

THE FORTUNE HUNTER

Novelized by LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE From the Play of the Same Name by WINCHELL SMITH

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(Continued from Tuesday.)

"I suppose I must. But I can't help it. I can't make you see how the thing looks to me. You know—I've written you all about everything—what this place has meant to me. Until I came here I never realized it was in me to make good at anything. But here I have. I'm doing so well that I'd actually have some self-respect if I wasn't bound to play this low down trick on Josie Lockwood. I've worked and succeeded and been of some service to people who were worth it—

"Who? Sam Graham?" "He and his daughter"— "Oh, his daughter?" "Now, get that foolish idea out of your head. There's nothing in it. Betty's just a simple, sweet little girl who's had a pretty hard time and never a real chance in life—until I managed to give it to her. And I'd feel pretty good about that if— Oh, there's no use talking to you!" "No; go on. You're very entertaining." Kellogg laughed mockingly. "Well, I have tried to keep to the terms of our understanding. I singled out this Lockwood girl and worked all the degrees—didn't say much, you know—no hove-making—just let her catch me looking sadly at her once in awhile."

"That's the way to work it." "Yes, that's the way," Nat assented gloomily.

Kellogg laughed with delight. "Nat," he cried, "my poor crazy friend, listen to me. This working and church-going and helping old Graham is all very noble and fine, and I'm glad you've done it. This drug store is a monument to the business ability that I always knew was latent in you. And clean living hasn't done you any harm. But now you're due to come down to earth. This place pays you a neat profit. Well and good. That's all it'll ever do. It's new to you now, and you like the novelty, and you're having the time of your life finding out you're good for something. But pretty soon it'll begin to stale on you, and before long you'll find yourself hating it and the town, and then you'll be back where you started. Now, I'm going to hold you to our bargain for your own sake. If you're stuck on the town and the work you can keep right on just as well after you're married, but when you do begin to tire of it you'll want that fortune to fall back

you'll have nothing to say." "Thank you for nothing," said Duncan bitterly. "A bargain's a bargain. I gave you my word of honor I'd go through with this thing, and I'll stick to it. But I tell you I don't like it." "Oh, I know how you feel, Nat. But I know that some day you'll come to me and say, 'Harry, if you had let me back out I'd never have forgiven you.'"

"All right," said Nat impatiently. "I presume you know best." CHAPTER XIX. CUSTOMER came and went after Kellogg had gone upstairs to meet Sam Graham, and then Nat noticed that twilight was beginning to darken the store.

Tracey returned to look after the store during the supper hour, but was delighted to hear that he need not remain, but could go back to his beloved Angie.

Now Nat moved to the windows and switched on the bulbs behind the huge glass jars filled with tinted water. Returning, he was about to connect up the remainder of the illuminating system when Josie, entering, stayed him. Later he was glad of this.

"Nat," he knew that voice. "Why, Josie!" he exclaimed in surprise, swinging about to discover her standing on the threshold, very dainty and fetching—

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indeed, in one of the summery frocks she had brought back from New York. She moved over to him, holding out her hand. He took it with disguised reluctance. "I'm so glad," she sighed. "I wanted to see you—to talk to you alone." He bit his lip in his annoyance, shivering with a presentiment. "What about Josie?" "About Wednesday night, after prayer-meeting. Why didn't you wait for me?" "Why—ah—I had to get back to the store, you know. There were some checks to be made out and sent off, and I'd forgotten them. Besides," he added on inspiration, "you were talking with Roland, and I didn't want to interrupt you."

"So you left me to go home with him?" "Why, what else?" "You're making me awful unhappy." Her voice trembled. "You know I didn't want to walk home with Roland."

"How could I know that?" "I should think you ought to know it, Nat, unless you're blind. Besides, I told you once."

"True," he fenced desperately, "but that was a long time ago, and how could I be sure you hadn't changed your mind? Besides, you know, I mustn't monopolize you. If I do—"

"Why, if I do—ah—"

"Because I do like you, Nat, very much, and—and it's very hard for me to know that folks think I'm pursuing you and that you're trying to avoid me."

"Josie!" he exclaimed reproachfully. "Well, that's the way it looks," she affirmed plaintively. "You don't want it, do you?" "Why, no; of course I don't."

"Then why don't you stop it?" She watched his face, her manner coy and yielding. "Nat," she said in a softer voice, "if you like me as well as I like you—"

He moved away a pace or two. "Ah, child," he said, with a feeling that the term was not misapplied somehow. "You don't know what you're saying!" "Yes, I do," she pouted. "I don't believe you care anything about me."

"Oh, Josie, please!" "Well, anyway you're never told me so," she turned an indignant shoulder to him.

"How could I?" "Why couldn't you?" "But don't you see that I shouldn't?"

"I'm charmed. I've heard a great deal of you, Miss Lockwood, from Nat's letters, and I shall hope to know you much better before long."

"It's awful nice of you to say so, Mr. Kellogg."

"And Nat, old man—Kellogg threw an arm round Duncan's shoulder—I congratulate you! You're a lucky dog!" "I'm a dog, all right," said Nat glumly.

