

Buying Barbara

By Julia Child-Adams & Author of "YOU CAN'T MARRY"

SYNOPSIS: Farrell Armistage tells Mark Lodely that he has launched Mark's career as a writer and paid for the operation that will cure his lameness so that Barbara Queenly, Mark's former fiancée, could choose fairly between them. Mark's mother denies that Barbara would countenance such an agreement, but Mark orders her to "shut up."

Chapter 44
"COMIC OPERA PIFFLE"
"It's all very well for Mark to tell me to shut up!" thrust in Mrs. Lodely. "But I don't see why I shouldn't say I never heard anything so fantastic in all my life. And you can't deny that I warned you, Farrell, didn't I? I said Barbara has never had a thought apart from Mark, I said. But I daresay you're one of the stubborn sort, you'd rather take a toss at a hedge than go around by a gate."
"One moment, Mrs. Lodely, Mark wants to say something."
"It's hardly worth my saying. But do you happen to know, Armistage, that on the very day of my operation Barbara was begging me, to be thoroughly ungrateful, badgering me into marrying her in a few days' time?"
"I know that," Armistage was determined to keep cool. "She thought that I wasn't keeping my part of our compact."
"She thought you were deliberately dragging me down to your level," contributed Mark and shook with genuine mirth.
"But now our compact is renewed. The day will come when she will quite definitely choose you or me."
"Bab'll marry Mark! Anythin' else is out of the question. Of course Bab'll marry Mark!" Mrs. Lodely's face had mottled painfully.
"She may marry neither of us," suggested Mark, still immensely amused. Armistage smiled with equal good humor.
"That, at the moment, seems the most probable. She admits she doesn't care for me. And she wants her engagement to you definitely and publicly broken." And Armistage laid upon the table, next to the tumbled vase, the emerald in its platinum web.
There was a dead silence. Mrs. Lodely, from whom immediate clamor might have been expected, sat and gazed. The red patches on her face grew deeper. Mark put out a finger and touched the jewel idly. At last—
"I'd absolutely forgotten I ever gave her the thing," he said just above his breath, and Armistage had the impression that he meant it.
His indifference loosed Mrs. Lodely's tongue.
"If you'll excuse me sayin' so, Farrell, you'd do better not to mix yourself up in this. Of course, feelin' as you do about Barbara, it's natural you should hope she's done with Mark, but believe me, they've had these tiffs before and they always make 'em up again. Don't you Mark? And as for the emerald, Bab's never liked it and I think it's very sensible of her to send it back. If I were you, Mark, I'd sell it and buy her somethin' she'd like better. Why not give her a nice ring? She'll feel more like other engaged girls then."
There was another long silence.
"That's really rather a good idea," commented Mark at last. Again he poked at the stone, a green, deep pool, winking in the light of the fire. "Unfortunately, I'm not in a condition to hawk it for sale. You don't happen to collect emeralds, Armistage?"
"I don't, but I'll buy this one."
"Poor old Armistage!" crooned Mark. "You darn't prevent my being able to afford Barbara a ring."
"Of course I darn't! Any more than you dare prevent my sending her flowers and books."
"The devil you do!"
"You and I," continued Armistage cheerfully writing "Mark Lodely, Esq." on the blank check—"you and I are now, as a result of my machinations, rivals of equal distinction for a lady's hand. I shall hang about her unashamedly for the agreed time. If she still won't have me, I shall clear out of the country."
"And try to steal a girl from some other poor devil of a cripple!" Mark's sudden rage was upon him. "You know you've pretended to be as curedly open and unashamed and all that, but you've played a low-down game and you know it. God, if I had the strength, I'd give you the damndest hiding!"
"You may have that strength yet. When you have, remember that it was I who bought it back for you."
Mark muttered furiously and was silent.
"Remember also that it was through your behavior and not mine that she broke off her engagement to you."
"Comic-opera, piffle! She does that kind of thing. Makes me sick, looking coy and pulling at a daisy. She loves me—she loves me, not! But I've always told her I won't endure it and I won't endure it now." His voice rose wildly. "Tough I suppose that, while I'm on my back here, you'll feel free to cook up any lies against me that you think she'll swallow. What is she doing? Where is she? I haven't even an address to write to. You're deliberately keeping her away from me!"
"Hardly! Last week I brought her up from Kings Mallard, where she has wound up her affairs. She is at Miss Raoul's house in St. John's Wood, busy redecorating it. How much did you say you wanted for the emerald?"
"Four hundred and fifty," muttered Mark sulkily and as Armistage calmly inscribed the amount in words and in figures Mrs. Lodely, who had opened her mouth, shut it again. But the tips of her ears glowed red. The check changed hands and Armistage slipped the emerald back into his pocket; and at once Mrs. Lodely began to talk at the top of her voice, possibly to drown the sound of the transaction.
"It's absurd even to think of Barbara seriously breakin' with Mark," she announced. "Why there've been devoted to each other since they were children! Mark's father made Bab's promise—"
"You and I, Mrs. Lodely, are the last people in the world to prophesy Barbara's actions. I'm anxious to believe the engagement broken because I want to marry her myself. You're anxious to think it still exists because—" Armistage paused, then added deliberately, "because you think marriage with Barbara would be financially advantageous to your son."
(To be Continued)

