

Absolutely Nothing

By MYRA C. LANE

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"And that's your business, seeking to ruin women's reputations for money?"

Thelma Norton, white-lipped, her gray eyes blazing, confronted Alan Leeson in the office of the detective agency.

She was a magnificent woman, with the appearance of some queen of tragedy. Tall, willowy, erect, she dominated the man, controlled him, terrorized him by the force of her personality.

Nevertheless, Leeson pulled himself together. "Mine is a legitimate profession, Mrs. Norton," he answered coldly.

"So is the spy's," she answered. "You are no better than a spy, the lowest, meanest thing that ever crawled upon the face of the earth."

Alan Leeson bit his lip. His eyes fell. He knew that it was true.

"How much is my husband paying you for this wonderful discovery that, before I married him, I had what is commonly called a 'past'?"

Leeson might have rejoined that he had a retainer of a hundred dollars a day, with twenty-five thousand more to be paid upon discovery of evidence which would enable him to obtain a divorce. And he might have said, what in fact, he was going to say, that he had won the bonus.

"That is part of my private business, Mrs. Norton," he returned.

"And you think it legitimate?"

"Was it legitimate on your part to behave as you have done, morally speaking?"

"I can't discuss my affairs with you. I shall put up the hardest fight possible. You know what sort of creature has hired you to spy on me—a man from whom I would separate myself as soon as possible if it were not for my child. You know his reputation?"

"No, Mrs. Norton. I am not hired to inquire into your husband's reputation."

"You know why he has suddenly become so eager to discover certain facts? You know that he is in the clutches of a certain notorious woman, and is anxious to marry her?"

"It may be possible, but I assure you it is not my affair. I cannot discuss my employer's business," said the private detective.

"And how does he propose to obtain his divorce on the ground that I had 'this past'?"

"Your former husband, Mrs. Norton, is living."

An incredulous cry escaped her. "Living?" She clasped her hands together. "Oh, surely—surely you are deceiving me, Mr. Leeson! He died eight years ago, before I married Mr. Norton under my maiden name."

"Unfortunately, he did not. When your husband placed the matter in my hands, I discovered, rather by accident, that James Bannerley's death was feigned, for the purpose of enabling him to escape the attentions of the police. His international coup had netted him a considerable sum of money, and, like a prudent man, he decided to assume another name and retire from the world. He has retired very smoothly and safely, his past has been forgotten, and he is not likely to come into prominence again."

"Where—where in heaven's name is he?"

"He is a member of parliament for a district in South Australia, and a prominent farmer there. He is happily married and has four children."

"And that's the man I once loved and married?" murmured Thelma Norton. And suddenly she turned to Leeson.

"You are getting probably a large sum for your investigations. I don't know whether you get more for finding this evidence, but have you no pity at all?"

"Pity doesn't go with my profession, Mrs. Norton."

"My little boy, deprived of a mother's care, my reputation—'I can do nothing for you, Mrs. Norton,' answered the detective.

"Then God do so to you and more also!" she retorted, as she swept out of the office.

Next afternoon Leeson stood before his employer. Norton chewed his cigar at his desk, Leeson had his typewritten report in his pocket.

"Leeson," said Norton, "I sent for you because—"

"See here, I guess there's nothing you can find. Thelma isn't that type of woman. So—we've got to manufacture something. What? Some evidence that'll give me what I want. We've got to get false affidavits and—"

Leeson started. "We don't do that kind of business, Mr. Norton," he answered.

"Don't, eh? Then I'll have to get someone who does. You've had a fine lot of money out of me, and so far you've found out absolutely nothing."

"Absolutely nothing," answered Leeson, "and your next employees are likely to find out absolutely nothing too, because—Mrs. Norton's life has been entirely blameless."

A Rule for Public Speaking.

I once asked Colonel Ingersoll, the most effective public speaker I ever heard, to what he attributed his power. "Avoid eloquence," he said, "and be yourself."

Andrew Carnegie in his Autobiography.

Hard Job.

It is still pretty hard to get a woman who is compelled to do her own housework to believe her husband is successful, no matter how honestly he may be getting his income.

AW, WHAT'S THE USE



READ THIS—"A LETTER FROM JIMMY JIGGER—HE'S AN' HIS SWEET AN' TWO KIDS ARE GOIN' TO CHINA FOR A YEAR AN' WANT US TO COME ALONG."

CHINA?

GOOD HEVINKS!! HE MIGHT WANT TO GO, BUT YOU CAN'T TELL ME HIS WIFE DOES I CHINA! THEY MUST BE CRAZY!—NOT FOR ME—SAY—I HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLE WITH THE CHINKS AT THE LAUNDRY—NO SIR—CHINA'S THE LAST PLACE I'D WANT TO GO!

