

# The Green Cloak

By YORKE DAVIS

## CHAPTER VII—Continued

His first questions were about the cloak; where she had bought it, and whether, so far as she knew, there were a good many others like it. The girl's whole interest, as shown by her replies, appeared to be to perfect her identification of it. She admitted, reluctantly, that hundreds of them had been sold in the city that fall; admitted that she herself had seen dozens on the street, the counterpart of it in cut and in color. But this particular cloak, she protested, she knew without a doubt to be her own. It was badly rumpled and had been exposed to the weather, was hardly fit to wear any more, but, notwithstanding these facts, she knew that it was hers.

"Was it in good condition the last time you wore it?"

"It looked as good as new."

"Then how can you be sure that the one which was advertised as found is the same one?"

Well, she was sure, and she proceeded to demonstrate the fact by a multitude of details—some of her own sewing, and a patch on the lining which she could not mistake.

"How did you come to lose the cloak?"

"I don't know, sir," she answered. "I just wish I did. I think one of the other housemaids stole it, sir, or borrowed it and didn't bring it back. I suppose they thought because I was sick I wouldn't have any use for my cloak. I didn't know nothin' about it until today. Then I looked for it and it was gone. So I begun askin' the other girls about it, and at last one of them said—she was readin' the want columns every day—she said there was a green cloak advertised found. So I went and got it. But I'd like to get hold of the girl that borrowed it. I'd make her take it and buy me a new one, or I'd have the law on her."

Ashton had listened to this speech with a show of somewhat greater interest. Evidently it occurred to him that an inquiry as to who the girl suspected of having taken it might be productive of results. She could easily be induced to tell all she knew about the other employees in the hotel. So much was clear. But when, instead of following up this lead, Doctor McAllister changed the subject abruptly, Ashton dropped back in his chair with a little gesture of impatience.

"For myself, the doctor's course puzzled me profoundly. That all this examination was a mere pretense, was, of course, obvious to me. We knew all about Jane Perkins, infinitely more about her than she knew about herself. We knew she had worn the cloak; knew that she, or the woman, rather, who had for a while inhabited her body, had actually murdered old Morgan. And if the object of the pretense were to keep Ashton amused, to make him believe that it was leading him to a possible solution of the mystery, then it had signally failed. Ashton was bored and rather disgusted. But it was not like my chief to fall, and certainly there was no look of defeat about his face. He was accomplishing something, I felt sure, though I could not even guess what that something was."

His next question seemed to me to be getting somewhat nearer the point, although it was the very one that made Ashton drop back in his chair with that gesture of impatience.

"Are your parents living, Jane?"

"No, sir. Neither of them."

"Have you lived in this country long?"

"Five or six years, sir."

"You're from New Zealand, or Australia, aren't you? You're not English?"

That question made Ashton sit up at any rate, and that the girl's answer to it.

"Wellington, New Zealand, sir. But how did you know?"

The answer had come instantly, but the next moment, with eyes perplexed, and with a vague gesture of her hands across them, she said:

"It's queer. It seems as if I had dreamed of talking to you about that."

"You knew, didn't you, Jane, that this Morgan who was murdered was a New Zealander? Oh, New Zealand has produced some great men. You're young, and I suppose you don't remember, perhaps have never heard of Billy Franklin and Josiah Haines. Old Morgan knew about them, though, I'll wager." He stood for a minute in silence, like one who tastes, in reminiscence, the flavor of an old story.

Then he pulled himself together and began asking the girl a series of rapid and, to me, rather meaningless questions. They were chiefly about Will Harvey, her acquaintance with him, how long ago it had begun and, in general way, to what length of intimacy it had gone. The girl answered all these questions freely enough and with no appearance of hesitation.

"You knew he lived at Oak Ridge, didn't you," the doctor asked finally, "only two or three blocks from the house where Morgan was murdered?"

"You don't think he had anythin'

to do with the murder, do you?" she asked. And then she laughed a little. "He wouldn't do nothin' of that kind, sir. He's just a silly."

"I'm inclined to think, Perkins," the doctor commented, "that that's a good diagnosis. I don't believe Will Harvey, even if he showed us every thought within that rather empty head of his, would ever take us very close to old Henry Morgan with his maps and his mysteries."

