

Marian Gordon

by JEANNE BOWMAN

SYNOPSIS: Len Casad, Marian's husband, has had to abandon his real estate business because his money has been lost, and look for work. Marian has a job on a new high school he is building. She looks once again for a job. Marian spends a hot day preparing a birthday dinner for him. When Len returns with the party that he hired as foreman for McSwain, she faints.

CHAPTER 27
COMPROMISE
"Marian, Ian dear... open your eyes."
Len was bending over her. He had carried her to the patio, dashed water over her face and now was smoothing her hair back from her brow.

Slowly Marian opened her eyes. She saw the table in all its birthday glory, the four-tiered cake with its pink roses... she laughed hysterically.

"It's that hot kitchen," Len declared savagely. "You've worked in there all day. Wouldn't be surprised if you walked home from town... good heavens, Ian, you didn't do that, did you? No wonder you fainted."

"We'll get that electric stove back in running order tomorrow... you lie still, I'll finish dinner... poor kid."

Satisfied she had regained consciousness, he left her in the circle of the patio, while he went to the kitchen.

Marian heard dishes rattling, heard one crash, winced... wondered why she couldn't gather her wits about her. McSwain had told her that he had a man in mind for foreman; "just the fellow," he had said. Could he have been thinking of Len?

Silver hadn't had time to see McSwain after they reached the house. But the valley was small, perhaps she had heard the tradespeople talking. She might have learned from

"That will tide us over until I get my first pay check," Len said. Marian didn't answer. Len turned on the radio, tuned into an orchestra program and silently they listened to Mendelssohn's "Fingal's Cave." Listening, Marian thought her mind was like the melody, the ceaseless quest of waves washing up on a rock bound coast. Would she continue beating herself against a destiny that seemed unrelenting as rock? Or had her habit of battling for principles not related to her become so much a part of her life that she would soon cease to regard it as anything but the monetary of living.

"Tan," Len confided as the lecture ceased, "you haven't lived up to my expectations."
"What?" she asked, startled.
"I expected you to fight my working for McSwain."
"Why?" she asked, alarmed.
"I was forewarned I might expect it."

"No, McSwain. He said you'd been reared to believe that everything his particular political faction sponsored was necessarily wrong; that you couldn't believe him capable of carrying on with honor."
Marian was silent. Did this mean McSwain had taken her warning and was seeking to tell her so through Len? But if so, why had he mentioned it.

"How about it, Ian?"
"Len, I believe that you will be completely honorable, no matter for whom you work."
"Thanks, dear, but you haven't answered my question. Is that how you feel about McSwain?"
"I feel that McSwain is like the thieves you mentioned that night in the court room. If he is honorable, it's because he's afraid he'll be put on the spot if he isn't."
"Do you think it's right to let your father's political prejudices sway your judgment like that?"
"My father has nothing to do with

them that Len was looking for work. Perhaps learning these things, Silver had bided her time until she met Len, alone.

Len came in from the kitchen with a tray. "Feel better, honey?" Marian sat up, swung her slipper through her rumpled hair and grinned like a fabled child.

"You ought to be," he teased. "Here I come home bawling with good news and you faint when you hear it."
Marian tried to smile, but it was a pathetic attempt. How could she tell him his good news was bad news to her? Could she tell him what she knew about McSwain? Could she spoil his joy after these weeks of hopeless job hunting? She couldn't just yet... she must have time, and he must enjoy his dinner, his birthday gifts. Later, perhaps she might break it gently.

Len's generosity with the water he had used to bring her out of the faint necessitated a no further change of dress. She looked in the mirror, her cheeks were like tiger lilies, freckles, standing pale gold against her pallor. She dabbed on some rouge, slipped the orange orpandy over her head, it was cheerful, daintily ruffled, a party frock for a birthday dinner.

Lon enjoyed his dinner. The steaks were burned on one side, but he'd burned them; the potatoes were lumpy, the lettuce had wilted, having been set on the warming oven while Lon rescued the steaks. Marian pretended to eat, pretended to laugh, sipped the sauterne, and nibbled at the cake.

