NO HAPPINESS WHERE THERE IS NO LOVE

(©) by D. J. Walsh.)

THE log that had been crackling and intermittently bursting in to flame suddenly broke apart, flamed brightly, darkened, the rosiness rapidly fading into gray ash. Sydney Hollis, from the depths of his chair, reached for the poker and stirred the coals. Then he slumped back, his head resting in his hand.

"Nine years ago tonight—" he mused half aloud. He looked up at the clock on the mantel above him, a mantel white with dust. A tall taper in a hammered silver holder leaned tipsily forward. "Nine years ago tonight at ten o'clock we were on our way—to this house. Jove, I'll never forget how we put it over on the crowd. I made a fire of packing cases and the excelsior that the dinner dishes were packed in and Bea wrapped up in my overcoat until the house was warm. Then we made tea and sandwiches and sat right here in this chair until after one o'clock. We wound the new clock before we went upstairs to bed. It has not run down since."

As though in answer to his soliloquy the clock on the mantel chimed 10.

"Nine years—and look at us now. Bea home, running around with the old crowd, having a whale of a time, a prospective divorcee. Well, she will make a peach of one, I'll say that for her. And how they will rush her! Not only a beauty and a live one, but her dad's money thrown in! They couldn't say I rushed her for that, anyway. Poor as a church mouse then. How we planned to put the wedding over in good shape on that limited amount and what a little manager Bea was. This house was better than she had ever had, and how she loved that golden oak dining room furniture we bought."

His eyes roved to the dining room beyond, austere and dignified in its mahogany, blue velvet rugs and hangings. There was the glint of the glass and silver on the long buffet, a wilted flower in the silver vase.

"She was kicking about this overstuffed suite when she decided to leave. We went seven different times to that furniture store just to look at it before we were married; couldn't quite convince ourselves that it was really ours." He threw a fresh log on the fire.

"Eight years ago tonight we had our first anniversary—the paper wedding. Doc and Lucy nearly wrecked the place doing the fox trot and we all tried to laugh, especially Bea. She was a brick. We sang all the war songs. Doc and I had just gotten our new uniforms and his was too big, mine too small. We were knockouts! Bea had flags in with the flowers, and when she looked at me she wiped away the tears and saluted me. Doc and I left for officers' training camp the next day.

"Funny thing I should have had just one year with Bea—and then the war—but it was a happy year, the first one. She bucked me up tremendously while I was in camp, and just before I sailed in March she told me about—the baby. Smiled like a little soldier. Best soldier of the two of us.

"Seven years ago tonight—two weeks before the armistice—I was in the Argonne. Had been thinking of her all day, only anniversary we were not together until tonight. Then the cable—I had a son. How I went after the Fritzies that night!" He smiled reminiscently as he slid lower in his chair.

"Nine, eight, seven," he repeated slowly. "Six years ago we were up at her folks. Her dad was ill. And five years ago tonight Buddie was sick. We had planned on a dinner dance. Bea pouted and went to bed crying. And four years ago we had had the big quarrel. She went home next day.

"Three years ago she was up home again. Thought the break had come for sure, but she was glad to see me, although she rubbed it in something fierce about not having much—she had a lot at home then. Her dad beginning to cash in on his war profits. Bea came back with me and it was then that she kicked out the golden oak dining room furniture and got the mahogany.

"Two years ago tonight she went to bed crying and said she was going home next day.

"A year ago tonight she came back and we went out to dinner, but we had reached the breaking point. Her dad had given her the new squirrel coat and promised her the sports roadster. I knew that night that I had been given the Lawson case and could have bought her a car if she had waited, but I was mad! So she chose—the showplace of her father's, dollar bills literally hanging from the chandeliers—because I wouldn't buy the Livermore place. Well, maybe it's for the best, but God, how I want Bea and Bud. I'll get the papers one of these days soon, and then it will be all over."

His gaze traveled over the comfortable big living room.

