



The Free Traders

By Victor Rousseau

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(Continued from last week)

"Think, too, Lee," she answered calmly. "And now I know that—somehow—I have always known my father was no longer alive. The bond between us was very close, though I was away from him so many years."

Lee told her about the discovery of the mine and his encounter with Leboeuf, stalling over the story of the Indian's attack on him. Then Joyce caught sight of his hands, and was all sympathy and dismay, and took him into a hut and bathed them and bandaged them.

Father McGrath had gone to visit an old Indian in the neighborhood, and the two talked a long time, and then ate a simple meal together in the presence of the children, who stared at Lee over their soup dishes out of their large, black eyes.

"It is strange, the mine being so near the house," Joyce said. "You know Mother and I were never quite convinced that there was a mine. We were never quite sure that my father hadn't a delusion on that subject, and that Leboeuf, who was devoted to him, wasn't humoring him."

"Old Leboeuf must have been living there for a long time. He had some grudge against Hathway, you know. He would have killed him once, if my father hadn't intervened."

She reverted to her father's death, and Lee was reluctantly compelled to give her the particulars.

"He may have suffered a stroke and have fallen over the cliff," he said. "At any rate, his death was instantaneous. You may be sure he did not suffer."

It was when he spoke of his discovery of her mother's grave that Joyce showed signs of breaking down.

"She was ill such a long time," she said. "She was paralyzed, and there was nothing that could be done for her. When she died my father and Leboeuf carried her body away into the forest by night. They would never tell me where she had been buried, and I remember I used to protest about the house, always hoping to discover her grave. I suppose that was a part of my father's madness, in a way. He wanted her to be near him where he was working."

It was after dinner that Lee opened the subject nearest to his heart.

"Dear, you know what I want to ask," he said. "Will you let me take you south with me before the snows? And will you let Father McGrath marry us before we start?"

"Oh, Lee—when?" she asked.

"Today, dearest."

"Oh, not today, Lee?"

"Tomorrow, then? And we'll spend our honeymoon in the log house, just for a day or two of happiness together before taking up the trail. I know it will always be your home, Joyce, and that we shall often come back here, how like the unhappiness of the past is over."

"Walt, Lee!" Joyce was wrinking her forehead in that manner that always distressed him so much. "I want to ask you something: Have you really told me everything—from the time when I had my fall from the horse until I awakened in the forest with you? Or have you—hidden something from me—out of consideration for me?"

"Why do you ask that, dear?"

"Because I—I feel that you have, Lee. I don't know why. It's just an instinct I have. And if there is something more, I should like to be told, because—because I have a feeling that it may help me to recover that part of my life that is still a blank to me."

Lee felt in a quandary. It was impossible to wish to keep anything from Joyce; and yet he felt that she ought never to know the incidents of that day and night at Siston lake.

"If you don't want to tell me, dear—" Joyce went on.

Lee had to tell her then, and did, minimizing the affair in all but its essentials. He said nothing about his fight with the Free Traders, but told her how she had been kidnapped by the two men and taken to Hathway's camp, and how, in the absence of the band, he had rescued her.

"And you say I was unconscious all that time?" asked Joyce. "I wish I could remember. It seems so strange that part of my memory should come back to me, and not all of it. Who were those men and what did they want of me? Were they Rathway's men? And what did he want?"

"I think the explanation is simple, dear," Lee answered. "Rathway wants the secret of your father's mine. In some way he must have learned that you were coming back to the range. He sent his men to intercept you. They probably told you that Rathway had your father in his power, and that is why you proposed to accompany them, and why you didn't want me."

"Not want you, Lee? I wanted you from the first minute I saw you. I'll tell you a secret, shall I? Well—I fell in love with you that evening in the hotel, and I've been in love with you ever since. There!"

"But why was I riding in the range?" she resumed. "What was it on my mind so terrible that there seems a sort of blackness there? I felt that you could

save me," she shook her head. "No, there's more to it than that, my dear. And—I don't know—perhaps I shall never know."

Lee slipped his arm about her. "Joyce, dear, don't try to think. It doesn't matter. You are no longer the unknown girl, traveling alone through a wilderness, whose disappearance would arouse no suspicion. Once you are my wife, Hathway cannot harm you. And then you have Father McGrath behind you, and the church that he represents, and the missionary societies behind that. Hathway's not fool enough to buck a powerful organization by any crime—his only sin is to be low and sell all the liquor he can before we put him out of business. Tell me how I'll marry you soon."

