

The BROWN MOUSE

By HERBERT QUICK

CHAPTER XX

Theory and Practice.

Superintendent Jennie sat at her desk in no very satisfactory frame of mind. In the first place the court was to convene on the following Monday, so that her one-room office was not to be hers for a few days. To Wilbur Smythe, who did her the honor of calling occasionally, she remarked that if they didn't soon build the new courthouse so as to give her such accommodations as her office really needed, "they might take their old office—so there!"

"Fair woman," said Wilbur, as he creased his Prince Albert in a parting bow, "should adorn the home!"

"Bosh!" sneered Jennie, rather pleased, all the same, "suppose she isn't fair, and hasn't any home!"

This question of adorning a home was no nearer settlement with Jennie than it had ever been, though increasingly a matter of speculation. There were two or three men—rather good catches, too—who, if they were encouraged, might have been there to any of them? This is what Jennie asked her paper-weight as she placed it on a pile of unfinished examination papers. And the paper-weight echoed, "not a thing out of the ordinary!" And then, said Jennie, "Well, you little simpleton, who and what are you so out of the ordinary that you should sneer at Wilbur Smythe and Beckman Elfield and such men?" And echo answered, "What?"—and then the mail-carrier came in.

Down near the bottom of the pile she found this letter, signed by a southern state superintendent of schools, but dated at Kirksville, Missouri:

"I am a member of a party of southern educators—state superintendents in the main—on tour of the country to see what we can find of an instructive nature in rural school work. Professor Withers of Ames suggests that we visit your schools, and especially the rural school taught by a young man named Irwin, and I wonder if you will be free on next Monday morning. If we come to your office, to direct us to the place? If you could accompany us on the trip, and perhaps show us some of your other excellent schools, we should be honored and pleased."

And then came the shock—a party of state officials were coming into the county to study Jim Irwin's school! They would never come to study Wilbur Smythe's law practice—never in the world—or her work as county superintendent—never!—and Jim was getting seventy-five dollars a month, and had a mother to support. But there could be no doubt that there was something to Jim—the man was out of the ordinary. And wasn't that just what she had been looking for in her mind?

Jennie wired to her southerner for the number of his party, and secured automobiles for the trip. She sent a note to Jim Irwin telling of the prospective visitation. She would show all concerned that she could do some things, anyhow, and she would send these people on with a good impression of her county.

She was glad of the automobiles the next Monday morning, when at nine-thirty the train discharged upon her a dozen very alert, very up-to-date, very inquisitive southerners, male and female, most of whom seemed to have left their "r's" in the gulf region. It was eleven when the party parked their machines before the schoolhouse door.

"There are visitors here before us," said Jennie.

"Seems rather like an educational shrine," said Doctor Brathwayt of Mississippi. "How does he accommodate so many visitors in that small edifice?"

"I am not aware," said Jennie, "that he has been in the habit of receiving so very many from outside the district. Well, shall we go in?"

Once inside, Jennie felt a queer return of her old aversion to Jim's methods—the aversion which had caused her to criticize him so sharply on the occasion of her first visit. The reason for the return of the feeling lay in the fact that the work going on was the same sort, but of a more intense character. It was so utterly unlike a school as Jennie understood the word, that she glanced back at the group of educators with a little blush. The school was in a sort of uproar. Not that uproar of boredom and mischief of which most of us have familiar memories, but a sort of eager uproar, in which every child was intensely interested in the same thing; and did little rustling things because of this interest; something like the hum at a football game or a dog-fight.

On one side of the desk stood Jim Irwin, and facing him was a smooth-

stranger or the old-fashioned nogging-rod-agent type—the shallower and laxer sort of salesman of the kind whose sole business is to get signatures on the dotted line, and let some one else do the rest. In short, he was a "closer."

Standing back of him in evident distress was Mr. Cornelius Bonner, and grouped about were Columbus Brown, B. B. Hamm, Ezra Bronson, A. B. Talcott and two or three others from outside the Woodruff district. With envelopes in their hands and the light of battle in their eyes stood Newton Bronson, Raymond Simms, Bettina Hansen, Mary Smith and Angie Talcott, the boys filled with delight, the girls rather frightened at being engaged in something like a debate with the salesman.

As the latest-coming visitors moved forward, they heard the schoolmaster finishing his passage at arms with the "closer."

"You should not feel exasperated at us, Mr. Carmichael," said he in tones of the most complete respect, "for what our figures show. You are unfortunate in the business proposition you offer this community. That is all. Even these children have the facts to prove that the creamery outfit you offer is not worth within two thousand dollars of what you ask for it, and that it is very doubtful if it is the sort of outfit we should need."

"I'll bet you a thousand dollars—" began Carmichael hotly, when Jim waved him down.

"Not with me," said Jim. "Your friend, Mr. Bonner, there, knows what chance there is for you to bet even a thousand cents with me. Besides, we know our facts, in this school. We've been working on them for a long time."

"Bet your life we have!" interpolated Newton Bronson.