"A regular homemaker, Bea, until she got that money bug in her head. I wonder what she is doing tonight, on her ninth anniversary. Fox-trotting with some fortune hunter and laughing. Jove, how she can laugh when she is happy. Remember those midnight lunches. Coffee and rye sandwiches, cheese and jelly mixed. I always ate four and Bea two, and she made me cut the bread so she could laugh. Said as a bread-cutter I would make a good bricklayer."

The clock on the mantel chimed 10:30.

"Wonder what she will be doing a year from tonight, an even ten. I've tried to play the game, but her dad's money beat me."

He turned his head suddenly. Steps on the porch, a tap at the window and a smothered call, a child's laugh. He swung wide open the door and then arms were about his neck, small arms about his legs and Bea was crying, her face against his shoulder.

"Syd, Syd, I'm home, always to stay with you. Money is nothing where there is no love, and I love you as much—more—than I did nine years ago tonight. Forgive me, Syd, and kiss me."

Her arms were full of packages and one by one they dropped to the floor as his arms went about her. Then like a child she knelt and began picking them up. She pushed back the paper wrapper and displayed a loaf of bread.

"Rye bread, Syd, and coffee, butter, cream cheese. Run down and get some jelly, Syd, dear, the currant is on the right end of the middle shelf, and while I put Buddy to bed, you can start the coffee, and don't cut the bread until I come down, dear; I haven't had a good laugh in weeks."

Sydney Hollis reached to the right end of the middle shelf for the currant jelly.

"Nine, eight, seven, and so on down to tonight, the best of all," he whispered to himself, "because she realizes there is no happiness where there is no love, and I'll tell her about the Lawson case when we are having our lunch before the fireplace, just as we did nine years ago on our wedding night."

Santa Fe Trail Once Called the Cow's Head

A Spanish king leading his army to battle in wild, impassable mountains found himself hemmed in by the enemy, who outnumbered his men five to one. He would have perished with all his troops had not a private soldier discovered a narrow, unguarded pass at the entrance of which lay the bleached skull of a cow. He led the king and his army to safety, and the grateful monarch not only rewarded him with wealth and honors, but bestowed on him a new name—Cabeza de Vaca, "cow's head."

De Vaca sailed from Spain for the Florida coast about three and a half centuries ago with the Narvaez expedition and was wrecked in the gulf, but De Vaca survived with three others, who clung to him when the ship went down. Though his ship was at the bottom of the sea, the ocean behind him, an untrodden wilderness before and hostile Indians all around, De Vaca's purpose was unshaken. Wisely he told his companions that a settlement of their countrymen was ahead and their only hope was to reach it.

He led them from somewhere near the Mississippi's mouth across an unknown continent to the Pacific. At the Seven Cities of Cibola there lived a people, peaceful and industrious, worshiping strange heathen gods and possessing treasures of gold and silver and plenty of food. At least this was the story which De Vaca later told Coronado, the governor of New Galicia, inducing him to send an expedition under Marcos de Niza in 1540 to colonize the Seven Cities of the Pueblos. De Niza invaded New Mexico, conquered the native towns with his soldiery and found everything as De Vaca had reported—except the treasure.

Thus, about 1600 was founded the city of Santa Fe. The famous Santa Fe trail, traversed by pack mules, prairie schooners and the present railroad line, was known to the Spanish conquerors as the Cow's Head trail, first blazed for hundreds of miles across an unexplored continent by De Vaca and his three men.—New York Times.

Drains Great Basin

The Danube has its origin in two small streams rising in the Black forest in southern Germany. It quickly gains in volume, and after the Iller joins it above Ulm it is navigable to the Black sea, although only to very small craft in its upper part. Of the total length of 1,770 miles, however, more than 1,600 miles carry traffic. About 100 tributaries are also navigable to some extent. The drainage basin of the Danube has an area of some 315,000 square miles.

Children's Collections

Angelo Patri discusses the collecting instinct in children at length and says, in part: "This instinct to collect is the germ of his responsibility toward his family. He must get and keep so that others later on may have what they will need. If he does not follow this instinct and do his hoarding and sorting and valuing, he will lose that valuable phase of his growth. To be sure, he has no appreciation of this. It is fun for him. But his heart is in his treasure."

