

Danny and the Chickens

By MARTHA M. WILLIAMS

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A RICH bachelor who has come to forty years is usually entitled to his hobbies, especially if they are harmless. The Major's hobby was not merely cock fighting but whatever had to do with producing chicks of the first water. He would neither waste time nor risk money upon birds, otherwise evolved. His entries always ruled favorites. Naturally the strain was precious.

So much by way of prologue. After it one will understand, easily, the Major's rage, heart-break and murder lust when in mid-May a marauding dog plundered three broody mothers sucked every egg, then added insult to injury by frisking up to the empty piazza, the very moral and pattern of happy repletion.

A strange dog, evidently ownerless, friendless. The Major already knew his guilt—and came like a besom of destruction, gun in hand, in a rage so black he could barely see. The culprit rose and held up a placating paw quite as became a gentleman dog in trudging upon strangers. The Major raised his gun. Instantly the dog sprang to heel, and stood like a statue, except for the quiver at the very tip of his tail. The Major felt back a step, amazed, then shouted loudly: "You Phil! Come take this thief and hang him—higher than Haman. Thieves shouldn't die the death of gentlemen!"

"You're right! Indeed they should," a girl's voice panted painfully from the side gate. "But who says my Danny is a thief? I wouldn't believe it."

"You have to believe it. Come and see. But who are you, and how can you help?" the Major demanded.

"I'm Nora Darcy, just come from Ireland, looking for my Uncle Tim Darcy. The car broke down a place back—Danny slipped away from me while I waited for the fixing. But kill him! You can't. Not till you kill me!"

"I tell you he's a murderer no less a thief, twenty chickens at least—and maybe a world better so in the broods!"

"Danny! Danny! I can't believe it of you. And you broke of sucking eggs when you were just three months old!" Nora cried catching the dog tight in her arms. In a wink she lifted a face, white, tearless, infinitely grieved, saying steadily to the Major: "Please, sir—I ought not to ask it—but—swallowing hard—" "If you'll have mercy on me, please, don't let me go home!"

"No need of that," the Major said gruffly. "Take him—and never let me see him again. But let him rifle an other nest, and nothing can save him."

"Thank you," Nora said very low then with a piteous shake: "I'm to blame—taking off his collar made him so happy he lost his sense." Then stooping she took tender hold of a silky ear. But Danny, marched straight to the Major again, lifting a placating paw. "He—he wants to be friends—please, please don't think he is all bad!"

"Deed he ain't, Missy," black Phil interposed. "Once de collar was off he dest had ter follow his nose—hit ole him chicken—an chicken he found. But he was mine, no money wouldn't buy him. Wid him head of our kennels we'd wif all de fine trials an' champagne ribbins anybody would hang up—"

"Think so, Phil?" the Major asked almost under breath.

Phil nodded: "I ain't thinkin'—I know."

Inside a week Phil came to Nora's Uncle Tim Darcy's to talk business—large and serious. Nora had been a fearful, so watchful that she began to look worn and wan. She, of course, was spared the details—only the result mattered. That was the transfer of Danny under six months' lease to become the head of the Robinson Kennels—which counted next his fighting cocks in the Major's affections.

Danny made himself free of the Darcy house, and in return took of the Darcy household to the Major's to aspect several specially fine broods—brought off safely at exactly the right time; that is to say, mid-June when grass is tenderest, insects and worms are most vital. They made a fine show on the clipped velvet of the lawn: these young creatures. Madame Sillier-Spangle marshaled the parade (this was her third season—the first spoke her a mother incomparable).

"How much is she worth, Major?" Uncle Tim asked, his eyes twinkling. "What is any perfect mother worth?" he Major flung back at him, his eyes white with Nora. Then came Phil with Danny on leash, in the pink of condition and rapturous at sight of Nora, yet offering his paw to the Major who joined it with Nora's in his warm clasp, and said: "Don't you think she belongs here, Danny? Let's keep her always—"

Quite as though he understood Danny leaped up, put his paws around the neck of his mistress, and said in his best dog latin: "How-wow—yes."

Youth and Age

"Youth," says H. G. Wells, "is reactionary." If he is right, there is not much chance for the progressives for middle age and old age are almost always conservative and often "reactionary."