With the twilight came a cool breeze. Marian sat in the circle of Lon's arm while he talked. The presents had been opened. There was a book on wood staining and carving, Lon's hobby, from her brother; a cigarette case of sandalwood from one sister, a hand knit tie from the other, and from her mother and father a check for fifty dollars.

"I don't believe that gypsy woman was so clever. I think she made everything up and wanted to sound wise. I've heard around the countryside that they all did a bit of stealing—and it's a lucky thing we didn't get the ounce for what the gypsies did. They probably won't come back to these parts again."
"And when she told us our fortunes she just guessed at the things she knew we were apt to do—and of course guessed some correctly."
"I think you're right, Rip. My ears don't look a bit improved. Surely, even though I haven't specified, I should notice some small change in their appearance. The thing for me to do is to get some adhesive tape and train them to stay back."
"Yes, that's what I'll do."
But just then Christopher Columbus Crow flew down from his tree. "I've been noticing Jilly and Honey Bear and the cubs lately, and they've been eating and eating and eating. I believe they're planning to take their winter's sleep soon," he cawed.
"I have an idea," barked Rip, and Willy Nilly wanted to hear it at once.

Tomorrow—Pat Bears!

this," she answered quietly. "I know, and because you are going to work for him, I will tell you this. McSwain did bribe Brown to pass his work."
"Oh now Ian," Lon laughed easily. "You don't think the District Attorney would have let him off without a conviction if he had been guilty, do you?"
"I don't think the District Attorney's desires had anything to do with it. He knew, but he was hampered by lack of evidence."
"And I suppose my little redhead has this evidence," he returned lightly.
"I have," she answered. "Lon will you drive me in town with you in the morning?"
"Sorry dear, McSwain's picking me up, will the next day do?"
Marian decided it would. She had promised McSwain she would hold her hand until there was reason to do otherwise, and with Lon as foreman he would be forced to build according to specification. Perhaps she thought, as she lay in bed watching the curtains blow in like sails, perhaps that is why McSwain gave him the work, to prove to me that he can be honest.

Reassured, she saw Lon off in the morning, then turned back to the house. It seemed lonely without Lon. She wondered what it would be like having a husband come in to dinner in the evening, going off to work in the morning like millions of men in the world. He'd be happier.

She spent some time in the garden, and was working there to Hero's bark brought her to a realization that the telephone was ringing insistently.

"Telegram," came the voice, "I want to speak to Mrs. Lionel Casad."
"Speaking."
"I will read this wire relayed to Sacramento from Valley View. Mother dangerously ill, come at once—Ed. Gordon."

Marian turned from the telephone with a confused memory of having given an answer that she would leave at once. The car was there. She blessed McSwain for taking Lon with him. She'd call the East Brazos, there would be a telephone in the construction office.

She succeeded in reaching Lionel almost immediately.
"Lon," she said, "I've just received word that mother is dangerously ill, for me to come at once. Do you mind if I drive up?"
"Of course not, Ian, I only wish I were there to take you."
"I'll call you tonight if I can reach a telephone. Lon, you'll take good care for yourself for me, won't you?"

"Why certainly, Ian, don't you worry about me. Just a minute," he turned from the telephone, talked to someone, then turned back. "You to someone then turned back. "You'd better take Hero with you. I'll feel better there as so many men on the roads nowadays, and they won't try to board the car if he's in sight... and Ian, don't drive too fast... when you're tempted remember, you want to get there without having to stop for repairs."
"I'll be careful, good-bye dear."
In ten minutes, with Hero at her side, she was driving out of the tract. Thank heaven, her mother had sent her that money, and she hadn't given the change to Lon. It would carry her home.

(To be continued.)

