

that sample?"

ing the

down on me now?"

sion in her lovely eyes.

that gown you have on?"

Harry Beldon stood block-

"I have, and Aunt Olivia has got to

Apparently no angelic pity soothed

Harry's perturbed spirit. His distract-

ed gaze rested on a young and grace-

ful figure at the hosiery counter. Two

peration brought Harry to her side.

"I beg your pardon, madame," he be-

She turned with a surprised expres-

"I don't like to trouble you," he went

on with an embarransed blush, "but

would you mind telling me the color of

The surprise in her face deepened.

The fluffy blonde who presided over ing."

rapid strides and the courage of des-

REAT CAESAR! have I lost the hosiery was listening with undis-





haps, if you ate her melons, it would be a return of hospitality." alde him.

"Aunt Olivis is going to wear that at the Wylle-Wallace wedding. You know about that?"

Fatigued with his efforts, Harry but I'm staying in Meridon with my "I should think so I'm one of Anita Wylle's bridesmaids." "That's great. I'm to be head usher.

Rather nice we should meet before the cheerfully. reheareal, just in an informal way." "It was rather informal," Miss Galbraith admitted. Her eyes rested on "But that slik isn't taupe; it's wis- poned.

"Wistaria? What's that?"

and I, to steal melons out of her gar- "Mistake? Not me. That fagged-out- Miss Olivia looked after him as he den. I am Harry Belden, and I am looking girl gave me the wrong par- rushed to his den. "With all his

She besitated.

ject. I'm such an old friend." Miss Jessie laughed brightly. "Per- umph.

Company. You haven't any advantage "I'm sure they will exchange it for of me, though. You are Miss Jessie you."

going to have beefsteak with mush-

"I know Miss Penslope couldn't ob-

"It's two shades darker than the essiple and satin instead of faille," Presently Harry glanced from his Auni Olivia announced with a "just-besistenk to the cherished parcel be- as-I-expected" expression on her reso-

luis face. "But it's tope," Harry insisted. "Yes, you did remember so much. Oh, you needn't explain. I know you lost the sample, Perhaps Madame Cyr

can make a combination." "I'm sure she can," said Harry

"Much you know about it; but fit doesn't matter so much. I've just had word that Anita has spratned ber ankle a little tear in the wrapping paper, and the wedding is indefinitely post-

> "Postponed? And won't there be a rehearsal Friday night?"

"Certainly not. Anita is Inid up." "Excuse me, Aunt Olivia, I have an important letter to write"

faults, that boy is devoted to business." Harry.was writing: "I want to make amunds to Mins Penelope for my boy-He sprang up. "They'll have to. It's ish follies. Wouldn't she enjoy going for Aunt Olivis. I'm sorry to leave you to some of- the Symphony concerts? like this, but you've saved me again. To think I should grumble over doing With the rehearsal off, if it hadn't By a torrent of eloquence Harry been for that tope stuff we might nev-

convinced an apathetic salesgirl and a er have met. Now I have a presentiskeptical floor-walker of the mistake ment we shall be meeting right along." and carried his purchase home in tri-And Harry was not deceived. They word.

By Elsie Endicott

)GER AMES was young and right," said Flem Green in the tone of husky and out out for a regular farmer, but he wore specand mannerisms and sat in the chair of mathematics at the university. except when he chummed around with Flem Green and acted according to pattern.

But principally, Roger Ames had a hobby, which indirectly saved him from several things. He cataloged folks-like any other filing system.

