75 to 2.25
Hogs, tops, 150-210 lbs.	7.75 to 8.00
130-150 lbs.	7.25 to 7.75
210-300 lbs.	7.00 to 7.25
Sows	6.25
Dairy type cows	3.00 to 3.50
Beef cows	4.00 to 4.50
Bulls	5.00 to 5.75
Heifers	4.50 to 5.50
Top veal, lb.	9.00
Dressed veal, lb.	.12½

MARION CREAMERY Buying Price

Butterfat, A grade	.28

Grade B raw 4 per cent milk, Salem basic pool price $2.20.

Co-op. Grade A butterfat price, FOB Salem, 28c.

(Milk based on semi-monthly butterfat average.)

Distributor price, $2.32.

A grade butterfat—Delivered 28c; B grade 26½c; C grade 22c.

A grade print, 29½c; B grade 28½c.

Leghorn hens, over 3½ lbs.	.10
Leghorn hens, under 3½ lbs.	.08
Colored fryers	.14
Colored hens, over 5 lbs.	.15
Leghorn fryers	.14
Stags, lb.	.06
Old Roosters, lb.	.05
Rejects, market value, No. 2 grade 5c less	
Large extras	.32
Medium extras	.26
Large standards	.26
Medium standards	.24
Undergrade	.18
Pullets	.16

GRAIN, HAY AND SEEDS

Oats, white, ton	18.00 to 20.00
Wheat, white, bu.	.53
Wheat, western red, bu.	.50
Barley, feed, ton	18.00
Oats, gray, ton	22.00 to 24.00
Alfalfa, valley, ton	13.00
Oat and vetch hay, ton	11.00 to 12.00
Alsike clover seed, lb.	.09 to .10
Red clover seed, lb.	.12

One Farmer Has Thistle Problem Solved, He Feels

LEBANON—S. R. Nothiger of Sweet Home has apparently solved the thistle problem and his plan will probably apply to other weed pests.

He sowed his thistle-covered field to mesquite and red top, used the field as a sheep pasture and cut the tops of the thistle before it could seed. After four years the thistle plants are entirely eradicated.

Alfalfa Holds Steady

PORTLAND, Oct. 12.—(AP)—The alfalfa market, reflecting light trading because of the absence of material supplies, was quiet but fully steady here for the week ending yesterday. Prices remained unchanged at $16 per ton for No. 1 grade.

London Stock Trend Lower

European Markets Quiet as Exchanges Here Take Holiday Recess

(By the Associated Press)

European securities markets were quiet and irregular Wednesday, affected to some extent by the Columbus day holiday in American exchanges.

The general trend of prices on the London stock exchange was narrowly lower. The political outlook was regarded by traders as none too encouraging and another contributing factor to dull trading was the desire of professional elements to avoid further commitments until after Thursday's settlement.

Trading in trans-Atlantic issues in London was curtailed by the holiday in Wall street, but this group showed a slight advance. Stocks affected by the armaments-building program likewise gained slightly but speculative issues, generally, were lower.

There was a continued demand in London for the dollar by continental interests sending funds to the United States for investment. The American currency closed at 4.73¾, in terms of the pound sterling, up 1¼ cents.

Stocks in Amsterdam were slightly lower. Prices on the Paris Bourse were mostly slightly higher.

In Winnipeg, wheat prices were ⅛ to ⅝ of a cent a bushel higher. The Toronto and Montreal stock exchanges were mixed with most groups moving in a narrow range.

Agricultural Department Slates Weekly Broadcast

Regular weekly broadcasts featuring the work of the state department of agriculture have been scheduled for each Friday noon over radio station KOAC at Corvallis, it was announced this week. The department is charged with enforcing the agricultural laws of the state.

Quotations at Portland

PRODUCE EXCHANGE
PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 12.—(AP)—Produce Exchange

Butter—Extras 27½c; standards 26c; prime firsts 26c; firsts 24c.

Butterfat—28½-29.

Eggs—Large extras 34c; large standards 30c; medium extras 26c; medium standards 25c; small extras 19c; small standards 16c.

Cheese—Triplets 13c; loaf 14c.

Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 12.—(AP)—Live poultry — Buying prices Leghorn broilers, 1¼ to 1½ lbs., 16-17c; 2½ lbs., 16c lb.; colored springs 2 to 3½ lbs., 17c lb.; over 3½ lbs. 17c lb.; Leghorn hens over 3½ lbs. 12c lb.; under 3½ lbs. 12c lb.; colored hens to 5 lbs., 18c lb.; over 5 lbs., 18c lb.; No. 2 grade 5c lb. less.