He turned away there rather sharply, his back to all of us; tossed his head back once or twice, with a gesture very familiar to me as characteristic of his periods of intense thought. Then, turning back, he spoke to Ashton.

"Did we tell you," he asked, "that Phelps and I discovered one map which your detectives had evidently overlooked, an odd sort of map, from a geographer's point of view, drawn



"Wilkins! And by Thunder I Believe I've Got Him."

on a very large scale? And the queer thing about it was, that it showed neither latitude nor longitude. There was nothing about it to indicate what part of the world it represented. I brought it away with me this morning. I'll show it to you presently if you care to look at it. It's there on the table in that big manila envelope."

"I beg your pardon, sir"—it was Wilkins who spoke—"I wonder if you could spare me now, sir. I'm supposed to be in the dining room at this hour."

The capacity of a trained servitor like Wilkins for eliminating himself, transforming himself into a mere piece of furniture, is something extraordinary. He had sat through the whole examination with a countenance of the same wooden imperturbability that he always wore on duty in the dining room.

The doctor unfastened the long flexible wires which he was harnessed to the instrument.

"I hope we haven't kept you too long, Wilkins," he said. "It was very good of you to come."

"Not at all, sir. Don't mention it, sir. Sorry I have to leave now."

"Well," said the doctor slowly, "I think we're about through, anyway. Jane here has been ill, and we mustn't keep her too long. I don't think of anything else I want to question you about, Jane. Thank you very much for helping us."

He removed the little telephone that hung before the girl's lips, and slipped a dollar bill into her hand as he spoke. Then he turned to Wilkins, who had risen, still in his harness, and was scrutinizing, with amused curiosity, the portentously named instrument to which he had been attached.

The doctor, with a smile, was unstrapping the small recording instruments that were attached to his chest and wrists. "We're very much obliged," he said. "You've really helped us materially. His tone was low and confidential, not intended for the girl's ears. "I don't think she's any the worse for her examination, Wilkins," he concluded.

## Rebuke to Emperor by Master of Music

At a concert in St. Petersburg, before a brilliant assemblage which included the czar and many members of his court, Franz Liszt was conducting a symphony. During the course of the music the czar began to converse in audible tones with one of his fair neighbors. In the very midst of the movement Liszt gave with his baton a signal for the music to cease, and the players stopped short.

The abrupt silence filled the audience with surprise, and the czar at once sent an equester to ask for an explanation. Whereupon Liszt sent back word:

"When the czar speaks, all the rest must be silent."

As this was a court regulation, the czar had to suffer the rebuke of a

foreign musician administered under the guise of obedience to court etiquette. Hans von Bulow, in relating his father-in-law's unprecedented act of courage, says George S. Hellman, who tells the story in "Lanes of Memory," said that he would have given a year of his life to have had such an opportunity to teach an emperor that art must be respected.

Medical science, lengthening the span of life, is constantly enlarging the number of old people. But prosperity and modern inventions are taking away the little tasks that used to keep them occupied.—Woman's Home Companion.

He nodded, when he spoke of the ventilator, to a grated opening in the wall, and my eyes followed him. I didn't see anything wrong with it myself, but the man's eyes were evidently more practiced than mine.

The doctor fed him also, and liberally, and the next moment the head waiter and the chambermaid were out in the corridor and the door was closed behind them.

At the sound of that closing door, Ashton exploded, not with impatient anger, as I half expected he would, but with pure amusement. He laughed loud and long, and without the slightest effort to suppress his mirth. Doctor McAllister paid no attention, but let him enjoy his laugh undisturbed.

"Well," said the district attorney when he had got his breath, "I'm really very much obliged. After hearing so much about these psychological examinations, it's interesting to have been present at one."

The doctor nodded rather grimly. "It's not half as interesting as it will be in about five minutes," he said.

He was busy with the instruments on the table as he spoke. "Do you care to wait and see the results?" he asked.

"Come—" said Ashton; "you don't really believe, do you, that you have found out anything, by some subtle, scientific process of yours, about that girl?"