Surgeon At Camp
Detroit—Dr. Burton L. Forbes of Denver, Colo., has been appointed camp surgeon for Co. 1283, GOC near Detroit, succeeding Dr. Theo A. Kennedy, who has been transferred to an eastern army camp. Dr. Forbes is a graduate of the University of Colorado, and served as an interne at the Good Samaritan hospital in Portland. Before joining the medical reserve, U. S. Army, Dr. Forbes served as ship's surgeon on the liner General Sherman, sailing to ports in the Orient.

RETURNS TO HOME
Turner—Mrs. Sarah Crume of Albany and her sister-in-law, Mrs. George Harris of Pottlatch, Idaho, have been recent guests at the home of the former's son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. George Crume in Turner. Mrs. Harris had not seen her nephew for 15 years and the visit was a pleasant one. Mrs. Crume took the visitors to Albany following several days spent here.

PUFFY
The country beneath them is covered with snow.
Says Paule, "It soon will be Christmas, you know."
Down there is the place where old Santa Claus stays.
We might stop and see him for two or three days."

MUTT AND JEFF
YESTERDAY JEFF KNOCKED GEORGE BURNS WHERE HE GOT OFF AS A FIGHTER!
I HATED TO HIT HIM BUT I SUPPOSE IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD GET HIM HOME!
COME ON, BURNS! YOU BOY-- LET'S SHAKE AND BE FRIENDS! I DON'T LIKE TO SOAK PEOPLE AROUND UNLESS I REALLY HAVE TO! I PURPOSELY LET YOU WIN IN THE RING SO YOU COULD HELP YOUR MOTHER!
WHERE AM I?
-YOUR MOTHER NEEDS YOU, KID! SHE'S IN NEED! YOU WON \$200 ON THAT FIGHT-- WHY DON'T YOU GO UP AND STRAIGHTEN OUT THOSE BELLS? IF YOU DO THAT SHE'LL BE THE HAPPIEST LITTLE MOTHER IN THE WORLD TO KNOW THAT SHE HAS A SON THAT SHE CAN DEPEND ON!
HE'S A GOOD BOY, MRS. BURNS-- HE JUST GOT MIXED IN WITH THE WRONG CROWD, THAT'S ALL!
YOU'RE RIGHT, JEFF! MA WAS ALWAYS GOOD TO ME AND FROM NOW ON I'M GONNA DO ALL I CAN FOR HER!
THAT'S ALL I WANNA KNOW!

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

By Frederic J. Haskin

Q. If one faints at the sight of blood, can this weakness be overcome? G.S.
A. Usually it can be overcome by exercise of will power and a determination within the individual not to be affected by the sight of blood.

Q. Where was the Windsor chair first made? D.C.J.
A. The Windsor chair was first manufactured in the town of High Wycombe, England. The town is still principally engaged in the manufacture of chairs.

Q. How long has Burton Holmes been giving his travel lectures? R.F.
A. He started in the travel-lecture business forty-three years ago.

Q. How many calories does a pint of beer contain? A glass of some soft drink? L. B. B.
A. A pint of beer would furnish 225 calories. A half bottle of the average carbonated beverage contains enough sugar to yield about 150 calories.

Q. Why has the British crown been remodeled? What are some of the famous stones which it contains? M.S.E.
A. The gold framework was taken to pieces and reset to make it more secure. Among its famous stones are the Black Prince's ruby, which dates back five centuries; the pearl eardrops of Queen Elizabeth; the second largest part of the Star of Africa diamond, weighing more than 300 carats; the great sapphire from the crown of Charles II; the sapphire from the coronation

ring of Edward the Confessor; and other symbols equally as historic. Besides these larger stones, there are 2783 diamonds, 277 pearls, 16 sapphires, 11 emeralds, and 4 rubies in the crown.

Q. How many men constitute an army? W. G.
A. The military definition of an army does not relate directly to the number of men. To constitute an army, an aggregation of troops must include each necessary branch—infantry, cavalry, artillery, commissary, medical units, and their accessories. An army may be comparatively small or very large in numbers.