Bread and the Digestion

There has never been an accurate experiment made for determining the length of time necessary to digest bread. Different systems naturally require different lengths of time, and the age and composition of the bread must be taken into consideration. At one recent experiment a professor ate a certain amount of bread on an absolutely empty stomach. By means of certain tests and x-ray pictures it was decided that it took him about two hours to digest the bread.

Good Trick

"Her heart reared like a frightened horse," writes an author in Woman's Home Companion. "We always thought," commented the crusty critic, "a long course of fiction reading had revealed every possible thing that a human heart can do, and here all the time it could stand up on its hind legs and we didn't know it."

Sand Blasting Effective

For cleaning metal surfaces for one purpose or another demanded by the industries the sand blast takes the first place. In reconditioning several thousand feet of track for a Southern street railway, it was decided to resort to welding, and for this purpose the surfaces to be treated must be smooth, bright and perfectly clean. It was decided to do this cleaning by sand blast and the report is that in one hour more and better work was done by one man than was possible previously in eight hours with four laborers using chisels and brushes.

ELSIE WAS FAT AND FORTY, BUT SUCKERS FELL FOR HER

Supported Husband and Two Children by Selling Her Charms by Mail.

Los Angeles.—She was fat and forty, and had a husband and, if you believe the government's postal inspectors, she had a sweetheart in every port, too.

The lady in question is Mrs. Elsie Weisert, who supported friend husband and their two children by selling her charms for cash by mail.

Wouldn't some one like a nice German wife? A buxom girl of thirty who was a swell cook? Didn't some lad want to marry her?

The romantic suckers replied that they did. The practical Mrs. Weisert and the chuckling husband wrote to the new boy friends asking for railroad fare with which to hasten to waiting arms.

But in stalked grim tragedy. The poor little German girl's mother had died in Europe. She had to go home. So another romance was knocked on the head. That's the post office inspectors' story and they are sticking to it. Mrs. Weisert and her husband, John, have confessed that the charges are true.

"Yes, that's the way we worked it," Weisert said in the county jail, where he is held in lieu of $2,000 bond. "We had to live and that was an easy way to get money.

"It's all my fault, though. I wrote most of the letters. Say, I wrote so many letters that I was almost ready to marry some one myself."

The "bride-to-be" was released on her own recognizance to care for their two young children. Date of trial in federal court has not been set.

According to postal inspectors a Denver matrimonial magazine was used in the alleged scheme. The husband would write to the paper, each time listing his wife under a different name.

And such nice German names—Anna Wolf, Elsie Schlitt, Elsie Hammer, Martha Schmidt, Martha Bowman.

Then the magazine would send the name of the "lonely girl" to an inquiring "lonely man." But when the suckers started to protest about the railroad fares, the magazine turned the matter over to the postal inspectors and the Weiserts were traced through some of the addresses listed as the home of the buxom German girl.

Finds Real Van Dyck; Loses It at Bargain

Mexico City.—Here's a hard luck story told by J. Thurston of London, who is in Mexico in search of antiques.

At "Thieves' Market," popular Mexican City bazaar, Mr. Thurston found among an assortment of valueless paintings a picture of a boy that attracted his attention. The canvas was in a deplorable condition and the painting had all the marks of a discarded article.

He examined the painting closely and was struck by its color and technique. With a moistened handkerchief he rubbed a corner of the picture and discovered the signature "Van Dyck, 1621." It was the work of the celebrated Flemish painter, Van Dyck.

He offered 5 pesos for the picture but was told the price was 40 pesos. He did not have that amount on his person and promised to return the following day. Upon returning he found the owners had had the painting appraised and refused to sell it at any price.

Get 68,500,000 Trees for Reforestation

Washington.—The forest service of the Agriculture department announced that 68,565,291 trees were furnished by 34 states, Hawaii and Porto Rico last year for re-stocking farm timberlands.

Coincident with the department's announcement, George Pratt, president of the American Forestry association, long a leader in the cause of forest preservation, called at the White House to urge increased appropriations of $2,500,000 for forest fire fighting purposes.

Pratt told President Hoover much of last year's $3,000,000 damage to the country's forests could have been averted had there been adequate funds with which to combat fire. Only $100,000 annually now is available, he pointed out.