"Size 'em up every time, on the street, over at faculty meetings, anywhere," he boasted to Fiem, technically his colleague in the art department. who had been cut out for a halfback. "Street cars m' favorite spot."

usually feminine. Then you'd never frivolities, but who, (this from the straight heels on her shoes, neat- was bending over, Roger had bought saver. recognize 'em if you saw 'em out of portions he chose and the regular or- hands, good-looking but not too good- that paper once in the darkest corner "Shall we get off here"" Rover askthe use? You're human enough whon with a correctly nosed girl in a sizable slightly worn. Economical! Nice, he'd looked at it. It had burned his breath you forget your cards. Going to get square frame house with an even row sensible bag, too, sitting part way out fingers. Now she was devouring it in left sometime, old boy. All signs fail, of peoples and a prim row of lark- in the alsie. Ah! Now she was looking great chuckling gobs. you know."

one thing doesn't tell me, a half dozen yard. Alwars tell' em by the paper they're became specific, because all at once They did. Then they didn't, and regis- saw that-" In the excitement and worthy calm.

too!

guised interest. way of impatient shoppers with more blushes and increased em- it." while he searched his available pock- barrassment, "I was to get one like it for my sunt." It hardly seemed possible that that

Silk to Match

only chance to be fitted by Mme, Cyr, a haughty expression or that those exor words to that effect. What was that guisite blue eyes could have that froren stuff? It wasn't dope; it was some stare. thing. Are the pitying angels looking "Really!" was all the beautiful lips

could utter, as the young lady turned Barr's." with intensified interest to the inspec-

laughing frankly. He rushed to the out a notebook. "What color shall I silk counter. "Can you see that lady three count-

ers down-the pretty one? Quick. please, before she goes away!"

direction he indicated. "My eyesight is fairly good. Yes, I

can see her," she answered stonily. "Good! I want four yards of silk just like that gown she is wearing." "We are out of that shade this morn

"Oh!" he gasped. "Are you sure? You see, it's for my aunt. She's mak-"You see," Harry tried to explain, ing over something, and I have to get dropped into a vacant chair. Glanc-"You don't have to get it here."

Here! Harry saw a ray of hope. "In there somewhere else? It's a very have that silk this afternoon. Its ber apple blossom face could assume such important commission." His distress was evident. The middle-aged girl relaxed a little from her

severity. "They might have it at Ballard &

tion of hostery. The fluffy blonds was dred times." He turned back to whip trude." ask for?"

"Taupe." The tall, severe, middle-aged girl printed in large capitals that covered

vanished. "Silk or satin"" naked the tiredlooking salesgiri! who was measuring endless lengths in Ballard & Barr's. "Which is the more expensive?" "Oh, satin."

"Then I'll take that."

rushed to the nearest lunch room and aunt-

ed the lovely color in her girlish lope Winter?" cheeks.

"Ob, thank you. Thank you a hun- don-that is to say-I hope I don't in- stranger. I used, the minister's boys take."

renely. "This is a public table."

"That's it. I remember now." Harry afraid you might be offended by my slapped his thigh in recognition. He abruptness in Congreve & Cutler's. Galbraith. I saw your name in the who was selling silks glanced in the a page of his notebook; T-O-P-E and Olivia. She isn't really exacting, you er. Only tea and cakes for you? I'm

> "I understand." gown you're wearing was my salva-

An Experiment System who would be sure to smile when you where the newsboy got on. But Roger vicinity of his falling angel and walk sight before, but I do now. Par- both on the same car always, I'm Flem were forty minutes late for dinner and Ames needed no newspaper test for to the lonely rooms or ask her to mar- don me for being blunt. Know I've Green's sister, so I suppose I'm Miss then produce a corking dinner into the girl across the aisle. She was sure ry him at the next stop. What he did never met you I'll wait any length of er-er Green. I'm in your Math A, the bargain. Her nose proved it, as car-fares. He almost forgot to get do was to trip glibly over the angel's time, or more, or longer, if you'll Division 1 Class. Sit in the front row, Settling himself in the back seat be Straight, thin, then tip-tilted and just his copy of the Messenger and quite sensible bag that had been projecting promise me you'll sort of try to see third seat and I've gazed at you every

He not out his mental note-book and wildered sight. There seemed to be all Then amid a carful of salckoring com- fruit trees-Miss er-er-"