Queen Of Cowgirls



Ellen Davis of Clayton, N. M., will compete for that title in the annual "old western dance" at Clayton late in January. She won last year. (Associated Press Photo)

RED TAPE CUTS SOLONS' SPEED

Detroit (AP)—State legislators waste a great deal of their sessions because of unnecessary constitutional regulations, according to Professor F. H. Guild of the University of Kansas.
The professor, here to lead a discussion group at the convention of the American Political Science Association, cited the reading of bills by the clerk and the roll call as examples of unnecessary regulations.
"Every legislator has a copy of all bills," he said, "yet the clerk must spend needless hours going through the form of reading them aloud."
"The roll call is a holdover from the middle '80s, when people were suspicious of legislatures suspected of rushing bills through without sufficient consideration. They voted for the regulation requiring an 'aye' of 'no' from each legislator before a legislature could approve a bill."
"But, now with electrical voting systems such as have been demonstrated in California, every legislature could save at least 14 days by eliminating the tedious roll call."

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

By Frederic J. Haskin

When troublesome questions arise avail yourself of the service of this department. It costs you nothing—you have only to send three cents for postage on the personal letter you will receive in reply. Do not use postcards. Any question on any subject of fact will be answered. Address your letter of inquiry to the Capital Journal Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C.

Q. Will Mrs. Roosevelt continue her connection with the Todhunter school when she goes to Washington?
W.L.K.
A. Mrs. Roosevelt is quoted as expressing her intention to continue as associate principal and part owner of the school. She expects, as heretofore, to assist in the supervision of courses and other problems and hopes to go to New York at least every two weeks, perhaps often.

Q. Which college was the first to establish a course in hotel administration?
G.H.
A. The world's first four-year course in hotel administration was established at Cornell in 1922.

Q. Where is there a memorial to Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer?
P.B.
A. Frederick Hibbard's bronze statue of the two boys was presented by George Mahan to Hannibal, Missouri.

Q. What was the origin of the British Co-operative Trading System?
A.C.B.
A. This organization was founded in Manchester, England, 1843, after an unsuccessful strike had been carried on by the mill workers of Lancashire. About forty strikers were organized, when a co-operative store was opened. Four unemployed employees conducted the business without salary. By 1921, the capital stock of the co-operative organization in England was \$400,000,000, and the four unpaid employees had grown to 190,000 paid employees.

Q. Is deafness common among children?
B.C.T.
A. There are in the United States not less than 3 million children with impaired hearing. Of these between 300,000 and 400,000 have hearing difficulties sufficiently advanced to need special classes in lip reading, in order to be able readily to understand the spoken word. Sometimes a child who seems unresponsive when spoken to and slow in school is not stupid. He is only suffering because of difficulty in hearing.

Q. Are many people moving from cities to villages?
S.G.
A. Villages containing populations of less than 2500 were augmented by about 3,500,000 between 1920 and 1930. Many urbanites are moving to small towns where they can have subsistence gardens and reduce the outlay of cash for necessities.

Q. Must prunes be soaked overnight before cooking?
S.S.
A. It is not necessary. Prunes do not need as long soaking as the harder fruits. Six hours in cold water, one hour in hot water, should be enough. They may, however, be soaked for 2 or 3 days and eaten without cooking. They will be soft enough. Or for steamed prunes, soak only 20 minutes in water just to cover. Drain, steam 30 minutes. Take prunes from juice that has oxidized, and put them in an earthen dish in a moderate oven (uncovered) until nearly dry (about 1 hour). If juice is wanted take that from the soaking and that from the steaming, boil 10 minutes. This is the best method of cooking prunes for richness in flavor.