"Before we finish," said Jim, "I want to thank you gentlemen for bringing in Mr. Carmichael. We have been reading up on the literature of the creamery promoter and it is a



"I'll Bet You a Thousand Dollars," cried Carmichael hotly. Very uneasily he was in the flesh with whom to—to demonstrate, if Mr. Carmichael will allow me to say so."

Carmichael looked at Bonner, made an expressive motion with his head toward the door, and turned as if to leave.

"Well," said he, "I can do plenty of business with real men. If you want to make the deal I offer you, and I can show you from the statistics I've got at the hotel that it's a special deal just to get started in this part of the state, and carries a thousand dollars of cut in price to you—let's leave these children and this be school-ma'am and get something done."

"I can't allow you to depart," said Jim more gently than before, "without thanking you for the very excellent talk you gave us on the advantage of the co-operative creamery over the centralizer. We in this school believe in the co-operative creamery, and if we can get rid of you, Mr. Carmichael, without buying your equipment, I think your work here may be productive of good."

"He's off three or four points on the average overrun in the Wisconsin co-ops," said Newton.

"And we thought," said Mary Smith, "that we'd need more cows than he said to keep up a creamery of our own."

"Oh," replied Jim, "but we mustn't expect Mr. Carmichael to know the subject as well as we do, children. He makes a practice of talking mostly to people who know nothing about it—and he talks very well. All in favor of thanking Mr. Carmichael please say 'Aye.'"

(To be continued)

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR COUNTY JUDGE

To the Voters of Morrow County: I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of County Judge on the democratic ticket, at the primary nominating election, Friday, May 16, 1924. R. L. BENGE.

FOR SHERIFF

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Sheriff, subject to the will of the Republican voters, at the Primary Election to be held in May, 1924. GEORGE MEDUFFEE.

FOR COUNTY CLERK

To the Republican Voters of Morrow County: I hereby announce that I will be a candidate for the nomination for County Clerk at the Primary Election to be held May 16, 1924. GAY M. ANDERSON.

FOR COUNTY JUDGE

To the Republicans of Morrow County: I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination at your hands for the office of County Judge at the primary election in May, 1924. My experience of many years as County Commissioner makes me conversant with the duties of the office I seek, and I shall greatly appreciate your support in the primary; and for all past favors, I thank you kindly. G. A. BLEAKMAN, Hardman.

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

I hereby announce my candidacy for the office of County Commissioner for Morrow county subject to the will of the Republican voters at the coming primary election to be held on the 16th day of May, 1924. L. J. DAVIDSON.

FOR COUNTY CLERK

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the nomination for County Clerk for Morrow county, Oregon, on the Democratic ticket, subject to the will of the Democratic voters at the primary election to be held May 16, 1924. W. A. RICHARDSON.

FOR COUNTY JUDGE

To the Republican Voters of Morrow County: I hereby announce that I will be a candidate for the nomination for County Judge, at the primary election, to be held May 16th, 1924. During my term, my policy has been to obtain efficiency in public service, with economy and fairness. If nominated and elected, I pledge the same in the future. Wm. T. CAMPBELL, Incumbent.

INFORMATION WANTED

Kenneth Peterson, 14 years old, left Portland on Friday, February 29th, and was last seen at The Dalles. One man was told by the boy that he intended to go to Pendleton, and he told another that he intended to go to Bend, expressing discouragement and readiness to come home. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Peterson, 190 Fourteenth street, have not heard from him since he was seen by the agent at The Dalles station Saturday, March 1st, and are worried and anxious to learn his whereabouts. If anyone knows of the whereabouts of this boy, the parents will appreciate their communicating with them at once by wire at their expense.

He left Portland in company with Albert Butler, age 16, and this boy is very noticeable on account of large scar on his right jaw. However, they may have parted company.

Kenneth Peterson wore a light green coat and had a green flannel shirt and a light striped shirt, either of which he may be wearing, corduroy breeches, puttees and black shoes, and a light cap. He has blue eyes, light brown hair and a fair complexion; is five feet five inches tall and weighs 110 pounds.

J. A. PETERSON.

LAGRADE MAN FAVORS COUNTY UNIT SYSTEM

A. C. Hampton, superintendent of the LaGrande schools, has written Superintendent Shurtle the following regarding the county unit system:

"The school district as an administrative and taxing unit, has proven to be inadequate. It is manifestly unfair when we consider that in one district that happens to have a high valuation the children are given the best of advantages, while in another district in the same county the people cannot give their children a good school. The only solution is to make the county the unit, both for taxation and administration to the end that the resources of the whole county may be put behind the education of every boy and girl in the county; and that the administration may be made more efficient by centralizing the control in one board for the county the same as is now followed in other cities."

"A. C. HAMPTON, Superintendent, 'LaGrande Schools'."

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON For Morrow County

Lawrence A. Perry, Plaintiff, vs. John J. Kelly, P. T. Murphy, Eugene Moltor, Mary E. Gorman and G. W. Gorman, Defendants.