And they got off at Park Corner.

they don't read any, tell 'em that way warning, glimpsed an amazing girl in He'd got to meet that girl Somehow. ment suddenly Roger Ames strode for- brain for a glimmer. A glimmer came,

lines it fairly fung itself upon his be- grasp something fairly supporting, rows of larkspur and peoples and- over because you-amuse me, and I

nosis, labelled him the successful, me- liness under the trim navy sailor. tions of the universe spattered about headlines in the girl's lap, with a hand- crumpled paper and folded it into her paper hobby and about the noses and "And the folks you catalogue are thodical man who had no time for Dressed right, too, by Joye! Nice the crinkling page the amazing girl ful of navy sallor as his visible life- sensible bag. Then she gazed squarely things. So tonight I got desperate and into the man's lover-eyes.

your system." laughed Fiem. "What's der) would settle down eventually looking blouse, well pressed skirt, but and thrown it into the stove before ed politely as soon as he could get his and the index system, professor?" she be done, and deceive, if one doesn't asiced. After all, it was easier to face each then? You've heard of my filing hobby? else. Did you?" "It's a sure test, too, the newspa- other alone than under 100 rapid fire But I beg of you, don't lay it up sgainst me. It's impossible. I love bungalow, nothing square about it, and

> "Surely, professor. Live across the in the back vard, not a single fruit ree. Roger Ames fumbled in his indexing park, you know. This is where I al- That's where Professor Roger Ames ways get off. Believe you do, too, for and his wife live-and the youngsters that matter, though not always in the --Flem Green says it's the humanest, "Never believed in love at first fashion you chose tonight. But we're julliest place to come be knows of

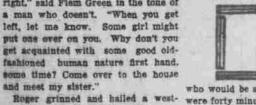
plan to flunk, you see. Don't faint,

"Flem told me about your allly newsbought a glarey paper and made up my "Is all this gulte according to Hoyle uose with a knob on the end. It can look too close. Wondered if you'd no-"Professor'? You know me by sight tice me at last. I've tried everything

in the suburbs is a certain nooky The girl spoke first, "Just what is you. Might I not take you home, Miss tangles of roses and bridal wreath, not an even row among them, and chickens

> Here their dialogue was interrupted "What they say, Ira-what they by the clicking of the telegraph re- say?"

ceiver. Ted sauntered over to the gum "He says they don't know for sure machine and surveyed himself as best but they expect considerable injuries he could in the little circle of mirror. an' maybe some deaths." Ira was He bestowed a second or two on his truthful but not tactful.



bound henna car. "Not taking this one tonight?" he called.

prepared to file his fellow passengers, the right shade-naturally pinky- forget to notice the sheet in the girl's into the aisle, reel unbecomingly on 'm not such a bad chap and marry me day for three years, because you flunk before he reached Emmons street white. Unusual, that nosel R. Ames hands, until in lurid, five-inch head- one foot, clutch madly at the air and we'll have a square house and me out regularly, and I take the stuff where the newsboys got on and he had never seen one like it. could begin his evening paper, the paper which, according to R. Ames' diag- went to appraising the brunette love- colors of the rainbow, all the sensa- muters, R. A. landed on the lurid The girl deliberately smoothed the

The Strange Liking

"Sure. Heard that before. I see all of the car. She was the kind of girl

spur along the walks and plenty of round so she could see the lights in "Mine don't!" Roger declared. "If well-pruned fruit trees in the back the park longer. That was it. She per. But so is the nose!" grumbled eyeballs, liked outdoor things. Roger tried to R. Ames without enthusiasm. "I don't Take the simple newspaper test Suddenly Ames' general cataloguing make the brown eyes look at him, believe it. She's the first girl I ever the idea ?" she asked with praise--er-er-erreading and what and when in it. If the well-trained eyes, without any tered another point in their favor, threatened disillusionment of the mo-

the second seat front on he other side There wasn't any other way about it. ward. He never indexed exactly what but not from the index region, Oh, here they were at Emmons street he intended to do, recklessly leave the

lieved by a few touches of rose color strangers." and her dark hair was crowned with a

"Oh!" he gasped. "I beg your par-

"Certainly not," she answered se-

"Oh, yes, but I thought-I was You see I was shopping for Aunt Meridon Free Press. Here's the walt-

a thing, she has got to have it." "And I had lost my sample, and that

tion." "I'm afraid I didn't seem obliging.