"But the mine, Lee? And poor Leboeuf?"

"We'll look into those matters during our little honeymoon. Tell me that it shall be tomorrow."

Joyce hesitated; and while she hesitated they heard the tinkle of bells, and Father McGrath appeared in his horse sleigh, coming up the hill.

They went to the door. The jolly priest waved his hand and pulled in.

"Well, Mcestair Anderson, and so joy's back again!" he cried heartily, gripping Lee's hand with a fist of iron. "The hard going of the horse through the snow, and I reckon I'll have to take to the dogs mighty soon. This is winter for sure at last!"

He scrutinized the pair keenly. "Ye hanna made another of your queer changes?" he inquired, with an absurd affectation of archness that set them both laughing.

"No; I've fulfilled the conditions that were imposed on me," Lee answered, and with that narrated his adventures in the mine.

"And Miss Pelly has promised to marry me tomorrow," he ended mendaciously.

"N—not tomorrow, Lee," said Joyce. And Father McGrath, who had been listening to Lee's story with many speculations, looked so severe that Lee had a sudden terror that he would refuse to perform the ceremony.

"The day after, then, Joyce?" Lee pleaded.

Joyce interposed a veto this time, but was blushing like a rose and looking adorably confused.

"Well—" began the father. "Well, I'm not in favor of such queerness. Have you two young folks considered the consequences of matrimony, the awful and inevitable consequences? Have ye thought of the horror of sitting down opposite each other at the breakfast table mornin' after mornin' for the rest of your lives together? Have ye thought of the stunning responsibilities of the married state?"

Lee was beginning to grow alarmed, but of a sudden he discerned a twinkle in the worthy father's eyes. And suddenly Father McGrath smote Lee violently upon the back.

"I'll do it, mon!" he shouted. "I'll do it. This is the one practical joke that is permitted to a minister. I believe in matrimony. 'Tis the grand end of the dispensations of Our Lord on earth! Mon's the time I've hummed and hawed and pretended na to be willin' when a young pair's come to me to marry them, he thinking he's got the world's desire by the forelock, and she proud and happy w' her mon, but by a means quite all that his fond imagination pictures her."

"And I've laughed in my sleeve and docht, Ha, ha, ye scullions, 'tis the trap ye're asking me to spring on ye, and I'm going to shut it fast." And so I've married them. And it'll no be so valry long, mark ye, before they're coming to me w' their grievances."

"Oh, Father, my wife does this and

roll;

That it is our purpose to organize a tunnel district under the provisions of Chapter 219, Laws of Oregon for 1921, entitled "An Act providing for the organization of tunnel districts for the construction, operation and maintenance of tunnel systems, and for the payment of the cost of such systems and expenses incident thereto."

That the lands embraced within the boundaries of the district hereinafter described lie in a contiguous body at either end of the proposed tunnel connecting the same;

That the lands of the undersigned petitioners, and all lands included within said district, will be benefited through the construction of the proposed tunnel;

That the lands included within the boundaries of said district lie within Multnomah County, Oregon, and Washington County, Oregon; the greater portion of which district lands are situated in Washington County, Oregon.