Country Meats—Selling price to retailers: Country killed hogs, best butcher under 160 lbs., 11-11½c lb.; vealers, 14c lb.; light and thin 9-11c lb.; heavy 8-9c lb.; bulls 8-9c lb.; spring lambs 13-13½c lb.; ewes 4-6c; cutter cows 7-7½c; canner cows 6-7c lb.

Turkeys—Selling price dressed new crop hens, 24-25c; toms, 25-26c lb. buying price; new hens, 21-22c lb.; toms, 23c.

Potatoes — Yakima Gems, $1.10-1.15 per 100 lbs.; local $1.00 per cwt; Deschutes Gems, $1.20-1.35 cwt.

Onion—Oregon 60-75c; Yakima, 40-50 lbs. 50c.

Hay, Selling Price to Retailers—Alfalfa No. 1, $16 ton; oat, vetch, $10.50-11 ton; clover $10.00 ton; timothy, eastern Oregon $19; do valley $15 ton, Portland.

Wool—Willamette valley nominal medium, 23c lb.; coarse and braids, 23c lb.; lambs and fall, 20c lb.; eastern Oregon, 16½-26½c lb.

Hops—Nominal; new crop, 20-22c.

Cascara Bark—1938 peel 5c lb.

Mohair—Nominal; 1938, 23-25c lb.

Domestic flour, selling price city delivery 1 to 25 bbl. lots: family patents, 49s, 5.65-6.25, bakers' hard wheat net $3.90-5.40; bakers' bluestem $4.25-4.55; blended hard wheat, 4.35-4.65; soft wheat flour $4.00-4.10; graham 49s, $3.95 whole wheat, 49s, $3.95 bbl.

Sugar—Berry or fruit, 100s, $4.90; bales $5.10; beet $4.80 cental.

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 12.—(AP)—(USDA)—Hogs: Receipts, 400 including 73 direct, market steady, strong, some interests not operating, good-choice 165-210 lb. driveins 8.15-25, few 8.00, 225-60 lb. butchers 7.50-75, light lights and slaughter pigs 7.25-75, packing sows 6.25-50, lightweights 6.75, feeders scarce, choice lightweights 8.25.

Cattle: Receipts 100 including 4 direct, calves 50 including 22 direct, market opened active, later trade slow steady, common-medium steers 5.75-6.75, good grass steers salable 8.00, common-medium heifers 5.00-6.75, cutters 4.00, low cutter and cutter cows 2.75-3.25, common-medium 3.50-4.50, including fat dairy type cows at 4.50, good beef cows scarce salable 5.00-50, few bulls 4.50-5.25, good beef bulls 5.50, choice vealers 9.00, common-medium 350-80 lb. calves 4.50-6.50.

Sheep: Receipts 300, market steady, good-choice trucked in lambs 6.50-75, common-medium 5.50-6.25, few common-medium ewes 1.00-2.00, good slaughter ewes salable 2.75.

Milk Producers To Get 9 Million

Control Board Says That Is Share of Milk Value in Next two Years

ASTORIA, Oct. 12.—(AP)—An estimated production of 15,680,000 butterfat pounds of fluid milk and cream will bring $9,094,400 to producers in the next two years, the state milk control 1939-40 budget report revealed today.

The budget, announced by A. E. Engbretson, board manager, and compiled by R. H. Thomas, auditor, established an estimated 58 cents per pound, or 56.3 per cent of the retail market value, for the producer. The monthly value to the producer was figured at $378,934.

The two-year value to distributors, 43.7 per cent of the retail market value, was $7,059,063 or about $294,127 per month.

Value Over 16 Million

The full value of milk and cream for human consumption was estimated at $16,153,463 or $673,127 a month.

The collection for administration and state tax funds was estimated at $42,400 anually, or slightly more than one-half of one per cent of the cost to distributors. The total annual cost to distributors for state tax and administration was set at $38,160 or less than one-half of one per cent of the annual market value.

Gardeners' and Ranchers' Mart

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 12.—(AP)—(US Dept. Agriculture).