Y' SURE Y' WOULDN'T LIKE TO GO?

YOU BET I'M SURE! WHY I WOULDN'T GO TO CHINA FOR A MILLION DOLLARS—NO SIR—EE!

JIM SAYS IT'S SOME PLACE THO—SILK IS VERY CHEAP—WHY FOR A FEW DOLLARS YOU CAN GET THE MOST WONDERFUL LACES, AN' FURS, AN' SILK KIMONOS AN' DRESSES

WELL, WAIT A MINUTE—WHAT'S THE FARE TO CHINA?

TO CHINA?

TO CHINA?

TO CHINA?

TO CHINA?

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers

Mail service between Ashland and Klamath Falls by stage has been discontinued for the year.

Vehicles and loads weighing over 4000 pounds have been barred from the roads of Linn county by order of the county court.

Snow to the depth of 17 inches has fallen on the road at the summit of the Cascade mountains on the McKenzie highway, according to word telephoned to the office of the Cascade national forest in Eugene. The highway is closed to traffic, as it would be impossible for cars to buck through the deep, wet snow.

Three thousand four hundred thirty-nine automobiles, of which 2938 were new machines, were registered in Oregon in October, according to a report made by Sam A. Koser, secretary of state. Last year only 2532 cars were registered in October. This year 131,928 machines have been registered and the fees have aggregated \$3,209,551.12.

Requisition papers for Elizabeth Ryan, alias Joan Desmond, for Chin Slick and for Joe Devine were honored by the governor's office and all three will be returned to the state of Washington. Miss Ryan, who is charged with forgery, will be returned to Spokane county. Chin Slick, charged with robbery, and Devine, charged with larceny, will stand trial in King county. All three were arrested in Portland.

The public service commission of Oregon was served with a copy of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company's petition for an order temporarily restraining the commission from putting into effect its order for a rate cut, scheduled to become effective December 1. The commission must appear in the federal district court in Portland November 13 to show why the restraining order should not be allowed.

Lumber shipments by water from the lower Columbia river district for October held up to the average, but from the upper river section they showed a decrease. In the month 41 vessels loaded at the lower river mills and their combined cargoes were 36,104,200 feet of lumber. In the same period 17,334,800 feet of lumber were loaded on vessels at the up-river mills, making a grand total of \$3,841,000 feet of lumber which left the Columbia river in cargoes during the 30 days.

The car shortage situation has become so acute at Hood River, according to P. F. Clark, sales manager of the Apple Growers' association, that the co-operative agency is finding it difficult to move apples in sufficient quantities in box cars to Portland for loading aboard steamers for the United Kingdom. The association has arranged for space for 50,000 boxes during this month, Mr. Clark says, and it will be necessary in all probability to resort to fleets of motor trucks in order to get the apples to the docks.

An enormous increase in domestic shipping out of Portland for the first ten months of 1922 over the corresponding period a year ago is shown by figures of the Merchants' Exchange compiled recently. They show that coastwise and intercoastal outbound and inbound cargoes in October were valued at \$14,714,255, while for the same month last year the figure was \$8,407,986. For the first ten months of this year the domestic commerce by water was valued at \$108,364,367, as compared with the first ten months of 1921, with cargoes valued at \$61,177,614.

Recommendations for legislation intended to decrease taxes in Oregon will be made to the legislature next January by the state committee on tax investigation appointed last year by Governor Olcott under an act of the legislature of 1921. The recommendations to be made to the legislature are: State income tax, equitable primary assessments, supervision over local expenditures in the many units of government that have taxing power, consolidation of state departments, organization of a statistical bureau, sinking fund for the redemption of all bonds issued for public purposes, law to prohibit filling on water power sites for speculation, that all payments for inheritance taxes be converted to the irreducible school fund and a recommendation against further issue of tax exempt securities by the state of Oregon or by the United States.

NEARLY 100 TARIFF CHANGES ARE ASKED

Washington, D. C.—Applications to the tariff commission for action under the flexible tariff provisions of the new Fordney-McCumber law now total nearly 100. More than half of these have been received since the publication of regulations governing procedure before the commission last week.

Most of the applications are for changes in duty under Section 315 of the new law, which authorizes the president to increase or decrease duties by not more than 50 per cent.

There are a few applications for the imposition of the retaliatory duties under Section 316 relating to unfair methods of competition in the importation of foreign goods and under Section 317 relating to discrimination of other countries against commerce of the United States.

It was stated by the tariff commission that a preliminary investigation of some of the more important applications may be completed within about a week. No hearing on any of the applications are in prospect before December and possibly not before January. Several months will elapse before the commission is prepared to make any recommendations to the president for changes in duties.