"Just like me," Harry interposed. ing at the demure face opposite, he "I'm staying there with Aunt Olivia." recognized a pair of blue eyes. His "And when I come in to Chicago for vis-a-vis was the wearer of the iden- a little shopping Aunt Penelope altical taupe gown. Her gown was re- ways warns me not to talk with "That's just right of her-I mean in rose-colored creation that accentuat- general. But is your aunt Miss Peno- taria."

By Joella Johnson

'She certainly is.'

"It's the color of that goods you've "Then she wouldn't consider me a bought. I'm afraid you made a mis-

employed by the Amaranth Insurance cel. Great Caesar!"

know, only when she has got to have famished with all this shopping. I'm And we'll be sure to meet Friday at a little shopping for dear Aunt Olivial the rehearsal."

rooms. Mayn't I order for two?"

PHEN you go to New York they show you the Wool- buy a real automobile? These Fords took a bath and douned his "city" all he could to make the rumor true. lane was unheard of. graned neck or bulging eyes you mere- they almost deceive you, but still they appraised him with an expression of bringing Ruth from the city. As the wagon. He bustled into the station rather weak, with its best days before ly casp and exclaim "By heck!" then are only Fords when all's said and proud admiration.

your Manhattan friend nonchalantly done." bad little building."

Just so do the natives of Woodfield conduct their visiting friends to the Stafford poultry farm. Strangers invariably admire the magnificent home and grounds of the millionaire owner, of June Ted Stafford and his mother then Ruth surely would. clars, "Good night!" "It's certainly farm. When Ted graduated from Har- friends even after the Burnetts moved to come to Woodfield to stay. puzzles me. You say this Stafford is a millionaire?"

all right," and Cy smiles to himself as agement,

if enjoying some secret joke.

the stories that Woodfield likes to tell "Aw, cut it out, ma. Say, ma, do about her citizens that is the favorite. you like this tie?" It was eight years ago in the month Of course she did. And if ma did,

licks his chops and begins. For of all tainly admire her taste."

and at sight of the immense farm just lived together on their little farm do- Ruth Burnett lived in the house country roads; and this June it means Woodfield was negligible.

"Well, why under the sun doesn't he was not farming. Just atter dinner he for good. At any rate Ted was doing ten. Such a disturbance in this quiet tache; but were he not a six-footer worth building or the of his are camouflaged with wire clothes. When he walked into the Just now he was setting out for the It was aabout quarter-past three differed. However, it was still very Brooklyn Bridge, and when with wheels and made-to-order bodies so kitchen, straw hat in hand, his mother station to meet the 3:45, which was when Ted alighted from the depot young and, like all young things, was

old horse jogged along the shady road, and shouted a greeting to Ira Jones, it. "Dear me, Ted," she joked, "it's no Ted's mind was filled with the pleas- who performed the duties of ticket "Ted:" Something in Ira's voice wire from Boston for Theodore Stafturns away with the remark, "Not a A-ha! Cy knew that was coming. He wonder Ruth likes Woodfield. I cer- ure of anticipation. For he knew that agent, baggage master and telegraph startled him, and he rushed to the the two weeks of Ruth's visit would operator, and whose official title was ticket window. Consternation was be a delightful break in the dull mo- "station agent." Ira was the news written on every line of Ira's face. notony of country life. He knew that center of Woodfield since he picked up "S-say, Ted, w-was there some friend it meant canoe trips with lunch under the doings of the surrounding towns of yours on the 3:457" the trees; fishing frips where they from the agents along the line. Outnever caught any fish; rides along the wide of this, the use of the telegraph in