Apples—Spitzenbergs, fancy and face and fill, 1.00-1.25; C grade, 60-75c; delicious, wrapped and packed, extra fancy very large to large, $2.00-2.25; C grade medium 90-$1.00; inclassed loose pack, 80-85c; Jonathans, fancy, $1.50-1.60, unclassed, face and fill, 65-75c.

Artichokes—Calif., $3.25-3.50 box.

Avocados—California fuerts, $2.85-2.90.

Beans — Oregon, green, wax, 3-4c; Kentucky, 3½-4c; Yount, large, 3-4c; Limas, 5-6c.

Broccoli—Lugs, 35-40c.

Brussels Sprouts—12-cup crt. 90c-$1.

Cantaloupes—Oregon, $1.60-1.85.

Cabbage — Oregon, Ballhead, $1.10-1.25; red 2½-3c lb.

Cauliflower—Local, No. 1, 45-50c; No. 2, 25-30c.

Celery—Oregon, Milwaukie Utah type, $1.15-1.25 per crate; Labish white, $1-1.05; hearts 70-80c.

Corn—5 doz., 75-85c; Wash., $1-1.10.

Citrus Fruit—Grapefruit, Florida, 64-96s, $3.65-4.25; California's 64-126s, extra fancy 3.00-3.35; choice large 2.40-2.65; Texas Marsh seedless, $4.25; pink $3.85-4.25; Foster pink $4.00-4.15; lemons fancy all sizes $4.25-4.75; choice $3-3.25; Limes, California 50-pound boxes $5.50-6.00, display cartons 75c; trays, 18c; oranges, California Valencias, fancy 126-176s, $2.90-3.25, 200s, smaller, $2.40-2.80, choice $2.00-2.25.

Cranberries — ¼ bbl., McFarlands, $3.25-3.50; Ore., $3.50-3.75.

Cucumbers—Ore., flats, 25-30c; pickling size, 20-30c; No. 1, 35-40c.

Dill—6-8c. lb.

Endive—Local, 35-40c doz.

Eggplant—5-7c per lb.; flats, 65-75c.

Figs—Local white, 60-65c flat; black, 50c.

Garlic—Local, best, 7-8c pound; poorer 5-6c per pound.

Grapes — Oregon Concords, 20-pound boxes 40-50c; California lug boxes; Thompson seedless, $1.10-1.25; Tokays, $1.00-1.10; unlidded, 80-85c; Lady Fingers $1-1.25; Malagas 90c-$1; Ribiers $1. Juice stock, Zinfandos, 50-60c.

Lettuce—Dry pack 3 and 4 dozen, best local, 75-85c; Seattle, $1.20-1.45.

Mushrooms—Cultivated, 1 lb. 35-40c.

Onions—Washington, Yakima yellows, No. 1 medium, $1.00-1.25; large, $1.40-1.50 hundredweight; 50-pound sacks, 65-70c; No. 2, 50-60c; Idaho 50-pound sacks white globes, $1.10-1.25; Oregon Labish yellows, 50-pound sacks, 65-75c; boilers, 50-pound sacks 50-55c, 10-pound sacks 15-20c.

Peaches—Orange clings, 60-75c; Salways, Krummels, 60-75c.

Pears—Oregon, Bosc, loose, 45-50c; ex. fcy., 90c; Anjou, fancy 80-88c; med., $1.35-1.50, C grade, 75-85c; loose 7 grade 40-60c; Bartletts from storage, 60-70c loose.

Peas—Oregon Lower Columbia, 25 lb. boxes, $1.25-1.35.

Peppers—Oregon lugs, 35-40c; orange boxes, 65-85c; red, 8-10c; flats, 25-30c.

Potatoes—Oregon local Russets and Long Whites, No. 1, 90c-$1.00; Washington Russets, $1.15-1.25; 25-pound sacks, 35-37½c; No. 2s, 40-45c per 50-pound sack; bakers, 100 pounds, $1.50-1.60; Deschutes, No. 1 Russets, $1.15-1.30.

Plums—Ore. and Wash., Italians, 18 lb. box, 30-35c; 25 lb. lug, 35-40c.

Squash — Oregon, Washington Crookneck, scallop Zucchini, 35-40c per flat; Danish, flats, 45-55c; crates 90c-$1.00; Bohemian, lug, 50-65; pumpkins, 1¼-1½c.

Spinach—Ore., 50-55c orange box.

Tomatoes—Oregon, local No. 1, 40-50c; No. 2, 20-30c.