"But we mustn't disturb these young people, Mr. Kellogg," Graham broke in nervously. "They'll—they'll have a lot to say to one another, I'm sure, so we'll just run along. I'm taking Mr. Kellogg up to the house, Nat. You'll follow us as soon as you can, won't you?"

"Yes—sure."

"I've got some news for you, too, that'll make you happy."

"Never mind about that; it'll keep till supper, Mr. Graham." Kellogg laughed, taking the old man's arm. "Goodby, both of you—goodby for a little while."

"I'm a dog, all right," said Nat glumly. "But we mustn't disturb these young people, Mr. Kellogg," Graham broke in nervously. "They'll—they'll have a lot to say to one another, I'm sure, so we'll just run along. I'm taking Mr. Kellogg up to the house, Nat. You'll follow us as soon as you can, won't you?"

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"Wasn't that terrible?" Josie turned back to Nat when they were alone.

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CITY NOTICES.

ORDINANCE NO. 950. An ordinance assessing the property adjacent to and fronted by the 4-inch lateral sewer constructed along alley through block 20 from Main street to Eighth street, the cost of constructing the same and providing the means of carrying said assessment into full effect.

The City of Medford doth ordain as follows: Section 1. Whereas, the Council did heretofore provide by ordinance for serving the owners of property adjacent to and benefited by the construction of the lateral sewer heretofore described to appear before said Council and show cause, if any, why said property should not be assessed for the construction of said sewer, and that the same should be assessed for bearing any protest, which notice was given in accordance with said ordinance more than ten days before the beginning of the construction of said sewer, but no protests against said construction were made by any one and said sewer was constructed and completed.

Now therefore, said city doth ordain and declare that each parcel of property described in each section hereinafter set forth by this ordinance shall be assessed for the same in accordance with the provisions of said ordinance, and the amount of said assessment shall be ascertained by the City Recorder, and the same shall be paid to the City Treasurer for the use of the City of Medford.

ASSESSMENT NO. 4.—JULIA MILLS. Lot 4, block 20, Original Townsite, City of Medford, Oregon. Frontage 25 feet on the north side of said alley, as described in Vol. 25, page 122 and 123, and Vol. 29, page 122, of the county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 25 feet; rate per foot, \$1.98; amount, \$49.50.

ASSESSMENT NO. 5.—J. C. T. NASH. Lot 5, block 20, Original Townsite, City of Medford, Oregon. Frontage 25 feet on the west side of said alley, as described in Vol. 25, page 122 and 123, and Vol. 29, page 122, of the county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 25 feet; rate per foot, \$1.98; amount, \$49.50.

ASSESSMENT NO. 6.—M. G. THOMAS. Lot 6, block 20, Original Townsite, City of Medford, Oregon. Frontage 25 feet on the west side of said alley, as described in Vol. 25, page 122 and 123, and Vol. 29, page 122, of the county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 25 feet; rate per foot, \$1.98; amount, \$49.50.

ASSESSMENT NO. 7.—ED WILKINSON. The south 22 feet of lot 11, block 20, Original Townsite, City of Medford, Oregon. Frontage 22 feet on the west side of said alley, as described in Vol. 25, page 122 and 123, and Vol. 29, page 122, of the county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 22 feet; rate per foot, \$1.98; amount, \$43.56.

ASSESSMENT NO. 8.—ED WILKINSON. The north 22 feet of lot 11, block 20, Original Townsite, City of Medford, Oregon. Frontage 22 feet on the east side of said alley, as described in Vol. 25, page 122 and 123, and Vol. 29, page 122, of the county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 22 feet; rate per foot, \$1.98; amount, \$43.56.

CITY NOTICES.

ORDINANCE NO. 951. An ordinance providing for the execution of a contract with the Jacobson Pipe Company for excavating and backfilling trenches and furnishing and installing water hydrants, valves and other equipment in the construction of the water main along Florence avenue from Main street to Scott street and providing the means of carrying said assessment into full effect.

The City of Medford doth ordain as follows: Section 1. That the proposition of the Jacobson Pipe Company, an Oregon corporation, for laying a water main Florence avenue from Main street to Scott street in the City of Medford, including excavating and backfilling trenches, furnishing and laying pipe and placing hydrants, gate valves, cross-couplings and elbows on Florence avenue from Main street to Scott street in said city.

This agreement made and entered into this 17th day of January, 1912, between the City of Medford, Oregon, hereinafter named as the contractor, and the City of Medford, an municipal corporation, hereinafter called the city.

Whereas, for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) in lawful money of the United States, the contractor agrees to place all hydrants and gate valves and all cross-couplings and elbows at the points indicated on the plans and specifications for said work on file in the office of the City Recorder of said city, and to perform all of said work in a proper, substantial and workmanlike manner in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the City Recorder, which plans and specifications have been adopted by the City Council of said city, and the terms and conditions in said plans and specifications not forth, which said plans and specifications are hereby referred to and made a part of this agreement.

