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**Bathing Suit and Silk Stockings His Only Gift**  
 Batesville, Ark.—A pair of silk stockings and a bathing suit was all that Rudy Byrd, a twenty-two-year-old student of the Little Rock College of Pharmacy, contributed to the support of his wife during their five months of married life, according to testimony given in the courts here by his father-in-law during Byrd's trial on the charge of wife abandonment. A jury

found him guilty of the charge and assessed a fine of \$100.  
 After their marriage Byrd traveled around; great deal while Mrs. Byrd remained with her parents. Byrd, according to the testimony of his wife, finally did not return from his travels and abandoned his wife entirely.  
 Courtship is probably so called because it gets many a man into court.

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**Uncle Sam Will Learn Why Underwear Shrink**  
 Washington.—The Department of Commerce has instituted a sweeping investigation into the shrinkage of underwear. Assistance of the bureau of standards and makers of underwear was enlisted to help solve the mystery; and a meeting of manufacturers was called for May 7. The effect of soap, laundry machines, wringing, pressing and finishing, as well as the tension of spinning machines will be studied.

**Fruit Has Three Tastes**  
 Washington.—A new fruit that tastes like a combination of banana, pineapple and strawberry, has been discovered by Dr. Wilson Popenoe, explorer for the Department of Agriculture. The chloite is found in Guatemala and will grow anywhere, according to Doctor Popenoe.

The longest existing continuous rainfall record is that at Padua, Italy, which has been kept since 1725.

**Lays Double-Yolk Eggs**  
 Princeton, Minn.—An occasional double-yolk egg means nothing to A. N. Davis, a local resident. He has been showing his friends a box of prize eggs. The average length is a little more than three inches and the circumference six and one-half inches, and each egg contains a double yolk. Mr. Davis has one hen in his flock that regularly every day lays a double-yolk egg.

**STEEL IN HIS GLOVE**  
 By FRANK H. WILLIAMS  
 (© 1924, McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Ed Summer became suspicious the moment he heard the voice over the telephone.

"This is Dorothy Wispert," came the voice. "I was out hiking and fell down and broke my leg. I wish you'd come and get me without letting Dad know. I'm about a half mile from the Yellow Creek road, up the Dark Canyon trail. Will you come at once?"

"Where are you 'phoning?" queried Ed cautiously.

"From a place called 'Dad's Cabin'—it's a sort of store and place to eat. I had to ask what the name of the place is. Will you be right out?"

"Yes," Ed answered, and hung up the receiver.

Ed stood for a moment after this thinking deeply. Dorothy Wispert was the daughter of the man who employed him as chauffeur. Why didn't she want her dad to know about the accident? And why had her voice been so strained?

Undoubtedly the fact that Ed was deeply in love with Dorothy made him keenly attune to any alteration in her voice. And the fact that as a rival for her hand he had dangerous Mortimer Schuyler made him particularly ready to consider anything unusual as being suspicious.

So Ed stood silent by the telephone for a few moments considering the situation from every angle. Of one thing he was sure. Dorothy had called him and she was in trouble.

Accordingly Ed raced from the Wispert garage, where he had received the message, to the curb in front of the magnificent home where Wispert's newest and biggest automobile was parked.

It took but a short time for the powerful car to make the twenty-mile run on the Yellow Creek road to Dark Canyon. Once at the trail leading up the canyon, Ed parked and locked the car and placed a heavy wrench in his coat pocket to use as a weapon in case of necessity. He swore at himself for neglecting to bring an automatic pistol with him.

Ed's excitement rose as he hurried toward the trail seemed endless. Would he never reach "Dad's Cabin"? Suddenly and unexpectedly Ed swung around the bend in the trail and saw before him an opening in the trees in the midst of which stood a little cabin. And, on the porch, was Dorothy, safe and sound!

Ed ran toward her with a little clutch at his heart. She rose as he came toward her and he saw that she stood firmly and without help. Her leg was not broken at all.

"Oh, Ed," cried Dorothy, as she hurried off the porch to him, "they made me do it. They threatened terrible things if I didn't do it. And I'm so afraid—for you!"

At the light flashing in her eyes at this Ed felt a great leap of his heart. He saw that she cared for him. And in a wild whirl of emotions he caught her to him and kissed her.

Rudely they were jerked apart by three men who hurried to them and Ed, wrenching himself partly free and looking around, found himself glaring at the vicious face of Mortimer Schuyler.

