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THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

SCHOOL PUPILS WILL BE GIVEN CASH PRIZES

After consultation with Superintendent of Schools L. R. Alderman, it has been decided to have the school children write letters instead of postal cards to friends in the East.

The saving of the postal cards will be added to the amount of the prizes, so that there will be a first and second prize offered to each grade, commencing with the third, and including the eighth grade.

The first prize for the eighth grade will be two dollars; second prize, one dollar; the same for the seventh grade. For the sixth grade the first prize will be one dollar and the second prize fifty cents, with the same for the fifth, fourth and third grades, making \$12 in prizes in all.

The letter is to contain suggestions furnished by the Commercial Club, and at the suggestion of Professor Alderman, each letter is to be decorated at the left-hand corner with one or more rose petals. Professor Alderman has agreed to deliver the letters to the Commercial Club, each grade assorted by itself, and the board of governors will then, through a committee, select the twelve best letters out of the thousand or more to be written.

The stationery will be furnished by the Commercial Club. This letter writing will not only bring the fact of our mild winters before more than one thousand families in the East, while they are suffering from snow and frost, but it will bring a great many inquiries to the Commercial Club for literature.

At the End Of the Wait.

By WILLIAM H. HAMBY.
Copyrighted, 1917, by M. M. Cunningham.

A deep feeling of content and satisfaction possessed David as he looked across the hills and valleys to the south.

"Yes," he said within himself, "she will like this when she comes."

He bought the plateau on top of the hill, scarcely more than forty acres in all, and hired men to clear it.

He took an ax and went with them into the timber, for, although David was a dreamer, he could work with his hands even while the visions were upon him.

Before autumn came the ground was cleared, and then fruit trees and berries were set out. The house which David built was planned carefully that it might be a rest to the body and a pleasure to the taste. A half dozen oaks had been left growing in the yard, and a hedge of roses was planted all the way around it. Walks were laid and flowers planted beside them.

David had some money—not much, but enough. Still he chose to work every day among the trees or in the garden. Every evening he sat on the porch and dreamed and waited.

When the orchard was bearing and the rough places had been made smooth David's lodge on the hill was the admiration of the community. Visitors were brought to see it, and tourists, who sometimes came to the Ozarks, went out of their way to see the hill that blossomed as a garden.

David still worked and dreamed and waited. Sometimes at evening he sat alone upon the porch and looked out over the silent places—the hills and the valleys—a sense of loneliness came over him.

Suppose she should never come? Even the shadow of a doubt made him grow sick at heart. For she would surely she would. Somewhere was the girl of whom he dreamed, the one that loved the things he loved and thought the thoughts that came to him.

Some time she would grow tired and turn aside to the hills. They she would find the fairest one of them all, and when she climbed to its top the home would be ready, and he would be there waiting.

One day when the apple trees were in bloom and the oaks were brown Da-

vid, there hers had gone also, and whatever she had felt or dreamed had, too, understood.

Often she turned her wide open, frank eyes upon him in wonder at the keeness and power of his thoughts, his seemingly unbounded knowledge.

"I wonder," she said musingly, "why you are not out in the world."

"I am," he laughed, "until you call this paradise."

"But you are not ambitious?" she questioned.

"No. Why should I be?"

"There is so much to do in the world," she said, "and you have so much ability."

"I work every day." He smiled.

"But there is so much to be done to help people, and they need it so much."

"Whenever I see a fellow that needs help I help him if I can," he replied cheerfully.

"But think of the multitudes you can never see here," she argued.

"Do you believe that everybody was made to quit his work and go out and hunt for distress?" he asked.

"No, of course not everybody."

"If there ever was one that was not, that one am I. I was made for this," and his gesture took in the hills and sky. "I was made to live and dream. I did not make humanity suffer, and God has never laid on me the job of curing their diseases and distresses, except such as I meet in my daily work."

"It is a pleasant philosophy," she said, with a slow smile, "but I fear it is selfish."

She seemed to be troubled as they went down the hill and said little.

For two weeks he did not see her again. He waited, poised dizzily on the narrow ledge that runs between darkness and light.

If she was really the dream woman, after a little struggle with the sense of duties that, although never hers, had been laid upon her, she would see as he saw and come to know that this was her life too. But if she were not the one for whom he had so long waited she would go away and he would never see her again.

It had been another day of doubts and fears. Perhaps she had already gone. Possibly he was a crazy dreamer, after all. The sun was down and the robins had begun their good night song when he went to the house. As he came near his step quickened and his heart beat fast. She was on the porch, just as he had seen her that first time.

As he hurried toward her she arose, her soft hair blowing lightly about her face, and, with a smile of timid confession, held out her hands to him.

He took them both and held them tight. The lids drooped and covered her eyes, and the blood came up until it bloomed a beautiful confession in her cheeks.

"I knew you would come, dearest. As I dreamed of you it was always like this."

"Yes," she said softly, "it was always just like this."

AMUSEMENTS

An opportunity will soon be given local playgoers to witness the best popular price organization in the West, Oliver J. Eckhardt's Eastern company, "Eckhardt's Ideals," the only repertoire company with an established reputation from the Mississippi river to the Pacific coast. This company is very popular on the Pacific coast, this being their fourth annual tour. Mr. Eckhardt has the exclusive Western rights to a number of new productions in the West this season, and judging from reports received a stronger company and better line of players than ever. Something new in the way of specialties is also promised our local playgoers. The "Ideals" are booked at the theatre for four nights commencing Wednesday, January 22, opening with the pastoral comedy drama, "The Village Schoolmaster." Reserved seats now on sale. Prices, 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c.

PEOPLE INJURED IN THEATRE FIRE

St. Catherine, Ont., Jan. 16.—Fire followed the explosion of a moving picture machine in a small theatre here last night. Of the audience of fifty people several were painfully trampled on in the mad rush for the street. One boy was fatally burned.

CHURCH NEARLY DESTROYED BY FIRE

Boston, Jan. 16.—Fire early today nearly destroyed the Second Congregational church in Dorchester. The loss is \$50,000, and the fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin.

RATE OF DISCOUNT REDUCED IN LONDON

London, Jan. 16.—The rate of discount was reduced from 6 to 5 per cent today.

TEA

Moneyback means that the tea is good and well worth the money.

EUGENE PROPERTY WILL GROW VALUABLE

Blair street addition property is sure to double in value within the next two years. Two electric railways are coming up the valley from Portland and both of them must enter the city from the west, and the line that will tap the Suslaw country can not go out in any other direction. As sure as water runs down hill, Eugene must build down the valley—because the business is there.

There are both acreage tracts and large lots in this addition, only a mile from the business center and across blocks from the Geary public school.

Prices are very reasonable and you may make your own terms, a small payment down and monthly installments if you desire.

See the Oregon Land Co. at 412 Willamette street, or write them for particulars and prices.

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