The contractor shall look for payment only for the work actually done and paid into the City Treasury for that purpose, and will not require the City of Medford by any legal process or otherwise to pay the same out of any city fund, except as provided for by the City of Medford, and will not be held liable to provide such funds, and if assessments upon the property affected, and the contractor further agrees that he will submit a bona fide offer of interest for all water main bonds lawfully issued by the City of Medford to pay any of said work and if awarded and paid for the same.

Upon the completion of the improvement upon these streets, according to the contract, the city shall forthwith accept the work done and perform the same, and the contractor shall be held to be the contractor and shall be held to be the contractor and shall be held to be the contractor and shall be held to be the contractor.

It is further agreed that the said party of the first part, the contractor, above named, shall furnish bond for the faithful performance of this contract, to be approved by the Mayor of said city, in the sum of \$1,000.00, guaranteeing the faithful performance of this contract and further providing for the indemnifying of said city against any claims or liens for labor, work or materials on account of all sub-contractors, material men, laborers and others furnishing labor or material on this contract.

It is further agreed that said work shall be commenced and prosecuted with all reasonable diligence and dispatch, and that all of said work shall be completed on or before the 1st day of February, 1912.

Contractor, By CITY OF MEDFORD, City Recorder. Attest: By Mayor. The foregoing ordinance was passed by the City Council of the City of Medford, Oregon, on the 17th day of January, 1912, by the following vote: Ayes, 4; nays, 0; absent, 1.

Clark & Wright LAWYERS WASHINGTON, D. C. Public Land Matters; Final Proof, Desert Lands, Contests and Mining Cases. Serip. Associate Work for Attorneys

Valley Second Hand Store Buys and Sells Second-Hand Goods, Copper, Rubber, Brass, Etc. M. J. PILCHER, Prop. 15 North Fir Home 354 Bell 3072

C. A. POE For your Repairing of Plumbing and Pumpwork. Coils installed and guaranteed to give satisfaction. Estimates given on Water Supply Systems and Plumbing. No job too small or large. ALL WORK POSITIVELY GUARANTEED. No. 24 Fir Street South. Pacific 3702.

EAGLE POINT LIVERY STABLE The undersigned having just completed a large new livery stable in Eagle Point, we invite the traveling public to call and examine our rigs, teams, etc., all being in first-class condition. Our motto is to Live and Let Live. Phone at stable and residence. Call central. S. H. HARRIS & SON, Props.

PLUMBING Steam and Hot Water Heating All Work Guaranteed. Prices Reasonable. COFFEEN & PRICE 25 Howard Block, Entrance on 4th St. Pacific 3031. Home 448.

TREES that grow TREES that bear Northern Crown Stock

Columbia & Okanogan Nursery Company Of the Wenatchee Valley O. M. Landon, Medford Salesman Phone 84-R. 247 S. Riverside

NEW LINE to TILLAMOOK SOUTHERN PACIFIC SUNSET OGDEN & SHASTA ROUTES

Pacific Railway & Navigation Co. Trains will run daily, except Sunday, on the following schedule: Lv. Portland, 7:20 a. m. Lv. Hillsboro, 8:50 a. m. Ar. Beach Points, 1:20 p. m. Ar. Bay City, 3:04 p. m. Ar. Tillamook, 3:25 p. m. Lv. Tillamook, 7:55 a. m. Lv. Bay City, 8:15 a. m. Lv. Beach Points, 9:00 a. m. Ar. Hillsboro, 1:25 p. m. Ar. Portland, 4:10 p. m. Through tickets on sale at city ticket office, Third and Washington streets, on Fourth and Yamhill, to all points on the P. R. & N. Further particulars from the city ticket agent or agent Fourth and Yamhill streets.

John M. Scott, General Passenger Agent, Portland, Oregon.



ARACELY WAS DELIGHTED.



"I'M A DOG, ALL RIGHT," SAID NAT.



"OH, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, NAT."



FOUND HIMSELF CAUGHT BY THE GIRL'S ARMS.

on and do what you like with. Don't let this chance slip—not on your life!" "But," Nat argued feebly, "think of the injustice to the girl. From the way I've behaved since I struck this burg she thinks I'm closely related to the salina."

Duncan grasped frantically at straws. "But you don't really mean it, Josie. You know you don't," he boomed. "You're just saying that because you—don't have such a kind heart and—ah—don't want to hurt me—ah—because—"

Upon this tableau there came a sudden intrusion. The back door opened, and Graham came in, Kellogg at his heels. It was the voice of the latter that told the two they were discovered, a hearty "Hello! What's this?" that rang in Nat's ears like the tramp of doom.

The latter ruminated on the event, breathing stertorously, while Duncan was fixing up a wash of perfume. "She'll kill me some day," he announced suddenly, with intense conviction in his tone.

NOTICE. To the owner, or reputed owner, of each parcel of property described in the foregoing ordinance, as amended thereto, and in the lien declared by said ordinance, as recorded in the docket of city liens. You are hereby notified that the assessment declared by the foregoing ordinance has been made and the liens therefor entered in the city lien docket, and that the same is due and you are hereby notified to pay the same to the city recorder within ten days from the service