

BELOW ZERO

A Romance of the North Woods



By Harold Titus
W.N.U SERVICE

He shook out the single sheet of paper with a sound that troubled. "Dear Friend," he read. "In times of trouble it is up to women to stand together. I have known something for weeks that has been on my conscience. If you will look back you will see that most of the trouble which has come to you has been since the man who calls himself John Steele came to work for you. You may recall the things he apparently has done in your behalf; consider the things that have happened. This superintendent of yours conspired with Tucker, your roadmaster, to cause two wrecks on your railroad. He discharged Tucker to make his game seem convincing. Your barn was burned at his orders and a harmless tramp lost his life in it. "Certain accomplishments have been placed to his credit. Your property, were it not for its being so heavily involved, would be on its feet. If your creditors should force you out now, they would be in a position to make the operation pay from the hour they took charge, thanks to what this so-called John Steele has done for them, under guise of doing it for you. "All this may sound beyond belief, but just ask this Steele whether or not he is using his own name or if he is not known elsewhere as John Steele Belknap. "Yours in sympathy. "A FRIEND."

His heart seemed to have stopped. Strength went from his legs. "Why, that's a lie!" he choked. "Wait a minute!" She had risen now, and stood before him. "What," she asked, as though her voice would break, "what is your name?" "Why, that part's all right. I can explain it. I am John Belknap, I did—" "And this! Explain this! I remembered, you see!" She whipped a telegram from her desk, thrusting it towards him. It was from the State Bank of Ferryville, the nearest bank to Witch Hill. It read: "Witch Hill Lumber Co. owned by Belknap Lumber Co., Chicago stop S. Melver is superintendent." "Why... why, yes, Ellen. That's all true. But, you see, I couldn't let you think I'm who I am. . . . I couldn't come in here and offer to help you, admitting my own name, could I?" "Why not?" she asked bitingly. "You wouldn't have believed me, feeling as you have about my father." She laughed then, with a wildness which startled him. "Right! How right you are! I wouldn't have believed, no! I wouldn't have let a Belknap set foot on my property! I didn't believe that anonymous letter when it came in; I didn't want to. My first impulse was to tear it up, forget it. . . . And then I remembered that my father always said a man who was right could stand investigation. I looked up Witch Hill, I telegraphed that bank and you've read the answer. . . ."

She paused, panting. "But, Ellen—" "Never mind! I'm going to talk now! It's a woman's privilege to talk, isn't it?"—a bit hysterically. "I've heard it said it's a woman's privilege to have the last word, too. . . . Well, I'm having it, John Steele Belknap. "No, you didn't dare reveal yourself. So you have a superintendent write a lie. You may have worked as camp foreman for him, but not as John Steele." He knew you weren't John Steele. He knew your full name because it was your father's money that paid him, your father's money that sent you in here!" "Ellen, Ellen! Listen to me! He's a poor, old, ignorant man, Sandy. He's a man who's never written a letter of recommendation before. He simply forgot. . . . Don't you see?" "Do you expect me to believe that?" she asked, suddenly calm. He drew a deep breath. "No," he said, and shook his head

"It sounds . . . It won't do, true as it is!" "And will any of the rest do? Can you explain all that's happened? You've done things, yes, but I see now why you did them. You did just enough to get the job in shape so that when your father and his partner and his son—hissing the word—"ruin this company, it will still be a going concern. You've made a showing in the woods; you've done just enough for the mill to keep the job afloat until you could close down on us!" She made a dismissing gesture with one small fist. "I've been such a fool! I suppose it was all staged, that first encounter you had with Paul Gerbel here. Well, you did it admirably. I'll give you credit for that. You fooled me; you worked me up emotionally until I was ready to grasp at anything for help. And I grasped . . . at Tom Belknap's son!" "It sounds logical," he said wearily. "It sounds reasonable. It looks like a staged drama, yes. But, Ellen dear, won't you believe me when I say that I came to you that night determined to fight my father! That I had no inkling of the trouble here, that I stumbled into it and that when I found a woman was running this job I was bowled over!" "Won't you believe that I jumped in, first, to settle a grudge against my father and that I have gone far enough now to be convinced that he has no hand in all this trouble that has been made for—" "Stop! Stop! I beg of you, stop!" she broke in, stamping a foot. "Don't treat me like a child, John Belknap!"