By Parke Whitney

black with poultry houses invariably ing a very prosperous egg business, next to the Staffords until she was 16. all these things and a log more-this "What's new, Ity?" queried Ted. their eyes bulge, they gasp and de- the nucleus of the Stafford poultry The two families had been close June. Ted decided, he would ask Ruth "Weil, they got a new barber down nais-had a collision."

some place," they say, "but one thing ward two years previous he was en- to the city, where Ruth was now a I don't know how he knew, but he lesque show comin' inter Eastway his arteries. "My God! Iry, do they -tirely satisfied to settle down as a school teacher. What is more, Mrs. was pretty sure what the pretty little Thursday night. Reckon Woodfield's was anybody hert?" farmer. Already the farm was show- Stafford invited Ruth to Woodfield to school teacher's answer would be, and male population will be kinda deplet- Ira spent the next few minutes

"Yes, sir, Ted Stafford made his pile ing signs of progress under his man- spend part of her vacation every Sum- that probably explained his frequent ed Thursday p. m. Think you'll go frantically clicking his instrument, ain't never -got over his likin' for mer, and rumor had it that in the near bursts of song. "Yip-i-addy-i-ay!" The down?"

This June afternoon, however, Ted future she was coming to Woodfield birds and the builfrogs stopped to lis- "No. I guess not. Ira."

tie and began to caress his mustache. At least Ted claimed it was a mus- a frenzy of anxiety. If he could only some of his acquaintances might have

"What's the matter?" "It's gone over the banking at Fair-

field Junction. Some mix-up in sig-

in Johnsonville, and there's a bur- Ted felt the hot blood surge through

statue and as rigid.

Ted commenced to pace the floor in do something-if he could only act! But this suspense. . ..

Meanwhile the little instrument was still clickng. This time Ira was taking a message in pencil. With the cossation of the clicking he called out, "A ford."

Ted devoured the message and when he finished he was weak with joy. To this day be rates that telegram among his most valuable possessions.

Mr. Throdore Stafford, Woodfield, Mass.:

I missed the 3:45. Will arrive tomorrow morning. Taxi broke down and couldn't get another. It was a Ford. Blame Fords anyway. RUTH.

"An' I swan," declares Cy, "Ted while Ted waited tensely, as pale as a Fords-an' if you saw his wife I dunno's y'd blame him either."

C YLVIA'S little foot tapped the detriment of a perfectly good pair of station floor nervously. She silk stockings.

was aware of the disquieting As she cast about desperately for fact that there was a hole in the sole some speedy remedy she glimpsed a of her right pump. It really was fool- piece of paper lying on the floor near ish of her to wear that particular old Breck's coat. Further inspection pair just because they matched her proved it to be stiff and heavy, needing dress. A hole in one's shoe was a only judicious folding to make it fit in inelegantly, "he'll thaw out by and by whose courage had been rapidly eb- fact that she had been with Breck that turous acknowledgment, then fiel up- listened intently he would have heard

calamity at any time, but doubly so to- the slipper. At any rate, it would do when I'm rich and famous." day. Why, Breek might even carry temporarily. out his mad scheme, so often proposed.

longer quite so "out at sole." Breck was. On the train the masterful Breck re-

Just then Breck himself dashed in, toused his overcoat on the seat beside vealed his startling plan. "Now that I have the contract which Sylvia and joined the waiting line before the ticket window. He stopped a really establishes , the business, I second to impart some information to want you, too. There's a license in my her.

"Everything is top hole, anget child, enough. When we get to Harville we'll We're going to remember today, and visit a certain nice old Justice of the Peace. no mistake," he chuckled,

This portended action, and Sylvia was rusfully aware that a strenuous er a period of stunned yet ecstatic al-

By Phil Moore A DESCRIPTION OF A DESC

So in the course of an hour Sylvia away.