TO P. T. MURPHY, EUGENE MOLTOR and G. W. GORMAN, of the above named defendants:-

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON:- You, and each of you, are hereby required to appear and answer the Complaint of the plaintiff filed against you in the above

entitled cause and Court, on or before six weeks from the date of first publication of this Summons, to-wit: on or before Wednesday, the 16th day of April, 1924, and, if you fail to so appear and answer the Complaint of the plaintiff herein, for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief prayed for in Plaintiff's Complaint herein, to-wit:-

For Judgment and Decree against the defendant, John J. Kelly, in the sum of \$16,600.00, together with interest thereon at the rate of six per cent per annum from the 30th day of July, 1918, less the sum of \$1,000.00 paid thereon on December 10th, 1921, and for the further sum of \$1,500.00 attorneys' fees, and for plaintiff's costs and disbursements of said suit; that a certain contract, particularly described in said Complaint, and made and entered into on the 30th day of July, 1918, between the defendant, Mary E. Perry, now Mary E. Gorman, and the defendant, John J. Kelly, be decreed to be a real property mortgage lien upon the lands described therein, to-wit:

The NW 1/4 of Section 19; the S 1/2 of the S 1/2 of Section 20; the SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 21; the NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 28; all of Section 29, except the N 1/2 of NE 1/4; the S 1/2 of N 1/2, and N 1/2 of NE 1/4 of Section 30; the SE 1/4 of NW 1/4, the SW 1/4 of NE 1/4, the N 1/2 of SE 1/4, and SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 31; the E 1/2, the N 1/2 of NW 1/4, SW 1/4 of NW 1/4, S 1/2 of SW 1/4 and NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Sec. 32, in Twp. 4, S., R. 24, E. W. M., in Morrow County, Oregon, and the SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 25, Twp. 4 South, Range 23, E. W. M., in Gilliam County, Oregon. That the description therein, and said contract, be reformed so as to include therein the SE 1/4 of NW 1/4, and NE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Sec. 32, and SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 and S 1/2 of SW 1/4 of Sec. 31, in Twp. 4, S., Range 24, and to exclude therefrom the NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 31, in Twp. 4, S., R. 24, all E. W. M.

That as so reformed said mortgage be foreclosed and said land sold, as upon execution, and as by law provided, and that the said defendants, and each and all of them, be barred from all right, title or interest or claim in or to said premises, except the statutory right to redeem, and that the money arising from said sale be applied to the payment of the costs and disbursements of said suit, to the payment of the attorneys' fees

allowed, and to the payment of the aggregate sum of \$16,600.00, together with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum from July 30, 1918, less the sum of \$1000.00 paid thereon on Dec. 10, 1921, and for such other and further relief as may be just and equitable.

This summons is served upon you by publication thereof once a week for six consecutive weeks in the Heppner Herald, a weekly newspaper of general circulation in Morrow County, Oregon, published at Heppner, by Order of the Hon. Gilbert W. Phelps, Circuit Judge of the above entitled Court, made and entered on the 29th day of February, 1924, and the date of the first publication hereof is Tuesday, the 4th day of March, 1924, and the date of the last publication hereof will be the 15th day of April, 1924.

VAN VACTOR & BUTLER, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Residence and Postoffice Address: The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon. 45-51

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON For Morrow County

Cecile M. Dempsey, Plaintiff, vs. Thomas V. Dempsey, Defendant.

IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and answer the plaintiff's complaint filed herein, against you in the above entitled court and cause, within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons; and if you fail to appear and answer said complaint, for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief prayed for in her complaint, which is as follows, to-wit: That the bonds of matrimony now and heretofore existing between the plaintiff and the defendant be dissolved and forever held for naught, and that the plaintiff have an absolute divorce from the defendant.

This summons is served upon you by publication thereof for the period of six weeks in the Heppner Herald, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published at Heppner, Oregon, by order of Hon. W. T. Campbell, County Judge of Morrow County, State of Oregon, made and entered on the 3rd day of March, 1924.

The date of first publication is March 4, 1924.

WOODSON & SWEET, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Address: Heppner, Oregon. 45-51

Good Words About COFFEE

The conclusions of a three-years investigation by Professor Prescott, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, are summed up as follows:

Coffee is an efficient, harmless stimulant

Its quality depends on how it is made

The professor says: "Coffee promotes heart action mildly, increases the power of concentration in mental effort and increases the power to do muscular work and is therefore an aid to sustained brain work. It has no depressive after effects and is not habit forming."

How's that for a "clean bill" for coffee?

WE HANDLE ALL THE BEST BRANDS

PHELPS GROCERY COMPANY

Our new terms—5 per cent discount for cash or 2 per cent for prompt payment of monthly bills—are meeting with approval

Thomson Bros.

OUR STORE is headquarters for seasonable merchandise.

We can feed and clothe the whole family from soup to nuts and from hats to shoes

See our line of Suits and Overcoats for Men and Boys