"No cheap bum like you is going to steal my girl!" snarled Schuyler. "I've got you out here to prove to her you're a coward and a bum. We'll fight it out here, in the open, man to man."

Ed turned to see Dorothy straining toward him, but the man holding her jerked her back toward the porch. He turned back again toward Schuyler, and as he did so Schuyler, with something which looked like a pocket atomizer, shot a stream of strangely smelling powder straight into Ed's face.

At once a drowsy feeling swept over Ed. He knew that he had been drugged!

"Stand up and fight—you coward!" cried Schuyler in a voice that was evidently meant to carry to Dorothy on the porch. "You've been deluding this girl by posing as a hero. Now I'll show you up for what you are. Stand up and fight if you're man enough!"

In a lightning flash Ed saw the predicament he was in. If he appealed to Dorothy and told her he'd been drugged, Schuyler would say he was simply a coward and yellow.

On the other hand, if he did fight, Schuyler would be sure to knock him out.

Whatever he did, it looked to him as though he would lose the girl of his heart.

Ed, being the real man that he was, chose the man's part.

Fairly reeling from the effects of the drug and with his strength sapped, he yet stood up.

Schuyler made a pass at Ed which he weakly warded off and tried to come back with the sort of a wallop with which, under ordinary circumstances, he could easily have floored Schuyler. But there was no force behind his punch.

Slowly Schuyler now began to batter Ed. It was evident to Ed that Schuyler intended to make it look as though Ed simply couldn't fight at all. Ed saw that Schuyler felt that, with Ed shown up to be a poor fighter, all would be off between Ed and Dorothy.

Time and again Schuyler's blows

came home—on Ed's face and body. Each blow and the increasing power of the drug further weakened Ed. How much longer could his drugged body stand up against this punishment?

Ed looked weakly toward the porch. Dorothy's look of astonishment brought back some of Ed's usual force and nerve. He gathered himself together. He would leap at Schuyler and down him with one blow.

Then as Ed waited he vaguely realized that Schuyler was hitting only with his right hand. Why was this?

Ed ready to leap in, found the drug holding him back a second too long.

He saw Schuyler's left hand strike out. He saw the hand was gloved. And as Schuyler's left hand met his chin he realized that in the glove was a heavy piece of iron or steel.

All the stars in the sky flashed for a moment in front of Ed's eyes before he toppled over.

"I've lost her!" was the thought that flashed through Ed's mind as he sank into unconsciousness.

He opened his eyes suddenly, looking upward and then closed them again. Surely he was dreaming. But when he again opened his eyes he saw that it was no dream. His head lay on Dorothy's lap, her hand was stroking his forehead and in her eyes was a light that stirred his very soul.

Then he became conscious of another person standing nearby. He saw that it was John Wispert, his millionaire employer.

He got slowly and limply to his feet. "I've been a fool!" he said rather humbly to John Wispert. "I might have known you'd never let your daughter marry your chauffeur!"

"You're a square fellow," exclaimed Wispert, astoundingly. "I saw this whole affair. I was afraid Schuyler was going to pull something, so I followed him up here. I saw him drug you. You acted like a man. Of course you can marry my daughter. I know just how you feel. You see, I started life as a cab driver myself!"

**Errors in Pronunciation**  
**Too Common in America**

A most commendable effort is being made to correct the too rapidly multiplying errors and corruptions in English pronunciation, and to gain a larger measure of uniformity in the spoken language. Of this there is indeed sore need; far greater, I should say, than of spelling reform, which too often means deformity, observes Willis Fletcher Johnson in the North American Review.

Perhaps the greatest evil of speech today is the tendency toward what I may call a weakening of the vowel sounds, coupled with a disregard of many of these niceties of enunciation which contribute to the vocal coloring of the language. The long, full sounds of "a" and "o," and of final "us" are the chief sufferers from weakening. I am no advocate of "mouthing out hollow oes and aes" but the loss to our speech from the abandonment of those rotund sounds may readily be perceived in listening for a moment to the utterance, in speech or song, of pure Castilian, in which those tones predominate.

The worst of it is that this weakening of vowel sounds, and consequent loss of dignity, of vigor and of distinction is a fault not merely or chiefly of the illiterate, but even more of those who possess education and professed culture.