Stooping Sylvia picked up the paper allowed herself to be passively guided Further frenzied search failed to happier with that young whippersnap- alloper high in the air. At this point in her reflections Miss and fiel to a secluded corner, where up a flight of dingy stairs and into an produce the missing document, and the per, Breck Merrill, than yoh are with It was the one with the hole in it possibly can. Yes, father's home, He'll-Sylvia sighed and flushed. It was such she rapidly slipped her pump off and equally dingy office. A kindly faced, young people were finally forced to re- your old father?" he queried dryly. a pity that Daddy Allen could and inserted the new sole. To be sure, it stout old gentleman came forward to treat, proffering apologies and crimson "I never put it that way," retorted via smiled reminiscently and picked it What? No, I'm not specifing, You'll a pily that Daddy Allen could and indicate what? No, I'm not speeding., You'll would not understand what a dear did feel a bit knobby, but she was no greet them, seeming to understand with embarrassment. The attorney Sylvia spiritedly. "You know that I up. Some writing on the fold attract- never guess where I found it. Hustie their errand without explanation. The bowed them out with a slight trace of think the world of you, Daddy, but I ed her attention and she opened the over and I'll tell you everything." phenomenon of an eloping couple no weariness. longer caused him a thrill.

Later in the afternoon Sylvia and same."

"Half a second and I'll have a wit- Breck parted. He was tremendously sure that is O. K. first." Without the slightest hesitation giggled at the thoughts.

Breck confidently reached his hand in At dinner Sylvia slid into her place, peries, so here's a check as a starter," shoe off.

bing, wished herself a thousand miles afternoon did not protest acidly. "So you think that you would be she pirouetted and kicked one small ed up with gurgles of laughter:

"Weil," her father went on, a twinkle it that she sat cross-legged on the floor license, sat down and laughed some ness in." He summoned an office boy disappointed and chagrined, but Sylvia in his eye, "I see that he has just se- and read it through with wrinkled from some other region, deliberately felt a thrill of wicked refief, for her cured a contract. I've been trying to brows, then laughed until the tears adjusted his spectacles and then re- idea of a wedding was vastly different, get myself. He's a clever fellow, so I came. Growing somewhat calmer, she pocket which has been there quite long marked, "Now for the license. We'll be Besides, who ever heard of a ghrl being guess you can have him if you find him jumped up, and still clutching the spring's intelligence)-Now, Elalo, married with a hole in her shoe? She necessary to your happiness. I pre- cause of her merriment dashed downsume you will want the usual frip- stairs skipping stairs recklessly, one

"But," protested Sylvia, faintly, aft- his pocket and drew it forth--empty! dreading the keen scrutiny and ques- When the full import of this Mr. Allen, enjoying his cigar and There ensued a profound silence tioning of her father. He, however, astounding announcement on the part newspaper in the library, wondered ny little animal that comes creeping afternoon was not likely to improve lence. "what will Daddy Allen say?" broken by an irrepressible chuckle was unusually amiable this evening of her parent broke upon the slightly mildly what Sylvia found so amusing up the stairs when everyone's in bed? that hole, save in size, to the great "Hang your father!" retoried Breck, from the office boy. Poor Sylvia, and when she ventured to mention the dazed Sylvia she made swift and rap- in her telephone conversation. Had be Elsie (promptly)-Papal

stairs. In the seclusion of her room these mystifying sentences badly mix-

"Breck? Yes, just as soon as you and the temporary sole fell out. Syl- be delighted to see you. Honestly,

The receiver clicked and Sylvia, still So intensely interesting did she find holding a badly damaged marriage more.

dear, what is a cat?

Elsie-Dunno,

Fond Fathor-Well, what's that fun-

am going to marry Breck just the solled paper.