Most of the trees were furnished farmers at cost, the Agriculture department said in its announcement, although several states distributed nursery stock free. New York and Pennsylvania led the 34 states, each distributing more than 9,000,000 trees.

China Mandate Orders Use of New Calendar

Shanghai.—Documents dated by China's old style lunar calendar will not be valid after January 1, 1930, according to a mandate issued by the national government.

It is hoped that if the government can compel business houses to follow the "foreign style calendar," the general public will do so likewise. Previous efforts at modernizing the calendar have met with scant success, and Chinese New Year was duly celebrated throughout the country this year in spite of official prohibitions.

Ancient Aids to Eyesight

When the eyesight of Egypt's wise men grew feeble from study they used magnifying glasses to make the stone tablets and papyrus rolls easier to read. This is indicated by pieces of round glass from Egypt, one of which, now in the Ashmolean collection, may date back to the first dynasty of Egypt, or about 3500 B. C. That magnifying glasses were known in the famous civilization of Crete, about 1200 B. C., had been shown by two crystal lenses discovered in the Cretan ruins.

Laws of New England Harsh on Malefactors

The children of the early days in New England did not learn the letters of the alphabet in such simple fashion as "A stands for Ape, and B stands for Bail." But letters sometimes were used to mark the transgressor.

Lack of chastity was indicated in the scarlet A which Hester Prynne wore. The drunkard could be and was disfranchised, and must "wear about his neck and so as to hang above his outer garment a D made of red cloth and set upon white, and to continue it a year and not to leave it off when he comes among company."

The letter B did not escape being a mark of ignominy. "Any person who commits burglary by breaking up any dwelling house, or shall fobb any person in the feild or highwayes, such a person so offending shall for the first offence bee branded on the forehead with the letter B; a second time a second B, and for a third time bee put to death. If the offence is committed on the Lord's Day, for the first offence he shall have one eare cutt off; the second eare for the second offence, and bee put to death for the third offence."

Smoking Among Women Alarmed Men in 1868

In 1868 the growing practices of smoking and dipping snuff by refined women in both North and South, writes Arthur Train in the Saturday Evening Post, were stigmatized by Schuyler Brightley in the April number of "The Galaxy" as shockingly on the increase.

In the South particularly, owing to the influence of their negro mammies, "young and tenderly nurtured girls, belonging to the richest and proudest families in the neighborhood, smoked to an extent that would be regarded as dangerously excessive even among men, and not cigarettes or cigars or yet elegant little chibouks or nargiles, fashioned to suit their delicate lips, but short, black dudeens from the North, and pipes of native invention made of a reed stuck into a bowl of red earth or a corncob."

War Prisoners Made Slaves

All armies sent out from Rome were accompanied by speculators in the slave trade, who bought the captives as they were put up to auction after a battle and then undertook the transport to Rome of all who were suited for employment in Italy or were not brought up in the province which was the seat of war. Fowler says: "After the campaign of Pydna and the overthrow of the Macedonian kingdom, Aemilius Paulius, one of the most humane of the Romans, sold into slavery, under orders from the senate, 150,000 free inhabitants of communities in Epirus which had sided with Perseus in the war. Caesar, like Aemilius Paulius, one of the most humane of Romans, tells us himself that on a single occasion, the capture of the aduatici, he sold 53,000 prisoners on the spot."

"Faint Heart Never—"

They were talking of a fellow club member.

"When I come to think about it," said one man, "I don't think I've seen old Harry for nearly a week."

"I'll bet you haven't," agreed another man, entering at the moment. "He's been dead three days."

"Dead. How did that happen?"

"Well, you know his wife had a little habit of making him carry everything she bought. Last week she bought a grand piano."

"But he didn't have to carry that, surely?"

"No; he took one look at it, though, and passed away without so much as a sound."

"Conversational" Dinner

One night at the White House during the Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt there met at dinner John Hay (then secretary of state), Sir Martin Conway, Walter Wellman, James Ford Rhodes, the historian, and, of course, President Roosevelt. Next day Hay and Rhodes met again and the following conversation ensued:

Rhodes—That was a nice conversational dinner we had at the White House last night.