Lloyd George Unopposed in District. London.—Former Prime Minister David Lloyd George was returned unopposed as member of parliament for the Carnarvon district.

Mary MacSweney Arrested at Dublin. Dublin.—Mary MacSweney, sister of the late Lord Mayor MacSweney, who died on a hunger strike, was arrested here by Free State authorities.

CYPRESS IS 800 YEARS OLD

"Great Tree of Tule" in State of Oaxaca is Beginning to Show Signs of Wear and Tear.

The "Great Tree of Tule" in the state of Oaxaca, after some 800 years of recorded existence, is beginning to show signs of wear and tear. This giant cypress, with a trunk so huge that thirty persons with outstretched arms can scarcely span it, is known as the "Great Tree of Tule."

Although time has dealt kindly with the monarch, a correspondent during a recent visit to the day village of Santa Maria del Tule, Oaxaca, noticed that the wrinkles of age are beginning to show. There is no cause for worry, however, that Tule, as the Indians affectionately call the tree, will wither away before the present generation has passed on. Even if it should, Tule has a son some fifty yards away from the parental boughs that is showing healthy signs of maintaining the family honor in the matter of robustness.

Hijo (son), as the Indians have named it, already is so large that twelve persons are needed to span it, and Hijo is only a couple of hundred years old. The Great Tree of Tule, rises about 175 feet and is said to be one of the largest specimens in the world. The spread of its branches is almost 150 feet. It stands in the courtyard of a tiny church and is the only landmark in the village of Santa Maria del Tule, where the people revere the tree almost as much as one of their saints.

New York Post.

Tornado Kills Four and Injures Fifty. Drumright, Okla.—Four persons are known to have been killed, 50 were injured, some seriously, and many are missing as the result of a tornado which struck southwest of here.

THE MORO DAIRY W. H. Hill, Proprietor

This is the only dairy herd in the vicinity of Moro that is certified disease-free. We hold Oregon State Live Stock Sanitary Board official health certificate No. 3291.

MORO OREGON

BENSON & SON

General Contractors and Builders

Cement and Concrete Work a Specialty

Moro, Oregon

SPECIAL RATES

NEW HOTEL PERKINS FIFTH AND WASHINGTON STS. PORTLAND, OREGON

Room with privilege of bath; single, \$1.00 up; double \$1.50 up
Room with private bath, single \$1.50 up; double \$2.50 up.
Auto Meets Trains. Street cars from Union Depot pass our doors.
Transfer at 5th and Glisan streets from North Bank Depot.



The Moro Hotel

MORO OREGON

A Modern Tile and Concrete Constructed Building Built by Moro Community for the General Public

STEAM HEATED ELECTRIC LIGHTS Bath and Hot and Cold Water in Every Room

Special Monthly Rates for Room or Board

Talk Dresses and They Change Their Minds



Notice of School Meeting

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters of School District No. 17 of Sherman County, State of Oregon, that a school meeting of said district will be held at the school house on the 27th day of November, 1922, at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of discussing the budget hereinafter set out with the levying board, and to vote on the proposition of levying a special district tax.

The total amount of money needed by the said school district during the fiscal year beginning on June 30th, 1923, and ending on June 30th, 1924, is estimated in the following budget and includes the amounts to be received from the county school fund, state school fund, elementary school fund, special district tax, and all other moneys of the district:

Budget

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES

Personal Service	No.	Per year	Total
Principal	1	1800	1800
Teachers	7	7965	7965
Janitor	1	765	765
Clerk	1	25	25
Total			10,555

Furniture, (desks, stoves, curtains, etc.)	100
Supplies, (chalk, erasers, etc.)	350
Library books	75
Flags	20
Janitor's supplies	750
Light and water	225
Postage and Stationery	75
Total	1670

Maintenance and Repairs	250
Building and grounds	250
Total	500

Indebtedness	1000
Bonded, and interest thereon	1000
Total	2000

Insurance	365
Total	365

Miscellaneous	300
Total	300

Emergency	300
Total	300

Total estimated amount of money for all purposes during the year	14,440
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ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

From county school fund during the coming school year	900
From state school fund during the coming school year	200
From elementary school fund during the coming school year	1800
Estimated of probable unexpended balance at end of current year	1000
Estimated amount to be received from all other sources during the coming school year	1000
Total estimated receipts, not including proposed tax	4,900

RECAPITULATION

Total estimated expenses for the year	14,440
Total estimated receipts not including proposed tax	4,900
Balance, amount to be raised by district tax	9,540

Dated this 28th day of October, 1922.

W. C. Bryant,
Chairman Board of Directors

Attest: R. C. Ornduff, District Clerk.

Report of Budget Committee

Notice of Estimated Expenses and Receipts and the Proposed Tax Levy for the City of Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, for the year 1923.