"I know all about the girl already," said my chief. "But come, were you really taken in by the trick?"

"What trick?"

"Did you think, all the while, that it was the girl I was examining?"

A great light suddenly burst upon me, but Ashton was not so quick. His face went perfectly blank.

"Did I think it was the girl you were examining? What else could you have been doing? Who else was there to examine?"

"Wilkins!" said the doctor with a blow of his fist upon the table. "Wilkins! And, by thunder, I believe I have got him."

## CHAPTER VIII

"Wilkins!" repeated Ashton. "What sort of farce is this?"

"If it turns out to be a farce," said the doctor, "it will be of your making. If I were clothed in your authority and know only what I know at this moment, I would go to that telephone and call in some trusty man to watch him; and if my guess survives the test to which I am about to put it, I should, within the next half hour, order his arrest."

He turned away too quickly to see the shrug of tolerant contempt which was all the answer Ashton vouchsafed to this suggestion. He unscrewed the megaphone which had been attached to the instrument to which Wilkins had been harnessed, and attached to it a pair of ear tubes to listen through, a glass tube which looked like a thermometer and another tube which terminated in a glass bulb, half full of a red liquid. He put the listening tubes to his ears and started the machine.

"Give Ashton a cigar, and don't let him talk," was his injunction to me.

For nearly a quarter of an hour after that there was silence in the room; but at last he stopped the cylinder which was revolving in the instrument, and laid them on the table. Then he turned to us.

"I was right, Ashton," he said. "I know you want an explanation, and I'm going to give it; but if Wilkins is to be at large during the time it will take me to tell the story, I want the responsibility to be upon you, and not upon me. If I were in your place, I should order his arrest."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

## Where Science Fails

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## POULTRY

### BIG MONTHS IN EGG PRODUCTION

Fall and winter months may be termed the profit months in poultry culture for the reason that the big difference in production between heavy laying flocks and flocks which are not profitable comes during that season of the year. Almost any healthy hen will lay well toward spring.

It is an established fact that a flock must average approximately 100 eggs per hen per year in order to return the owner a profit. The difference between the monthly flock averages of good flocks and poor flocks comes mainly during the fall and winter months. In other words, the owners of profitable flocks have utilized methods which increase production at a time of year when fresh eggs are scarce and therefore higher in price.

Early hatches of early maturing birds could be set down as one of the most important points in getting heavier fall and winter production. Pullets that start laying during the latter part of October are from hatches that came before May 1, usually before April 1. They are birds that have been well fed and are fully developed. Good birds of this character will produce greatly over 100 eggs per year if they are properly fed and housed.

Proper feeding and housing are the second factors that must receive attention in order to get a good yield of fall and winter eggs. Hens will lay in the spring on a straight grain ration. At that time they are answering nature's demands and will lay if conditions are at all suitable. However, after the normal laying season is over, it is correspondingly hard to secure heavy production. This can only be done by using a ration that supplies plenty of animal protein, minerals, and succulent feed in addition to grain, which is needed as the basis of all rations. Houses must be warm, well ventilated and comfortable. In other words, the hen must be fed and managed so that she will feel like keeping right on with her egg production.

Parasites and diseases are the third source of trouble. Nothing will upset a good laying flock quicker than a lot of troublesome mites that make the birds want to leave their regular houses and roost in the trees.

### Preparing for Winter Around Poultry House

A thorough cleaning of the poultry house should take place at this time of year in preparation for winter. The clean-up should consist of removing nests, roosts, hoppers, drinking stands and all other equipment from the house. Each should get a thorough scrubbing with water and some good disinfectant. The house itself should be swept, ceilings, walls and floor. The floor should be well scraped clean of all hard, dried litter and droppings. Dirt floors should have at least six inches of the old dirt taken off and replaced with six inches of clean dirt.

The final clean-up step should be a thorough spraying of the inside of the house with some good disinfectant. Whitewash helps to brighten a dark house and a freshly whitewashed house has a tendency to encourage its owner to keep it looking clean for some time to come.

### Poultry Facts

A young guinea is like a young grouse or quail and will hide when scared. They do not make any noise at all when they hide from a supposed enemy and are very hard to find.