Hay—Conversational do you call it? How long were we at the table?

Rhodes—About two hours.

Hay—Well, Wellman talked a minute, Sir Martin a minute and a half, you a minute and I not more than that, and Theodore talked all the rest of the time. Do you call that conversation?—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Not Such a Big Success

The late Walter Kingsley, one of the last of the old time press agents, once released an elephant in the streets of New York while doing publicity for "The Circus Man." He telephoned his "loss" to the police department and a squad of officers went out. They found the elephant all right and had they but known it, the animal would have followed them peacefully with the offer of a few peanuts.

Instead, they frightened the elephant, which dashed into an office building, wedged itself in the doorway and half the building had to be torn down in order to release it.

Words Handed Down

In the word magic we have a reminiscence of the Persion "Magi," mighty prophets and interpreters of dreams, of whom three were said to have found their way to Bethlehem. Words which come to us from the Roman religion are cereal, genius, fete, fortune, fury, grace, June, mint, money, Saturday, vesta, contemplate, sacrifice, temple, augury and auspice. Vampire is an unpleasant Slavonic word brought back from the East by travelers in the Eighteenth century. Taboo, tattoo and kangaroo came to us with Captain Cook from the Pacific.—Exchange.

BANKERS FIND GROUP BANKING WIDESPREAD

Over 13 Billion Dollars of Bank Assets in Affiliated Systems Numbering 1,850 Members—In Nearly Every State.

Over 1,850 banks with more than thirteen billion dollars in resources are shown to be associated with chain or group banking systems in the United States in facts recently gathered by the Economic Policy Commission of the American Bankers Association. The chairman of the commission, R. S. Hecht of New Orleans, pointed out that the facts indicate that "almost 7½ per cent of our banks and over 18 per cent of our banking resources are in the great net of group or chain banking that now covers almost every part of the country."

The commission's facts comprised chain and group banking affiliations in the broadest sense of the term, the report said. They included those groups in which the controlling element was a particular bank, there being reported 78 instances of this class involving 407 banks and about $6,473,000,000 in combined banking resources. They included also groups in which a nonbanking holding company, not subsidiary to any particular bank, was in control and of this class 23 instances were found, involving 330 banks and nearly $5,335,000,000 in resources. The report also included groupings in which control was exercised by individual persons and these cases numbered 167, involving 1,071 banks and about $1,463,000,000 in assets.

The Total Figures

The total was over $13,275,000,000 in aggregate resources. Some of the systems comprised 50 to 100 banks each. Head offices of the groups were found in all jurisdictions but nine of the states and the District of Columbia.

"We have not included in these figures," the report says, "banking groups in which a commercial bank, a trust company and an investment house, and sometimes a savings bank, are tied together by some form of stock holdings and operated as complementary elements in an organization rendering complete financial services. We have held that such groups are similar to a departmentalized bank and different in the purposes and operations from a chain or group banking system.

"For purposes of the present report we define chain or group banks as systems in which centralized control, whether corporate or personal and either rigid or informal, directs the operations of two or more complete banks, not functionally complementary, each working on its own capital and under its own personnel and located in one or more cities or states."

Commenting on the question whether the rapid development of chain banking was in the nature of a reaction against restrictions imposed on branch banking by the banking laws in many states the report says that observation does not wholly confirm this theory since chain banking is prevalent in some states where virtually no restriction is imposed on branch banking, as well as in those where the establishment of branch banks is prohibited. It adds:

The Question of Branch Banking

"However, the facts do show that anti-branch banking laws have been a factor in some cases, and probably in some sections, in the spread of chain banking. Instances have come to our attention where expansion along chain bank lines has been carried out by state banks whose expansion along branch bank lines was stopped by the passing of state laws prohibiting further branches. Yet whether expansion would have been along branch bank lines if the laws had imposed no barriers, it is impossible to say. There is obviously a well developed banking opinion in some sections that the chain bank method brings to outlying banks the strength and efficiency of a big organization without depriving them of their local individuality and sympathies. In view of the mixed factors noted, we feel it is unsafe to generalize as to what bearing branch banking laws have on chain developments.