"Don't Treat Me Like a Child, John Belknap!"

If you'd come in here and told me your name, it would have been different, but you started with a lie, a lie! A carefully prepared lie! And anything founded on a lie must be evil; it doesn't need all the logic pointed out in this letter that came to me today to give it the color of evil! (Continued Next Week)

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MAKE the most of your reading hours. Enjoy the wit, the wisdom, the companionship, the charm that have made the ATLANTIC for seventy-five years, America's most quoted and most cherished magazine. Send \$1. (mentioning this ad) to The Atlantic Monthly, 8 Arlington St., Boston.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Nazarene Church

Rev. Willard P. Andersen, Pastor
"O Come, let us Worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our maker, for he is God, today if ye will hear his voice harden not your heart. . . . The Lord is great in Zion; and he is high above all the people." Let's come together on the Sabbath day and worship him in liberty and love. Our services are open to all. Sunday school at 9:45 A. M. Morning worship at 11 o'clock. N. Y. P. S. devotional service at 7 P. M. Preaching at 8 P. M. Prayer and Praise 8 P. M.

Congregational Church

Rev. Charles F. Clarke, Pastor
Well Friends: We have a familiar saying "live and let live" but there is a better one "Live and help live" Jesus came to help us live and to help us help others to live, so Next Sunday if you come to this church you will hear a sermon at 11 A. M. on "The expansive Power of Christ's life in us." And if you come at 8 on "Creative Living" Our Bible School tries to help all, young and old, to understand the way of Christian living and the young people try to work out for themselves their understanding of that life, for Christianity above all else is life. Please note change of hour for evening service. There will be a special meeting Monday at 6:30, after supper Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Warner will be guest speakers, their talk will be illustrated by moving pictures.

Methodist Church

George F. Gordon, Pastor
The third message of a series of six will be delivered Sunday at eleven o'clock, the subject being "Progress Pictured In The Word." A message with general outline of the advance of the human family. Developing the fascinating story of growth in intelligence and morality. You will enjoy this message. The trend of society is upward. Many think it is not. A view of a God of vengeance is convincing that "the world moves onward and upward". Try to associate the God of two thousand years ago who seemed to delight in the taking of life and spilling of blood of innocent babes and men and women with a God of love. Don't fail to hear this message. It is up to date theology. If you are interested in a modern phase of interpretation we invite you to our service at eleven o'clock. You will enjoy our Sunday classes. We have competent teachers and are prepared to take care of various groups and ages. The young people meet at five thirty Sunday evenings. You will enjoy the fellowship of this group. old outstanding operators licenses is the youth.

Church of Christ

Rev. G. W. Springer
Friday evening is our quarterly fellowship meeting. A banjo quartet from Portland has promised to be with us. Another special feature will be an accordion and a (Continued on Back Page)

The Cook's Nook

EVEN PAPA SMILES WHILE EATING IN PEACE

Rugs are being beaten on backyard lines. Curtainless windows testify to sudy activities in the laundry. The scent of moth balls in laid-away winter clothes vies with the smell of paint and floor wax. Spring cleaning is on!

No good homemaker would want to add to the above description—"and papa gulps a cold and hasty lunch set forth on the kitchen cabinet!" We hope those days are gone forever (and so does papa!)

In the first place, spring housecleaning isn't the job it used to be. The magined machine age has brought new appliances and labor-savers to lighten household tasks and modern canning and packaging methods have so revolutionized meal-getting that the Life Partner can have his regular meals in peace without ado.

THROW OUT, GET NEW . . .

While house cleaning is progressing in the kitchen, the recipe files should not be neglected. Why not use one of your rest periods to go over your cook books, and throw away or cross out the tasteless, the not-so-good, and the recipes that are not old or good enough to be traditional, but have simply grown monotonous through the years? Paste in the new ones you've copied, clipped out, or saved, and be on the lookout for new ones.