PLAN ADVANCE ON "SCIENTIFIC FRONT"

Smithsonian Explorers Have Ranged Many Lands.

Washington.—How science ranges the world in a quiet, ceaseless quest for material with which to build fuller conceptions of our universe is well illustrated by the Smithsonian Institution's exploration pamphlet for 1926, which is just off the press. The book might properly be called "The Adventure of Science." It describes briefly 35 excursions into the field—trips to Sumatra, to China, to Algeria, Baluchistan and southwest Africa, to Alaska, may correctly be called excursions. Their purpose included, among others, the capture of live wild game, the unearthing of buried villages which flourished in prehistoric America, the collection of fossil footprints and fossil elephants and shells, the gathering of ferns in West Indian mountains, and of minerals in Mexico. The short impersonal narratives evoke the picture of men keenly expectant before the curtain stage of nature. They bury forever the dead myth of the "dry-as-dust" character of science.

The introduction to the pamphlet reveals that "during the past year more expeditions in which the Smithsonian was represented have gone out than ever before, and this in spite of the fact that the institution has practically no unrestricted funds for field work."

Field Work Essential. "Field work is essential to the advance of nearly all branches of science," continues the introduction, "particularly those which the Smithsonian Institution is at present engaged in promoting, namely, geology, biology, anthropology and astrophysics. The institution, therefore, embraces every opportunity of putting expeditions in the field to obtain desired information or collections, either under its own auspices through financial assistance from its friends or in co-operation with other agencies which will benefit equally from the work."

The year's expeditions were headed by a 30,000-mile journey to Algeria, Baluchistan and southwest Africa, undertaken by Dr. C. G. Abbot, acting secretary of the Smithsonian, under the auspices of the National Geographic Society and the Smithsonian, to select a site for a solar observatory in the eastern hemisphere. He picked Mount Brukkaros among the fabled peaks of southwest Africa and the observatory is already functioning there. The purpose of the field work of the Smithsonian's astrophysical observatory, according to Doctor Abbot, has been to solve the question of whether the sun varies, and if so, what effects on our weather do the changes of solar heat produce?

Another section of Africa—Tanganyika territory—provided the scene for the Smithsonian-Chrysler five-game collecting expedition under Dr. William B. Mann. The expedition brought home about 1,700 live animals for the national zoological park under Smithsonian direction, including a pair of giraffes, five impalas, a greater kudu, an eland, a blue duiker, red dikers, three white-bearded krus, four war hogs and quantities of birds, small mammals and reptiles.

The success of the expedition was made possible by the hearty co-operation of the game department of Tanganyika, and an all-inclusive license from the governor. This proved invaluable, because of the numerous five gamekeepers who were constantly dropping in on the camp, asking to see the license, taking its number and the names of the party, and inquiring from the native hunter what the purpose of the expedition was. The license also enabled Doctor Mann to hire 90 porters of the Wam-boro and Wambugu tribes, who are so swift that they can run down animals.

Several attempts to capture young rhinos failed, due to the absence of young. Adult rhinos charged the party five times, without inflicting serious damage. Doctor Mann refutes the theory that the tick birds warn their hosts of an approaching enemy. These birds cluster quickly on the rhinoceros to eat the ticks which are so abundant on his body. At the approach of any suspicious object the tick birds make a loud twittering, thereby indicating to men the whereabouts of the rhinoceros.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed by the County Court of the State of Oregon for Coos County as executor of the Last Will and Testament of Mary L. Perkins, deceased, and all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased are hereby required to present them with the proper vouchers, within six months from the date of this notice to the undersigned as such executor at the law offices of J. J. Stanley, in First National Bank Building in Coquille, Coos County, Oregon.

Dated this 8th day of July, 1927.
J. D. Donaldson,
Executor of the Last Will and Testament of Mary L. Perkins, deceased.

NOTICE OF STREET IMPROVEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Coquille did by resolution duly adopted at a meeting of said Council held on the 5th day of July, 1927, and which resolution is kept of record in the office of the City Recorder in the record of the proceedings of said Council and reference to which resolution is hereby made and by such

reference the same is made a part of this notice, duly declare its intention and purpose to establish the grade and to improve Tenth street from the east line of the pavement on the Roosevelt highway thence easterly to Henry street, formerly the Coquille-Fairview County Road.