Q. Please name some well-known men whose wives were older than they were.
V.B.T.
A. The Empress Josephine was older than Napoleon; Queen Catherine of Aragon was older than Henry VIII; Mary Stuart was older than Francis II of France; Jenny Lind, older than Otto Goldschmidt; Diarra's wife was h's elder by 15 years; Ann Hathaway Shakespeare was eight years older than her husband; Mrs. Warren G. Harding was older than the late president.

Q. Was Oliver Cromwell really the great man he has been proclaimed?
A.T.G.
A. Undoubtedly during the protectorate of Cromwell, England emerged from a cloud which had become increasingly dark and threatening. Voltaire said, however, of Cromwell: "It was very fortunate for Cromwell that he appeared upon the stage at the precise moment when the English people were tired of kings, and as unfortunate for his son Richard that he had to make good his pretensions at a moment when they were equally tired of protectors."

Q. How is the title to a trademark acquired?
F. A.
A. The title to a trademark is acquired by adoption and use. It may be purchased.

Q. Do finished manufactures constitute a large percentage of our domestic exports and general imports?
—F. U.
A. For the calendar year 1931, finished manufactures formed 47.1 percent of our domestic exports and 26.2 percent of our general imports.

MARLENE WEARS TROUSERS, TOO



Marlene Dietrich, who has threatened to desert Hollywood for her native Germany, wore mannish attire to a film premiere. Shown with her are Maurice Chevalier (left) and Gary Cooper. (Associated Press Photo)

SUNDOWN STORIES

BARGAIN DAY

By Mary Graham Bonner
Top Notch, the Rooster, Mayor of Puddle Muddle and keeper of Puddle Muddle's only store, stood outside the deserted shed which he had made into his place of business, and crowed at the top of his voice:
"Bargain Day! Come and get your bargains! Ducks and all, come and get everything at cheaper prices."
"Today I'm selling two tons of bugs for the price of one. Today I'm selling two balls of string for the price of one. String will be a help if you're doing any nest building."
"Today I'm selling the first supping. Birds, listen to what I say! I'm selling crumbs for next to nothing."
Top Notch's store was down below the hill from Willy Nilly's repair shop.
Willy Nilly had arrived early in the morning and had painted a sign across the front of the shed. It read: "Top Notch's General Store, Top Notch, Proprietor."
"The animals all come for bargains."
Mr. and Mrs. Quacko Duck were the first to arrive, waddling up to the shed as quickly as they could. Mrs. Quacko carried her white bag over her wing and paid for her purchases out of Puddle Muddle money.
In Puddle Muddle if you bought something very big and expensive you paid for it with a good sized twig and if you bought something very small and inexpensive you gave only a little stick in payment.
Top Notch gave Willy Nilly a twelve pair in exchange for the work Willy Nilly had done in painting Top Notch's sign.
Hip, the Dog, bought two old bones for the price of one. Oh, everyone got wonderful bargains!

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzles

1. Marine animal	10. Slice speech in the audience
2. Fish out	11. More than two but not many
3. American artist	12. Kind of mineral
4. Demonymized	13. Repeat
5. Occurrence	14. Limb
6. Full of noise	15. Foundations
7. Side piece of an umbrella	16. The number ten
8. Money	17. Bath room
9. First garden	18. Batter
10. Every one	19. Photographable instruments
11. The staff of life	20. Southern state
12. Silkworm	21. Noblesman
13. Kind of cheese	22. Caution
14. Permit	23. Best in church
15. Instantaneous	24. Sign
16. Theatrical	25. Sign
17. Overcast	26. 42. Grades of noise
18. The Indian industry	27. Musical instrument
19. Recently acquired	28. Public notices
20. Kind of rubber	29. Musical instrument
21. Mouth of the river	30. Musical instrument
22. Baited	31. Musical instrument
23. Fear start	32. Musical instrument
24. Hiccup	33. Musical instrument
25. Proper	34. Musical instrument
26. Central part	35. Musical instrument

Across

1. Marine animal	10. Slice speech in the audience
2. Fish out	11. More than two but not many
3. American artist	12. Kind of mineral
4. Demonymized	13. Repeat
5. Occurrence	14. Limb
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PUFFY



"Tax not mad at you," whispers Puffy, "that's the truth. We'll pull an old trick—won't the crowd be surprised? You lie on your back like you've been hypnotized!"