The chief seat of the manufacture of glass and personal ornaments of the greatest beauty and excellence for many generations was Venice. Much obscurity remains as to when the glass works were first established there, but there can be little doubt that the taking of Constantinople in 1204 gave the Venetians the opportunity of acquiring additional knowledge of the art.

During the Fourteenth century beads, false stones and imitations of jewels, rather than cups and the like, seem to have been the chief productions of the Venice workman.

Venetian glass is usually of extreme thinness, being nearly always blown, and there is an endless variety to be found in the shapes and in the application of color, says the Detroit News. Glass-blowing, like throwing clay on the potter's wheel, induces beautiful curved forms and tenacity of substance, and as a rule Venetian glass is consistently characterized by adherence to the natural suggestions of the material.

**Had Her Puzzled**  
 It was an old-fashioned village in County Cork, where a smart young man from London went to spend his holidays. During his stay he played havoc with the hearts of the fair sex. One night, in the smoking room of the hotel at which he was staying, he confessed that he had kissed all the young women in the village except one.

A young farmer, who had quite recently married the belle of the village, overheard his remark, and went home and told his wife.

"Arrah, now Patrick!" she replied, and a puzzled expression crossed her face, "and who in the worruld can that was be?"

**Golfer's Advice**  
 "You know her father?" asked the young man.

"Yes," replied the golfer.

"How shall I speak to him about marrying his daughter?"

"Well, I'd do it after the golf fashion, entirely after the golf fashion."

"What do you mean?"

"With a cautiously studied approach."

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**Various Uses of Honey.**  
 Honey can be used safely in diseases where other sweets are interdicted. In diabetes honey and saccharine replace other sweets. In the various diseases in which cod liver oil is prescribed, honey and cream, or honey and butter, can be used as a substitute.

**A Fresh Start.**  
 Miss M. writes that while she was visiting her sister in the country she overslept one morning and was awakened by her little niece, 3 1/2 years old, who exclaimed: "Aunt Annie, get up; the world has begun."—Boston Evening Transcript.

**Worldliness.**  
 In the love of money, and the wisdom of this world, business is proposed, then the urgency of affairs push forward, nor can the mind in this state discern the good and perfect will of God concerning us.—John Woolman's Journal.

**Plant Travels an Inch a Year.**  
 One of the most extraordinary plants known is the "travelling plant," which has a root formed of knots by which it annually advances about an inch from the place where it was first rooted.

**Mrs. H. B. Dick.**

**Advice For Mothers**  
 You Cannot Afford to Overlook One Word of This

Portland, Ore.—"Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is a medicine that can be depended upon in all cases of women's weaknesses, and after an experience extending over twenty years I have no hesitation in recommending the 'Prescription' to mothers and expectant mothers. During expectant periods I was always able to attend to my work right up to the last without the feeling of burden and weariness. My strength and spirits were greatly helped by this wonderful remedy and I am sure it had a beneficial effect upon my children. I do not usually care to give my name to recommend anything, but in the case of the 'Favorite Prescription,' which is so good and reliable, and there is so much need of just such a tonic for women when burdens are heavy, I am willing to have my testimonial published."—Mrs. H. B. Dick, 649 Umattila Ave.

Obtain Dr. Pierce's Prescription now, in liquid or tablets, from your druggist or send 10c for trial pkg. of tablets to Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel in Buffalo, N. Y.

**That's an Idea.**  
 Efficiency Expert (after tour of office)—Well, sir, I find an awful lot of pins on the floor. If you will give orders to the help to pick them up they will receive bending exercises and you will save a lot of money on pins.

**Bad Luck Triplets.**  
 The natives of Barotseland, in Africa, when any of their women bring triplets into the world, consider the birth as an ill-luck omen. One is killed and two are left, the reason being that the mother has only two breasts.

**Exactly.**  
 Our idea of absolute monotony is money that is inexhaustible, love that is never fickle, married life that is always harmonious and life that is really endless.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

**Foolish Question.**  
 "I suppose you were touched when your wife gave you that \$100 watch on your birthday?" "Of course I was touched. How do you think she got the hundred?"—Boston Transcript.

**Pessimistic Doctrine.**  
 The highest order of mind is accused of folly, as well as the lowest. Nothing is thoroughly approved but mediocrity. The majority has established this, and it fixes its fangs on whatever gets beyond it either way.—Pascal.

**Red Cross BALL BLUE**  
 Is needed in every department of house-keeping. Equally good for towels, table linen, sheets and pillow cases. Grocers

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