Said grade will be established according to the maps and data, and said improvement will be made in accordance with the plans and specifications of the City Engineer filed in the office of the City Recorder of said city on the 1st day of July, 1927, and the estimate of the probable cost of said improvement is the sum of \$8125.95 for 6 inch concrete pavement; \$7,587.51 for asphaltic concrete pavement on black base; and \$7917.21 for armor-plated concrete pavement.

Any and all objections or remonstrances to said proposed improvement must be made in writing and filed with the City Recorder within twenty days from the date of the first publication of this notice to-wit: within twenty days from the 8th day of July, 1927, and any and all such objections or remonstrances so presented or filed within said time will be heard and considered by the Common Council of said city before the passage of any ordinance providing for said improvement.

J. S. Lawrence,
City Recorder.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Portion of Willard Street

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council will receive sealed proposals or bids for the improvement of Willard Street from the South line of Sixth Street in Elliott's Addition to Coquille City, Coos County, Oregon, to a point 475 feet North of the North line of said Sixth Street, being the North end of said Willard Street, in accordance with the plans, specifications and estimates of the City Engineer of the City of Coquille filed in the office of the City Recorder on the 20th day of June, A. D., 1927, and pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 303 adopted by the Common Council on the 5th day of July, A. D., 1927, and the statutes of the State of Oregon therein referred to, all of which are hereby referred to and made a part of this notice.

Said improvement to be made at the cost and expense of the property benefited thereby.

Bids may be submitted for either the whole work necessary to complete the proposed improvement, or for such subdivision thereof as will not materially conflict with the completion of the remaining portion. Forms of bids and contract and bond may be had upon application to the City Recorder.

The Common Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids with or without cause.

Certified check in the sum of five per cent of the amount of bid to be made payable to the City of Coquille in the event that the bidder refuses to sign the contract and execute bond as provided in said Ordinance, said bond to be in the sum of fifty per cent of the total amount of the contract.

The work to be completed within thirty days from the date of awarding the contract, time being of the essence thereof.

Bids must be filed on or before the hour of 7:30 o'clock P. M. on the 18th day of July, A. D., 1927.

All bids must be made for a lump sum, accompanied by unit prices for the purpose of estimating additions or deductions made during the course of the work. The maps and data for the grade of said portion of said Street and estimates for the said improvement have been filed with the City Recorder prior to the date of the first publication of this notice and any objections to such maps, data, plans, specifications or estimates or that they do not conform to the petition for such grade and improvement must be made in writing and filed with the City Recorder prior to the date above specified for opening bids for such improvement and such objections shall be heard and considered by the Common Council.

J. S. Lawrence,
City Recorder.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Highway Construction Coos County, Oregon

Sealed bids for the construction on the North Bank Market road No. 5, Sta. 501 to Sta. 558 in Coos County, Oregon, will be received by the County Court of said County at its office in the Court House, Coquille, Oregon, until 10 A. M. on the sixteenth day of July, 1927.

No bid will be considered unless accompanied by cash, bidder's bond, or certified check, for an amount equal to at least 5 per cent of the total amount of the bid.

A corporate surety bond will be required for the faithful performance of the contract in a sum equal to the total amount of the bid.

Proposal blanks and full information for bidders may be obtained at the office of the Roadmaster in the Court House, Coquille, Oregon. The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals or to accept the proposal or proposals deemed best for said County.

COUNTY COURT OF
COOS COUNTY,
W. A. Gilbert,
Roadmaster.

NOTICE

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Coos County
In the Matter of the Estate of James M. Bright, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, May B. Bright, administratrix of the estate of James M. Bright, deceased, to the creditors of, and all persons having claims against, said deceased, to exhibit them with the necessary vouchers within six months



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To permit our operators to render more efficient assistance to the fire department of Coquille, the practice of giving out information to the general public of the location of fires, will be discontinued July 15. The co-operation of our customers in this action which has been taken in the interests of all will be greatly appreciated.

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