That the boundaries of the proposed tunnel district are as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at a point, which is the center of the Northwest Quarter (NW¹/₄) of Section Nine (9), Township One (1) South, Range One (1) East of the Willamette Meridian, within the corporate limits of the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon; thence east Three-quarters (¾) of a mile to the southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter (NE¹/₄) of said Section Nine (9); thence northerly along the east line of said Section Nine (9) to an intersection with the center line of Arthur Street; if extended; thence easterly along the said center line of Arthur Street and its extension thereof, to the center line of Front Street; thence northerly along the center line of Front Street to the center line of Sherman Street; thence easterly along the center line of Sherman Street and its extension to the harbor line on the west bank of the Willamette River; thence north along the westerly harbor line of the Willamette River to a point in the center line of Sixteenth Street, extended; thence southerly along what would be the center line of Sixteenth Street, if extended, and the center line of Sixteenth Street to the center line of Washington Street; thence westerly along the center line of Washington Street to the center line of Sixteenth Street; thence southerly along the center line of Sixteenth Street, if extended, and the center line of Sixteenth Street to the center line of Broadway Street; thence southerly along the center line of Broadway Street to the center line of Grant Street; thence easterly along the center line of Grant Street to a point which is One Hundred and Thirty (130) feet west from the center line of Marquam County Road, also called Terwilliger Boulevard; thence southerly and westerly, parallel with and One Hundred and Thirty (130) feet westerly and northerly from said center line of Marquam Road, also called Terwilliger Boulevard, to a point which is One Hundred and Thirty (130) feet northerly from a point at the division of said Marquam Road and Terwilliger Boulevard and in the center line of both said road and boulevard; thence westerly parallel with and One Hundred and Thirty (130) feet northerly from the center line of Marquam County Road to a point where such line intersects the northerly line of Marquam Road Addition to the City of Portland, Oregon, which point is approximately One Hundred and Thirty (130) feet northerly along said northerly boundary line of said Marquam Road Addition, from the center line of Marquam County Road as now located, and in Section Nine (9), Township One (1) South, Range One (1) East of the Willamette Meridian; thence northerly along the said Marquam Road Addition to the northeast corner thereof, which point is the most northerly point of Lot Fourteen (14) of Block Three (3) of said addition; thence due west to the west line of the Northeast Quarter (NE¹/₄) of the Northwest Quarter (NW¹/₄) of said Section Nine (9); thence following a straight line in a southerly direction to the center of Section Eight (8) in Township One (1) South, Range One (1) East of the Willamette Meridian, in line shall be followed if its true bearing varies somewhat from the true bearing as given; for brevity in the above description.

WHEREFORE, our petitioners pray that said district be organized as in said act provided.

A. E. Roy, Portland, Oregon, Rt. 5, Box 41, 22 acres in district.

J. E. Nicholson, Hess & Doach Rd., Pugland, Oregon, Rt. 5, Box 42-A, 1 acre.

Madin Meier, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 56, 10.40 acres.

Mrs. J. Sandstrom, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 42, 1 acre.

E. R. Rogers, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 51, 20 acres.

Theo. Dillster, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 50, 4 1/2 acres.

Endry Holmes, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 49 A, 5 acres.

David Steiff, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 47, 2 acres.

Barbara Steiff, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 47, about 1 1/2 acres.

Albrecht Steiff, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 47, 50 acres.

E. R. Traylor, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 49, about 1 acre.

Charles Wilson, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 46, 9 acres.

A. G. Carlson, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 44, 5 acres.

William Wolff, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 42, 6 acres.

John Carlson, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 15, 2 acres.

Thomas Steiff, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 49, 4 acres.

A. H. Rogers, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 51, 3.95 acres.

Marena Robertson, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 197, 10 acres.

Bernice Robertson, 761 Ellis Avenue, Portland, 1 acre.

J. M. Rogers, Portland, Rt. 5, 1/2 acre.

John Zurbuchen, Portland, Rt. 5, 1/2 acre.

Patrick Harnett, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 572, 19 acres.

A. Malston, Portland, Rt. 5, 7 1/2 acres.

Gleum Foulkes, Portland, Rt. 5, 7 1/2 acres.

John H. Green, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 52, 1 1/2 acres.

John B. Whitton, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 54, 1/2 acre.

Marion V. Povey, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 65, 3 1/2 acres.

Abraham Meister, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 68.

Martha E. Plummer, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 66, 10 acres.

Chas. Lehmann, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 67, 22 1/2 acres.

John Lehmann, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 67, 10 acres.

Marguerite Doach Campbell, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 69, 17 acres.

C. H. Pierce, Portland, Rt. 6, Box 423, 2 acres.

Ross M. Plummer, 260 3rd St., Portland, 2 1/2 acres.

John W. Cullen, Portland, Rt. 6, Box 350 C, 46 acres.

A. W. Mollin, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 563, 52 acres.

Geo. B. Thompson, 454 Broadway, Portland, 1 acre.

Thos. T. George, Portland, Rt. 5, 19 acres.

Beale E. Zimmerman by W. A. Zimmerman, 191 E. 65th St., N. Portland, 2 acres.

August F. Kohler, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 62, 4 acres.

E. Hoffman, Hillsdale, 10 acres.

Joseph M. Head, 578 C. C. Drive, Portland, 1 Lot.