[Then, when you buy those new gadgets, when you set out the new flower-box, or put the new tie-backs on the curtains, you can have new dishes, all in keeping.

The recipes given here are quick and easy ones, so they will be admirable for use during your Spring cleaning days.

HOT LAMB SHORT CAKE

Use left-over roast lamb for this quick luncheon dish.

2 cups white sauce
1 tsp. onion
1 1/2 cups lamb
1 cup cooked peas
Salt and pepper

DIXIE PEACHES

6 peach halves
1/4 cup jam
1/4 cup chredded coconut

12 Holland rusks

Make a medium white sauce this way: Stir 1 tablespoon cornstarch into 1 1/2 tablespoons oil in a frying pan; season. Cook for 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Stir in a cup of milk and stir over fire until sauce thickens. Boil 3 minutes and strain. Into the white sauce, put the onion (minced) the minced cooked lamb, and the peas; season to taste. Heat the Holland rusks and put creamed mixture between and on top each rusk.

MALLOW WHIP

The refrigerator will do most of the work for you in this recipe:

1/2 lb. marshmallows
1/2 pkg. pasteurized dates
1/2 pt. heavy cream
1/4 teasp. vanilla
1 doz. ladyfingers or nabiscoes.

Cut the pitted dates into quarters lengthwise with wet scissors; also marshmallows. Break nutmeats into pieces. Whip 1/2 cup cream until stiff; add vanilla and fold in dates, marshmallows and nuts. Chill in refrigerator for at least an hour. To serve, line individual serving dishes with halved ladyfingers or nabiscoes. Fill with the marshmallow mixture and cover with remaining cream which has been whipped. Serves six.

BUSY DAY CHOCOLATE PIE

Even pie can be made on a bustling day, if you make the filling this way: Dissolve a package of choclate kremel in 1/2 cup cold milk, then add 1 1/2 cups hot milk and stir until it comes to a boil. Remove from stove, add beaten yolk of 1 egg, and cook 2 minutes longer, stirring constantly. Pour the mixture into a pie shell and when cold, top with whipped cream. For a quick crust make a "melba" one with graham cracker crumbs, or newer still, make the crust with vanilla wafers.

PIRATE BARS

14 graham crackers
1/2 teasp. salt
1 pkg. pasteurized dates
1 cup chopped nutmeats
3 eggs
1 cup brown sugar
1 1/2 teasp. baking powder

Crumble graham crackers fine (you need 1 1/4 cups cracker crumbs) mix with salt and baking powder. Beat the eggs and sugar together and combine the two mixtures, (Continued on back page)

BUSHNELL'S STUDIOS

In the Columbia Building in Portland. A dozen photographs taken now before the intensive rush comes will solve many gift problems. Special service rendered in the making of photos of wedding parties and bridal groups. Have that picture of yourself taken of yourself for Mother on Mother's Day. Call Atwater 7505 for an appointment.

This is a well-known and a popular art center of the community and the place where people of this section know they will find expert professional work in all that pertains to modern photography for the studio is of very wide experience in the work. They have won wide renown as artists of the first rank and makers of photographs that please.

Truly it has been said "Your friends can buy anything you can give them except your photograph." And photographs are not expensive because the proprietors of this studio are prepared to serve you in the most efficient manner at small cost.

You can secure here most excellent photographs at most moderate prices. Of course they are prepared also for the rarest and most costly work in this line and there are examples of the artistic ability today in the homes of many of the families in the community. But they are also the popular priced photographers and specialize in proving to you that really good work can today be had at truly a very small cost.

This well known place has won

the admiration of many parents through excellent work they do in making pictures and portraits of children. Whether it be an infant in arms or a child in school, they seem to possess that happy faculty of catching them in the most natural way.

This studio is one of the leaders in this profession, as are also their assistants. Their work has elicited the highest commendation especially among the prominent families of the community, and the studio is at the service of clients whenever they desire.

Taken all in all, this fine studio is a most worthy member of the profession and the citizens of this section are to be congratulated upon having persons of such artistic ability in their midst.