Some poultrymen place a large box of coal or wood ashes in each section of their laying houses. The hens dust in the ashes and undoubtedly remove many body lice by the process.

Feeding whole, dry oats as a large part of or all whole grain ration is poor business. Even though the oats are plump and bright, the husks make them poor feed except in limited quantities.

The Missouri College of Agriculture has recently completed some experiments in which they find that in feeding hens, soy-bean meal may be used in place of meat scrap, thereby reducing the cost of feed. They also found it paid to feed mineral.

While the hen isn't exactly a grazing animal, she does tuck a lot of grass under her belt during a summer day. And when she can't get it, she must have sprouted oats, cabbage, mangels, or such, if she's going to gladden you with eggs.

If we expect winter eggs we must produce our pullets from hens that are bred to lay during the winter.

Thoroughly spraying the poultry house, especially the roosting and laying quarters, with crude oil or coal oil will destroy the red mites.

The period when pullets start laying is a critical one. Pullets which are due to begin to lay at freezing weather usually wait until spring. This means an entire loss for several months.

## The DAIRY

### GET RID OF ALL BOARDER COWS

Get rid of the boarder cows and make the good ones produce more milk is the advice of Prof. H. A. Hopper at the State College of Agriculture to New York state dairymen.

The milk situation is largely in the hands of Empire state producers, he says, and if they take a few steps to insure plenty of milk during the next few weeks, the usual shortage period, they can do much to meet the demands of the New York market.

To increase milk production, dairymen should feed their cows more, especially more protein; they should dispose of boarders and give their feed to the good cows; stable the cows when the weather is cold or rainy; be sure the cows get plenty of water, and take good care of cows that will freshen soon.

Cows that are on short pasture should have green fodder. Good second growth in meadows may be purchased if the cows are managed carefully. They should have a feeding of dry hay before they are turned into the meadow, and the grass, of course, should be dry, for they may bloat if they eat wet green grass.

To increase the protein cows get, they may be fed a mixture of 200 pounds corn or hominy, 100 barley, 300 wheat bran, 200 cottonseed meal, 100 linsed oil meal, and 100 pounds gluten feed. Dairymen who have peas, oats and barley may mix 1,200 pounds of the ground mixture with 400 cottonseed meal, 200 gluten feed, and 200 lb meal.

Cows that will freshen soon should be in good condition; grain fed to them is well invested, Professor Hopper says.

Nothing helps more nor is a better investment than a good supply of drinking water for cows. Milk is mostly water, but cows can't make milk without it. Buckets in the barn quickly pay for themselves.

### Progress Being Made in Dairy Industry Is Good

Not so many years ago the milk production of the average cow was around 3,000 pounds a year. Now it is over 4,000 pounds a year and it will go higher. Last year 12,200 cows owned by 700 Illinois dairymen averaged 7,500 pounds of milk. The average feed cost of these cows was \$77.53 and the average value of the product \$187.65. These cows were "owned and operated" by men who were interested in their business, for they were members of dairy herd improvement associations. How would it do for some of our orators to go and tell them that we know enough about production, and that prosperity lies in something else?—Ohio Farmer.

### Feed Green Soy Beans to Improve Milk Flavor

Experiments just reported by the United States Department of Agriculture show that feeding green soy beans to dairy cows just before milking tends to improve the flavor of the milk. The soy beans were fed in quantities up to 30 pounds per cow. The soy beans were first fed when the plants began to form pods and were continued until the beans had reached full size, but were not hard. While soy beans improve the milk flavor, rape fed green just before milking had the opposite effect, imparting an objectionable flavor to the milk.

### Dairy Facts

Always feed grain according to the amount of milk produced.

When calves are fed grain in stanchions, each gets its share.

Alfalfa has a high feeding value in that it is palatable and nutritious.

Three-leaf clover is as lucky as four-leaf, if the dairymen have enough of it.

Dairymen should feed all the legume hay and silage that a cow will eat up clean.

A good dairy cow probably consumes more water than any other domestic animal. The more feed consumed, the more water the cow requires.