Bunched vegetables —Per dozen bunches, beets, 20-22c; carrots, 25-30c; green onions 20-25c; parsley 25-35c; radishes, 18-20c; turnips, 30-35c dozen; broccoli, lug, 35-40c.

Melons—Cassabas, crates, $1-1.25; ice cream, Ore., 1-1¼c; watermelon ¾-1c; honeydew, $1.35 crate.

Root Vegetables—Carrots, lugs 45-50c, sacks, $1.25-1.50; rutabagas, $1.00-1.25 cwt. lugs, 50-60c; beets, $1.25-1.35; turnips $1.65-1.75; parsnips, hundredweight 50-55c lug.

Predatory Animal Control Is Pushed

With the additional help made possible by a $49,000 WPA grant to employ trappers, predatory animal control work in Oregon is again making significant progress after the slump caused by lack of funds during the depression years, Dr. W. H. Lytle, state veterinarian, reported this week.

State department of agriculture records show that the July "take" of predators made big inroads into coyote numbers, with 444 of the animals being killed that month. Other animals taken include 39 bobcats, eight bears and miscellaneous other animals.

Hunters paid through funds of the department and cooperating counties were responsible for bagging 374 predators, and WPA trappers accounted for 119 during the month, the latest for which figures are available.

Swegle Women to Hold Club Gathering Today

SWEGLE—The Swegle Ladies' club will meet Thursday at 2 o'clock with Mrs. Hazel Wells as hostess. All women in the community are invited to attend.

CASH
for FILBERTS and WALNUTS
Orchard Run or Graded
Also Nut Meats
M. KLORFEIN PACKING CO.
277 S. Liberty Ph. 7633

Anna Theissen's Funeral Is Today

JEFFERSON—Funeral services will be held Thursday at 2 p. m. at the Fortmiller funeral home in Albany, for Mrs. Anna M. Theissen, 71, who died at the family home southwest of Jefferson, Monday.

She was born in Scio July 4, 1867, her parents beingg Mr. and Mrs. William Burton, and had spent all of her life in this part of the state. She was married December 31, 1935, to Claus Theissen, this being her second marriage. Mr. Theissen died last August.

Surviving by her first marriage are these children: Lloyd E. Ramsden, Mrs. Laura E. Given, Henry E. Boyes and Mrs. Elda P. Wiltsey of Salem; Archie O. Ramsden and Mrs. Nina E. Johnson of Portland; Chester L. and George E. Boyes of Albany and vicinity. She was a member of the Christian church of Jefferson and a member of the Women of Woodcraft.

Holiness Meeting Held at Rosedale

ROSEDALE — The Marion county Holiness association held its October meeting at the Friends church Tuesday. President Clio T. Brown, pastor of the Highland Friends church of Salem, presided. Rev. Graves, an evangelist, preached in the morning and Lieutenant Estes of the Salvation Army in the afternoon. Rev. Henry Aarhus, pastor of the Weselyn Methodist church at Aumsville, sang "Calvary Carried It All."

Members of the junior unit of the Farmers union went to Carleton with their adviser Tuesday night to assist in organizing a junior unit there.

Hoven Buys Farm

TALBOT—Oscar Hoven has bought the Ole Ekerberg place and Ekerberg plans to leave soon to live with his brother, John Olson and family at Toledo.

Dairy Situation Theme of Co-op Meeting Tonight

W. W. Henry, Dairy Co-op association manager of Portland, will discuss the general dairy situation at a meeting of the Salem unit of the dairy co-operative tonight at 8 o'clock at the chamber of commerce, anounces F. C. Klaus, Salem branch manager.

Other speakers on the dairy situation will be David Saucy, director of the state co-op, and B. R. Bewley, Polk county dairyman and chairman of the local unit.

The Eleven of Diamonds

By BAYNARD A. KENDRICK

CHAPTER XIX

In the ceiling of the hall at the top of the stairs a trap led into the attic of the house. He looked into the two closets in search of a ladder, and finding none, utilized a couple of tables from the card room, balancing them precariously one on top of the other. They served his purpose, and with a slight display of gymnastics he hauled himself up through the opening.