Q. At what time is the Treasury balance statement given out daily? H. J. L.
A. It is released by the Treasury Department the second morning from the date for which the balance is taken at about 9:30. The statement is released as soon as the balance sheet is ready.

Q. Which of the New England states has the greatest amount of illiteracy? W.M.F.
A. Rhode Island. Of the 508,253 persons 10 years of age and over, 27,538 are illiterate, making a per cent of 4.9. Connecticut is just below with 4.5 per cent. Vermont has the lowest with 2.2 per cent.

Q. Are there many negroes in the United States who were not born here? S.H.
A. In 1930, there were 96,620 ne-

groes who had immigrated to this country. They had come in large part from Cuba, Jamaica, Hispaniola, and the other islands of the West Indies.

Q. In there a post office station in the new Post Office Department building in Washington, D. C. F.R.
A. The Benjamin Franklin Post Office station was opened for business on June 1. It has been supplied with the finest and most modern equipment.

Q. What is the name of the college in the south which has a course in marine zoology and undersea laboratories? K.W.
A. The University of Miami has a department of Marine Zoology.

Q. Are animals, other than the skunk, equipped with an offensive odor? B.R.
A. The mink and the weasel emit a powerful and offensive odor when in danger.

Q. Why is your Information Bureau located in Washington, D. C. N.T.
A. Washington is the world's greatest center of all kinds of knowledge. Libraries, laboratories, associations' headquarters, governmental activities are here gathered in a city occupying an area of only seventy square miles. Contact with sources of all kinds of information is quickly made. Send your questions to this newspaper's Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, director, Washington, D. C., enclosing coin or stamp for return postage.

Q. What is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea? A.D.
A. Sicily is the largest, with an area of 8660 square miles. Sardinia is next, with an area of 9463 square miles. Cyprus, Corsica, and Crete are next with areas between 3000 and 3600 square miles.

Make This English Jumper Dress—Xmas

Edited by LAURA I. BALDT, A. M.
This fascinating jumper of gay plaided woolen has a cunning tailored blouse of cotton broadcloth buttoned up to a little boy collar. It's the type schoolgirls favor because of its smart simple styling. Mother will appreciate it too, because it's so easily kept in condition. For a smart change, a plain woolen blouse would be nice for real cold days. Plain navy blue woolen is very attractive and practical for the jumper with bright red wool crepe blouse and perhaps another of a gay challis print.



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IT'S IN THE BAG

ACROSS
1. Young salmon
2. Knob at the center of a shield
3. Sun
4. Great Lake
5. Ouse
6. First woman
7. Discount
8. Side view of foot
9. Bustle
10. Part of steam engine
11. Screw
12. Season of the year
13. Advanced in years
14. Elevated railway
15. Venial
16. Goddess of peace
17. Quilted type
18. Coarsest
19. Pronoun
20. Soft drink
21. Collar
22. Tree
23. Tavern
24. Burial
25. Title of Athens
26. Liberal giving
27. Entire amount
28. Bright or very white

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

E	V	I	L	I	A	T	O	P	E	R	R
L	I	V	E	S	A	E	S	T	R	E	E
K	E	Y	S	P	E	A	S	A	N	T	S
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T	I	P	A	R	E	A	A	C	I	D	
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DOWN
1. Noisy and profane
2. Underland
3. Long fishes
4. Masculine
5. Mine
6. Own
7. Pull
8. Glimpse of fumes
9. Down
10. Exist
11. At an end
12. Not so much
13. Sign of the Infinitive
14. Vigilant
15. Artificial object used on a golf course
16. Jungles on one foot
17. Part of a minstrel show
18. Urb of day
19. Burred
20. Baseball team
21. Volcano
22. Mountain chain ways; colloq.
23. Menstrual tissues
24. Light up
25. poetic
26. Compound ether
27. Cheap
28. Whirl violently
29. Extent of ear
30. Face
31. Envelop
32. Libe
33. Serpent
34. Cravat
35. Animal of the deer family
36. Heboh

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