H. Tannier, Sherwood, Rt. 4, 100 acres.

C. J. Stickney, Aloha, 3 1/2 acres.

L. Semler, 223 Jackson St., Portland, 1 lot.

M. Glickman, 243 Alder St., Portland, 4 lots.

S. G. Schlotthauer, Portland, Rt. 5, Box 64, 1 acre.

Earl Sandin, 11th & Yamhill Sts., Portland, 1 acre.

A. G. Dunnagan, 11th & Yamhill Sts., Portland, 100x100 lot.

G. D. Kenner, Portland, Rt. 6, Box 380, 2 1/2 acres.

Chas. E. Runyon, 297 East 24th Street, Portland, 10,000 square feet.

E. J. Jaeger, 326 Albemarle Terrace, Portland, 2 lots.

Colonial Realty Co., 474 Salmon St., Portland, 1 Lot 50x112.

F. Friedlander, 722 Flanders St., Portland, 1 lot.

Jennie Levy, 721 Flanders St. 8 lots.

L. Lansing Stout, 657 Revereview Drive, Portland, 3 lots.

Frank E. Watkins, 232 Stark St., 4 lots.

J. C. Luckel, 618 Front St., Portland, 2 lots.

Margaret C. Paget (By R. Lee Paget) 233 1/2 Stark St., Portland, Oregon, 1 Lot.

Louis Rosenblatt, 593, 21st St., Portland, Oregon, 2 lots.

Edith W. Stubbs (By R. W. Stubbs her attorney in fact) 75, Sixth St., Portland, Oregon, 5 lots.

Alfred L. Stone, 52, Trinity Place, Portland, Oregon, 1 lot.

Carr Gangsbroke, Wilcox Building, Portland, Oregon, 1 lot.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Washington County.

In the Matter of the Estate of Arthur H. Spraner, Deceased

Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned has been duly confirmed, as Executrix of the last Will and Testament of said deceased, and has duly qualified as such.

Now therefore, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to present the same, together with proper vouchers therefor, to the undersigned at the law offices of Hare, McAlear & Peters, in the Shute Savings Bank building, in Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated this 21st day of May, 1925.

Katie M. Spraner,
Executrix of said last Will and Testament.
Hare, McAlear & Peters,
Attorneys for Executrix. Adv

A FREAK
Old Codger—Yessir, eighty-four I be, an' every blessed tooth in my 'ead same as th' day I was born.

ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING HELD

The annual school meeting held in the High School Auditorium Monday evening, June 15, did not create very much enthusiasm. Mr. F. W. Gady was elected Director for three years to succeed himself. It had been expected there would be another candidate in the field but no other name was mentioned, so on motion of J. B. Kamberger Mr. Gady received the unanimous vote of the meet.

The only contest was for the office of School Clerk, where J. B. Kamberger and C. E. Hedge were nominated. Mr. Kamberger won out by a vote of 15 to 7.

The Clerk's report was on the board and showed the district in a healthy financial condition, and the only comment made (and that was made after the meeting adjourned) was that insurance was very heavy when compared to the estimated value of the school property.

APPLY NOW FOR SEED INSPECTION

Growers wanting inspection of grain and potatoes for certification for seed purposes should make application to the county agent at Hillsboro immediately so that he can arrange for the inspector to give this service. Do not wait until the grain or potato field is ready for inspection before you apply because it may be impossible for the inspector to rearrange his schedule to comply with your request. If you want inspection of crops for seed purposes make your application early.

O. T. McWhorter, County Agricultural Agent.

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NOTICE OF PRESENTATION OF PETITION FOR FORMATION OF TUNNEL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the petition hereto attached asking for the organization of a Tunnel District under the Tunnel District Act, passed by the Legislature of the state of Oregon in the year 1921, will be presented at a regular meeting of the County Court of Washington County, at the county courthouse, said County, in the City of Hillsboro, State of Oregon, at 10 o'clock A. M. of Monday, the 6th day of July, 1925.

PETITION FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF A TUNNEL DISTRICT

For the Construction, Maintenance, and Operation of Tunnel Systems and the Payment of the Cost of Such Systems and Expenses Incident Thereto.

To the Honorable County Court of Washington County, Oregon, and to the Honorable E. J. Ward, County Judge:

We, the undersigned petitioners, respectively show, and say:

That each of us is over the age of twenty-one years, duly qualified, and the owner of Five Thousand (5,000) square feet, or more, of land situated within the boundaries of the district hereinafter described, and whose name appears on the last assessed