The attic was unfloored, but a catwalk of boards nailed to the beams, led from the trapdoor to each of four dormer windows. Bending over to avoid the slanting roof, Stan made his way to the window overlooking the roof of the second floor porch. The attic was dusty, close and stifling, and showed no indication that it had been visited since the day the house was finished. At the window, he looked back. His footprints showed clearly in the dust of the cat-walk. He mopped his dripping forehead and opened the window.

The porch roof, of red tile like the balance of the house, was not more than two feet under the dormer window. Stan stepped out carefully, for the roof sloped slightly to provide drainage, and the tile made a hazardous footing. Still holding to the window frame he made a tentative step, and decided it was too dangerous. A slip would start him down and nothing could stop him.

Heedless of his clothes, he lay down full length and began to inch his way toward the roof-edge at the end of the porch. It was hard, uncomfortable work, for the tiles were rough and blistering hot. By the time he was able to look over at the top of the porch screen, slightly below him, rivulets of perspiration were smarting in his eyes.

He lay still for a moment, his gaze fixed on the outside of the top rail of the screen. About a foot from the end were two small spots, almost invisible. Riskily, he extended one long arm and scraped at one of the spots with a fingernail. The nail came away, green and gummy, and Stan grunted in satisfaction.

He worked his way slowly back from the edge, and began feeling each tile near the edge of the roof. Near the middle he found the loose one he was seeking and lifted it out. Underneath was wood, and in the wood was an empty screw hole.

Getting back was not so easy. It was necessary to test each tile until he found a firm one, then push. The edges of the tiles kept catching in his clothing, offering a grater-like resistance to his progress. He was a wild disheveled figure when he finally reached the window and found it closed and locked on the inside.

He dropped flat, pressing closely against the side of the house, nerving himself to start the roll which would carry him to the ground forty feet below. He had been lucky on the Four Leaf Clover—but playing the fool twice in forty-eight hours might not work out. The one thing he knew he could not do and live was stay on the roof where he was—he had a slim chance of surviving the drop to the ground with nothing worse than a broken leg.

He had already started to relax and roll when the sharp crack of a high-powered .22 went skipping from tree to tree in the grove back of the house. A mushroom bullet droned close to his bandaged head and chipped stucco from the wall. Involuntarily he clutched at the tiles and checked his fall, probably saving his life.

From the ground floor, at the end of the house, a shattering blast from a big calibre revolver, put to shame the spit of the deadly .22. Stan grinned in relief. The bulky form of Detective Hogue of the Homicide Squad was charging into the grove, firing on his way.

Somehow, Stan got to the window, kicked it in, and opened the lock. He found Juan unconscious from a blackjack's blow, in the kitchen on the second floor. The door of the big electric icebox was wide open.

Even while Hogue was explaining how LeRoy had instructed him to keep an eye on Miles Standish Rice, and how the man had escaped through the grove—Miles Standish Rice was wondering why a brand new set of ice trays had been installed in the electric icebox since he had seen them Sunday morning.

* * *

The high excited chatter of a cocktail party under way was audible through the white door of Commander Dawson's apartment. Stan stood outside for a few seconds before ringing the bell. He was late, but the delay was unavoidable. His exploration of the Sunset had necessitated a trip to Miami Beach to change his clothes, and Doris, firmly mothering, had refused to let him go until Dr. Carter had come and put a fresh dressing on his head.

He was admitted by a mulatto boy in a white coat, and immediately sensed that his arrival had not added to the gaiety, although Dawson, immaculate in gray, gave him a cordial greeting. He had met everyone present, with the exception of Durlyn Bessinger, and his wife, whom Dawson introduced.

"I'm glad to see you're alive, Mr. Rice," Bessinger boomed out, shaking hands too thoroughly. "My wife and I were on the Four Leaf Clover Sunday night. This is a terrible business—a terrible business—"

"Indeed it is," Mrs. Bessinger chimed in, "since dear Mr. Fowler was killed and you were brutally attacked I've been terrified—simply terrified." Her opulent bosom heaved with emotion, radiating waves of perfume.

Stan accepted a Manhattan cocktail, sipped it, and took a canapé from a dish on the table. The Bessingers were most unpleasant people. The husband just escaped being porcine, and the wife was a scented pincushion given an added irritation of speech. But Stan refused to make the mistake of classing the Bessingers as stupid. He had a strong first impression that the bluff couple possessed minds which might work in intricate and devious patterns.

"It is rather upsetting," Stan commiserated. "I didn't know Fowler was a friend of yours. Had you known him long?"