"The recent era of rapid chain bank developments has found specific reflection in some state legislative action tending to restrict or control chain or group banking. Also we find a sharp difference of opinion among state bank commissioners who have expressed their sentiments regarding chain banking."

In a foreword to the report, issued in booklet form by the association at its New York City headquarters, Chairman Hecht says that "the Economic Policy Commission does not take a stand in advocacy of or in opposition to this new method of concentrating banking resources through the affiliation of banks into groups and chains, but is simply offering as a fact finding body what we believe is the first complete national picture of this rapidly growing movement."

SCHOOL SAVINGS GROW

A total of 4,222,935 school children participated in school savings banking in the United States during the last school year, depositing $28,672,496 and rolling up net savings of $10,539,928, bringing total bank balances now credited to this movement to above 50 million dollars, according to the annual report of the Savings Bank division of the American Bankers Association. Schools to the number of 15,597 are enrolled in the plan.

Yes, Please

The little boy had been sent to the drug store to get some liniment and a special kind of china cement.

"Do you want the two things in separate parcels?" asked the druggist, as soon as he had attended to the boy's demands.

"Yes, please," answered the little fellow. "I think it would be as well. The cement is for mother; she wants to mend the teapot. The liniment is for father. Mother broke the teapot over his head."

Oregon State News

Three carloads of Jefferson county work horses have been shipped to Texas and Colorado recently.

A new baseball league to take in Eugene, Albany, Salem and Corvallis is in prospect if plans of Eugene baseball fans are adopted.

The county boundary board of Jackson county has ordered a reduction of nearly $6000 in the school budget of the Butte Falls district.

The Farmers' Exchange Cooperative of Jackson county has refused by a vote of 50 to 27 to accept the resignations of the board of directors.

Marion county has constructed more than 313 miles of market roads during the past ten years, according to announcement made by the county court at Salem.

Holders of grazing leases on Klamath Indian lands are concerned about the movement on the part of the Indians to rescind leases, on the claim that they want the lands for private use. The lessees have on the lands a total of 40,000 sheep and 3500 head of cattle, against the 1000 sheep and 1300 head of cattle of the Indians.

John Withycombe of Arlington was elected president of the eastern Oregon Wheat league at the conclusion of the annual meeting at Pendleton. Withycombe, son of ex-Governor Jas. Withycombe, is one of eastern Oregon's largest wheat operators.

New machinery for use in the gold diggings in upper Willamina has just arrived from California, according to the managers, and pay dirt is now being removed. It is expected that mining activities will be resumed when the weather moderates sufficiently.

John Did Not Eat Insects

The locusts eaten by John the Baptist were probably not insects, but the fruit of the carob tree, the dried pods of which are the locust beans sold as food for cattle. The carob tree is sometimes called the honey tree, from the sweet pulp contained in its pods while they are fresh.

Unusual Mirage

To the tired and thirsty traveler in the desert there sometimes appears the tantalizing vision of an oasis, green with trees and sweet with running water. The camels wearily pad toward the promised spot, and, alas, the mirage slowly fades, leaving only the hot, cruel, desert sands! Dwellers on the shores of Lake Constance were enchanted the other day by a clear and vivid picture of that part of the town of Immenstadt with the Herzberg palace appearing in the heavens and remaining visible for some time. This is the first time a mirage has ever been recorded on Lake Constance.

Dikes Long Employed

The dikes which protect the Netherlands and the German coasts of the North sea go back to the old Roman times. Apparently even before the Romans appeared the Batavians at the mouth of the Rhine protected themselves by dikes. Dursus, after the conquest of Holland, 10 B. C., built an elaborate system of artificial canals and dikes. Pliny the Elder gives an interesting description of the artificial hills which were erected as places of refuge during the floods.

So live that at the age of eighty you can brag of something besides having worn the same collar button for 61 years.

One of the older 18-day diets, which doesn't include grapefruit, is when a family of three has to clean up a 15-pound turkey.

DR C. L. POLEY
Physician and Surgeon
Grass Valley, Oregon
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