Provide silage for the herd. No dairyman can reach real permanent prosperity without a silo, or at least the silo will materially increase his stability and prosperity.

One form of garget is chronic and "catching," and if you get that into your herd, the only cure is to sell off the affected cows.

The important thing for the dairyman is to provide a convenient place and an abundance of hot water for washing and rinsing all utensils.

Herd uniformity and beauty may seem to have an intangible value only. But when it comes to selling the offspring that view is quickly changed. Beauty is an asset.

## FARM STOCK

### FEEDING WORK TEAM IN WINTER

Moderate feeding of work horses in winter, always accompanied by moderate daily exercise, will bring a team through the idle season in shape to tackle good spring work providing they are grained well when put to their tasks.

Azoturia, which is a strange disease that is largely caused by periods of idleness mixed with periods of work, is something moderate exercise and reasonable winter care will overcome or prevent. Heavy work teams kept in stables when they should have open-air exercise daily are sometimes subject to this trouble.

When alfalfa meadows are available, the late fall growth may be utilized by horses without damaging the seeding and greatly reducing the cost of wintering them.

Work horses in recent tests have been fed a ration of alfalfa hay and shredded corn fodder in early winter, later getting some six to eight pounds of ear corn daily so as to prevent them going off too greatly in flesh before spring.

It was reckoned that with alfalfa hay at \$16 a ton and shredded corn fodder at \$7 a ton, the daily rations 1½ the early winter did not cost more than about 9 cents a day per head. They ate about 8 pounds of alfalfa and probably about 6 pounds of corn fodder as a daily average. Then when the shelled corn was added to improve the condition the ration cost all the way from 18 to 20 cents per head daily.

From the middle of December until February 15 or so, the horses lost about a pound or more daily on this cheap ration.

Edmonds and Crawford, at the Illinois experiment station, have had good results in feeding growing draft fillies by using in the first winter sheaf oats and alfalfa hay with half an ordinary ration of oats and bran. The roughage was fed in proportion of one part sheaf oats to two parts alfalfa. Three pounds of oats to one pound of bran was the grain ration.

### Profitable Hog Needs Good, Suitable Ration

The profitable hog is the one that eats the most. It takes about one-eighth of a full ration (by this is meant giving the hog all it will eat) to maintain the hog's body. Then if you fed only enough to maintain the hog's body, you could feed a 100-pound hog a whole year and it would still weigh 100 pounds and you would be out your feed for nothing. To illustrate this, suppose that on account of feed being high you feed only two pounds of feed per day. A full ration is four per cent of the live weight. The average weight from 100 to 200 pounds is 150 pounds. Four per cent of 150 is six pounds—one-eighth of six is three-quarters pound—the amount required for maintaining the hog. Then, if you feed only two pounds per day you only have 1¼ pounds to make gain. If you are feeding a balanced ration every three pounds of feed above that required for maintenance will make a pound of gain. Divide the 1¼ pounds by three and you see that you can get only five-twelfths pounds of gain per day when feeding two pounds of feed per day. Then 240 days will be required to make the hog gain 100 pounds. You are feeding two pounds per day—two times 240 equals 480 pounds. Hence, it took 480 pounds of feed to make 100 pounds of gain.

### Live Stock Squibs

Cholera killed a million and a half hogs last year.

Live stock thrives on good pastures, not on vivid imaginations.

While bluegrass pasture does not rank as high as rape or alfalfa as a forage crop for hogs, it does have considerable value for fattening pigs.

Wheat skim milk is fed with grain, six pounds are worth, on an average, one pound of grain. Whey has about half the value of skim milk.

The Nebraska station got good results from wintering brood sows on a ration of three parts, by weight, chopped alfalfa hay and one part corn.

Animals can live longer without solid foods than without water. During hot summer days the pigs should be given cool, fresh water at least three times daily.

Corn silage usually produces over twice as much gain on cattle as does sorghum silage.

Potatoes are pretty fair for fattening pigs. They should be cooked in kettles or in a special commercial feed cooker.

Hog mange causes a great loss every year. Not only do many hogs bring a lower price on the market, but they also fail to put on economical gain. Dipping or sprinkling with crude petroleum is advised.