Bessinger took his wife's arm and patted her hand. "Just a short time, really. But we had both become very fond of him. He was a delightful chap—"

Lydia Staunton floated into their group and adroitly freed Stan of the Bessingers. Glen Neal and Dawson were talking near one of the windows. She led Stan past them to a far corner of the room. Eve and Tolliver Farraday were seated on a divan. Bruce Farraday, standing beside them, advanced a step and took Stan's hand.

"I sent Lydia to your rescue." He glanced worriedly at Stan's bandage. "I didn't know this was going to be dangerous for you—"

"Neither did I," Stan said, so restrainedly as to warn Farraday from the subject. "I think you'll have to rescue this party since I came," he continued more lightly, "everybody is standing around dying in knots."

"Except the Bessingers," pondered Eve. "Their type never dies." She moved closer to her brother, nodding Stan to the seat beside her. Her father drew up a chair for Mrs. Staunton, and settled himself on one arm, his arm negligently across the back close to the widow's shoulders.

It was then Stan felt so clearly the tension of relations in the Farraday family, that he was momentarily embarrassed. He was watching Tolliver, who had not condescended to greet him except by a perfunctory nod. He turned away quickly from the expression on the boy's face—hatred blazing in brown eyes—lips tight drawn over firm teeth. He was aware, too, that Tolliver Farraday had drunk too much to conceal his feelings.

Apparently no one else felt anything amiss. Lydia Staunton crossed her slim legs, and smiled with utter self-possession. Eve Farraday might have been a trifle too pale, but that could be easily accounted for by the stress of the past two days. Bruce Farraday was watching Stan with perceptible impatience, as though he wished Stan would hurry and remove the rabbit from the hat.

"Now," began Mrs. Staunton, "that we have the famous Mr. Rice in a corner—maybe he will tell us about this eleven of diamonds. The afternoon papers say there is such a card. We were talking about it when you came in."

Stan squirmed uneasily. One of those uncanny silences, which occasionally fall awkwardly on an assemblage, had occurred in the room. The Bessingers were standing with Commander Dawson and Glen Neal near the table of canapés. Motion was arrested, as though all present were straining to hear his reply.

"I hardly know what it is myself." His laugh fell short of carrying conviction. "It came out of a pack which is used to play the game of Five Hundred, I believe."

"I thought that game went out before bridge came in," Glen Neal remarked from across the room.

"It did. I used to play it when I was a girl," Mrs. Bessinger announced, and added kittenishly: "I'm not telling how many years ago that was."

"Say ninety-nine," Eve whispered in Stan's ear.

He nearly did so, for Durlyn Bessinger had just remarked that any store should remember a request for such a pack for a long time after it was made—and Stan, above all things, wanted to remember that remark. It showed him where he and LeRoy had both slipped. He intended to remedy it without delay.

The Negro butler passed more cocktails. Stan saw Eve's restraining touch on Tolliver's arm, but the boy ignored it, gulping down his drink in two swallows, and setting his glass on the floor beside him.

"About enough, isn't it, old boy?" Bruce Farraday remarked softly to his son.

Glen Neal was pointing out something in a blue-backed book to Dawson and the Bessingers. "Imagine," he was saying, "the Navy Gazette says the Commander was graduated from Annapolis in 1900. Now speaking of ages, Mrs. Bessinger—"

"For Pete's sake don't bring that up!" Dawson protested laughingly. "A naval officer's private life is akin to Leo in the zoo."

"You make me feel like an old, old woman, Commander! I'd have sworn you weren't a day over forty."

Stan was politely trying to ignore Tolliver's venomous, low-voiced reply to his father's protest by listening to other conversation in the room. He found it impossible to do so. The young man's unleashed fury had become too close, too personal.

"So I tell you I've had enough of everything. Since you've hired a private detective to watch me—you better put him to finding out the truth about her." He pointed a trembling finger at Lydia Staunton.

"Oh, Tolly!" Eve groaned. "How can you? Glen Neal is here and all these people—the papers!"

"We're in them now, aren't we?" he went on fiercely. "This was to be a showdown. Isn't that why we came? Because the nice Mr. Rice would be here—and Tolly could tell him all the truth about everything. Well I'm going to tell him everything—and there's no use trying to stop me—"

"I think perhaps you better," Lydia broke in, ominously. Two bright round red spots showed feverishly on her smooth cheeks.

(To Be Continued)

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