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



ANNIE—YOU'RE NOT STUDYING—SIT UP STRAIGHT IN YOUR SEAT AND GET TO WORK—
YESSUM—
I WISH I COULD KNOW WHAT IS ON THAT CHILD'S MIND—IT'S CERTAINLY NOT HER STUDIES—SHE GETS HER LESSONS ALL RIGHT, BUT SHE'S BROODING ABOUT SOMETHING—
I CAN'T SEE HOW MY PLAN CAN HELP BUT WORK—I'VE BEEN OVER EVERY DETAIL OF IT A HUNDRED TIMES—I'LL BE GLAD WHEN I DO GET SQUARED WITH ELMER PINCHPENNY—THEN I CAN THINK OF SOMETHIN' ELSE, FOR A CHANGE—

REG'LAR FELLERS



THAT'S THE TIME Y'NEARLY GOT IT!
GOSH! AN ME WITH THIS BAG OF EGGS!

THE GUMPS



IT WAS A SLEEPLESS NIGHT FOR TILDA—THINK OF HAVING A REAL DIAMOND BROCH UNDER YOUR PILLOW—WELL—THAT'S WHAT SHE HAD—THE DIAMOND BROCH WAS HER GENTLEMAN FRIEND WHO SHE MET AT THE ICE CREAM BALL—LET HER TAKE—SHE CAN'T WAIT TO FLASH THIS ON HIM—
WELL, MRS. GUMP—HOW DO YOU LIKE MY SPARKLER?
GOODNESS GRACIOUS—WHERE DID YOU GET THAT BEAUTIFUL BROCH?
A FRIEND OF MINE AT THE ICE CREAM BALL—LAST NIGHT—LET ME TAKE IT—HE WANTS TO SELL IT TO ME—
IT MUST BE WORTH FIVE OR SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS—HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT FOR IT—
HE SAID HE GOT IT FROM HIS ALNY—HE'LL SELL IT TO ME—
TELL HIM I'LL BUY IT—I HAVE SOME MONEY THAT UNCLE BAW GAVE ME—I'LL GIVE HIM \$300.00 FOR IT—CALL HIM UP AND SEE IF HE'LL TAKE IT—
SO THE DEAL WAS CLOSED—WHEN TILDA CALLED TO HER GENTLEMAN TO HER GENTLEMAN—THE ANSWER WAS YES—HE WILL BE RIGHT OVER TO CALD—AND THE DIAMOND BROCH IS AS GOOD AS HIS RIGHT NOW—
TELL HIM I'LL PAY HIM CASH—

TAILSPIN TOMMY



MAYBE YOU'D BETTER WAIT FOR ME HERE, BETTY—IF WE GET FROED UP WITH A HARD SHOOTIN' GANG—
I CAN SHOOT!
AND ABOUT THAT OTHER GIRL, MISS BARNES—SAY, HER FACE WOULD STOP THE DEETPINSER CHIMES—
MAYBE SO—BUT TOMMY'S WOULD SO UGLY OR BEAUTIFUL, SHE COULD STILL BE INTERESTED IN HIM!
OKAY, BETTY, YOU GO WITH ME—AND WAIT TIL I TELL OF TAILSPIN HIS GONNIE'S JEALOUS—
SKEETER, MILLIGAN—IF YOU DARE—
WHY NOT?—IT'S AN OPEN WAR AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED—
THIS MIGHT WIND UP IN A FEE-FOR-ALL PEACE IF TOM RUNS INTO AN AMBUSH—I'LL TRAP YOU!

BETTY HAS HER OWN WAY!



ADDIS-LIKE CLASS! WAIT TIL MUTT SEES ME—
GET IN THERE—YOU SHAMELESS THING!

MUTT AND JEFF

I BOUGHT A GARMENT THAT WILL GIVE ME A FIGURE LIKE AN HOUR-GLASS, AND WON'T MURT TOMMY GREEN WITH ENVI, O'BOY!
UM-M!
TEN MINUTES LATER—
I WONDER WHAT JEFF HAD IN THAT BOX?
ADDIS-LIKE CLASS! WAIT TIL MUTT SEES ME—
GET IN THERE—YOU SHAMELESS THING!

JEFF WILL TRY ANYTHING ONCE

I BOUGHT A GARMENT THAT WILL GIVE ME A FIGURE LIKE AN HOUR-GLASS, AND WON'T MURT TOMMY GREEN WITH ENVI, O'BOY!
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