G. E. Reid Mattress Co.

With a modern and sanitary plant in Portland at 5027 Powell the G. E. Reid Mattress Co. is equipped to meet all the demands for their mattresses are well made and sensibly priced.

Mattresses like all household commodities that add comfort to living have reached the point that they are now manufactured to give the utmost in service, ease and rest. Mattress making is an intricate business. The public little realizes the knowledge that must enter into good mattress production, the machinery and equipment needed.

Intense study coupled with years of experience has qualified the G. E. Reid Mattress Co., to produce mattresses which give you the sound, restful restorative sleep your body requires. All the mat-

tresses are built according to the principles that the sleeper's body must be evenly supported so that the spine is perfectly straight. A mattress that does not do this distorts the spine, irritates the nerves and consequently causes sleeplessness.

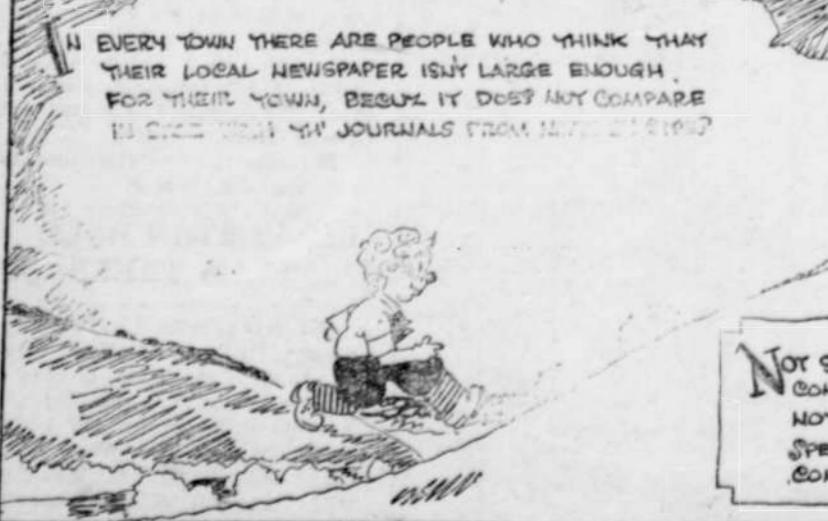
Mattresses are made by this firm to fit the body and the corners are so tailored and reinforced that they will not break down, which is a common fault with inferior made mattresses. In their own modern clean plant everything used in the making of mattresses is brand new. They never use any washed or reworked filling. Their mattresses give the owners incredible service. But the greatest claim accorded to their special brands is restorative sleep which these mattresses give.

Renovating by the most sanitary and modern process is also a feature of this department.

To the public they wish to explain the way they use the word renovate and what they mean by it. They mean by "renovate" to make new and sanitary your old bedding and "not just slip on a new tick", but put your own stock through a modern process, which gives you quality and a new product appearance at a great saving. They can take your old bedding, any condition and do this for you.

The G. E. Reid Mattress Company is under the management of Mr. G. E. Reid who knows the business thoroughly and who personally sees that all products turned out by the plant meet the highest standards of sanitation and production. Adv.

MICKIE, THE PRINTER'S DEVIL



IN EVERY TOWN THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO THINK THAT THEIR LOCAL NEWSPAPER ISN'T LARGE ENOUGH. FOR THEIR TOWN, BECAUSE IT DOESN'T COMPARE IN SIZE WITH THE JOURNALS FROM NEARBY CITIES.

NOT STOPPING TO THINK THAT THEIR TOWN DOES NOT COMPARE WITH SAID CITIES EITHER. NEWSPAPERS, NOT BEING ENDORSED BY PHILANTHROPISTS, MUST NOT SPEND MORE THAN THEY TAKE IN, OR THEY CANNOT CONTINUE TO EXIST.

The Way of It



AN EDITOR CAN HIRE MORE REPORTERS, MORE PRINTERS, BUY MORE TYPE AND PRESSES AND ADD MORE PAGES - IF HE CAN PAY FOR THESE THINGS OUT OF HIS RECEIPTS! SEE?