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance to a Legislative Act approved by the Governor February 19, 1921, that on Friday, November 24th, 1922, the Budget Committee of the City of Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, will be in session at the City Hall at the hour of eight o'clock P.M. and that any taxpayer of the City of Moro will be heard in favor of or against the proposed tax levy as hereinafter itemized.

ITEMIZED BUDGET

Recorders Salary	240
Treasurer Salary	180
Marshal Salary	1200
Retirement of Bonds	2000
Interest on Bonds	2200
Emergency Fund, unforeseen contingencies	800
Materials and supplies (Water Fund)	3276
Total EXPENDITURES	9886
Estimated receipts, (water fund)	4896
Total amount to be raised by taxation for all purposes for the year 1923	5000

Dated at Moro, Oregon, this 30th day of October, 1922.

J. E. COLEMAN,
Chairman Budget Committee.

ROY L. KUNSMAN,
Secretary Budget Committee.

Highest Moral Courage.

When you are so devoted to doing what is right that you press straight on to that and disregard what men are saying about you, there is the triumph of moral courage.—Phillips Brooks.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATE AND ACCOUNTING SHEET

School District No. 17

This original estimate is made in compliance with section 231-A of the school laws of 1921 and shows in parallel columns the unit costs of the several services, material and supplies for the three fiscal years next preceding the current year, the detail expenditures for the last one of said three preceding fiscal years and the budget allowances and expenditures for six months of the current year. ("Six months of the current year" means six months of the last school year.)

EXPENDITURES

ITEM	Estimated expenditures for the ensuing school year	Expenditures in detail for six months of last school year	Budget allowance in detail for six months of last school year	Detailed expenditures for the last year of the three preceding years	Second year of the three preceding years	First year of the three preceding years
Personal Service:						
Principals	1800.00	1200.00	1200.00	1800.00	2000.00	1500.00
Teachers	7965.00	5940.00	5383.66	8910.00	6770.93	5774.88
Janitors	765.00	608.33	566.66	912.50	800.00	765.00
Clerk	25.00	16.66	16.66	25.00	25.00	128.19
Other services						
Total—Personal services	10555.00	7764.99	7166.98	11617.50	9895.93	8193.07
Materials and Supplies:						
Furniture, (desks, stoves, curtains, etc.)	100.00	71.55	100.00	107.32	178.36	none
Supplies, (chalk, erasers, etc.)	350.00	221.25	333.33	331.88	100.00	1000.00
Library books	75.00	none	66.66	none	32.87	140.05
Flags	20.00	none	6.66	none	20.00	none
Playground equipment	none	none	none	none	97.11	144.95
Janitor's supplies	750.00	440.00	83.32	66.10	90.84	none
Postage and stationery	75.00	44.05	71.31	66.07	100.00	1206.39
Light and water	225.00	107.43	150.00	161.10	150.00	100.00
Postage and stationery	75.00	33.33	33.33	50.00	50.00	75.00
Total—Material and Supplies	1670.00	923.58	1486.61	1385.37	1719.18	2666.39
Maintenance and repairs:						
Buildings and grounds	250.00	81.55	66.66	122.32	none	none
Total—Maintenance and repairs	250.00	81.55	66.66	122.32	none	none
Indebtedness:						
Bonded and interest thereon	1000.00	652.73	666.66	979.09	none	6061.65
Total—Indebtedness	1000.00	652.73	666.66	979.09	none	6061.65
Insurance:						
Total—Insurance	365.00	243.33	243.33	none	105.24	none
Miscellaneous:						
Total—Miscellaneous	300.00	242.59	200.00	363.89	none	none
Emergency:						
Total—Emergency	300.00	none	133.33	none	none	none
GRAND TOTAL	14440.00	9908.77	9963.57	14498.17	11720.35	16721.11

I, R. C. Ornduff, do hereby certify that the above estimate of expenditures for the year 1923-1924 was prepared by me and that the expenditures and budget allowance for six months of the current year and the expenditures for the three fiscal years next preceding the current year as shown above have been compiled from the records in my charge and are true and correct copies thereof.

R. C. ORNDUFF, District Clerk.

ORIGINAL ESTIMATE AND ACCOUNTING SHEET

Of the City of Moro, Oregon, for the years 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923.

This original estimate is made in compliance with section 231-A of the laws of 1921 and shows in parallel columns the unit costs of the several services, materials and supplies for the three fiscal years next preceding the current year in detail, the expenditures for the first six months of the current year, the estimated expenditures for the last six months of the current year, and the budget allowance for the year 1923.

ITEM

ITEM	Estimated expenditures for the ensuing year	Expenditures for first six months of 1922	Budget allowance for first six
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