The Secret of Mohawk Pond

By Natalie Sumner Lincoln

SYNOPSIS: Sundown, the swarthy-skinned camper on Mohawk Pond, who already has earned the suspicious regard of Peggy and Obadiah and his son Jim, arouses Aquila Chase, whom he meets in the woods. The Indian carelessly tells Chase he has a paper which Peggy needs and will pay much to gain. Chase goes to tell Obadiah of his suspicions. Disaster climaxes a walk in the woods when Julia sinks in a bog and almost draws Peggy with her as the latter makes a vain attempt to rescue her. Jim responds to Peggy's cries and rescues both. The spell of romance envelops Peggy and Jim at the lodge and Peggy says: "Yes."

CHAPTER 25.

JULIA'S SECRET.

PEGGY, her eyes alight with happiness, watched the tall figure of Jim until his figure was no longer visible among the trees skirting Mohawk Lane.

Locking the house, she went upstairs to retire. Within 10 minutes Peggy had climbed into bed, but she was too excited to sleep; too excited even to lie still, and switching on the reading lamp close at hand, she sat up and started a letter to her mother.

She wrote rapidly, covering sheet after sheet, a genuine outpouring of her heart; of Jim and their great happiness, of her plans for the future; then hopped out of bed and hurried to the desk in the gallery outside her door. It took her a second or two to address an envelope and find a stamp.

As Peggy paused to switch off the electric lamp in the hall near her bedroom she noticed a light shining under the door jamb of Julia's bedroom. It was unlike Julia to be awake at that hour of the night. Could she be ill? She opened the maid's door, omitting the formality of knocking.

Julia, propped up in bed with numerous pillows at her back was comfortably reading. She greeted Peggy's appearance with a startled ejaculation.

"Come in an' set down, Miss Peggy," she invited cordially. "I'se undergoin' a queer 'sperience tonight; I cain't sleep."

"No more can I, Julia."

Peggy pulled up a comfortable rocking chair and sat down. "Are you feeling ill?"

"No, ma'am. But I reckon gettin' stuck in dat dar bottomless bog done upset me."

"It was enough to turn you gray-haired," exclaimed Peggy heartily, and at the mere suggestion Julia's hands went to her head; there was more kink than usual in her black locks, for her enforced sojourn at Yew Lodge had prevented her visiting one of the establishments for keeping her hair straight as an Indian's.

"The next time you wish to gather flowers, restrain that impulse," Peggy advised smilingly. "Leave botany to Mr. Chase."

"Yassam." But Julia's thoughts were still on her hair. "Do you reckon I could take a day off to go to New York, Miss Peggy? My hair's gittin' turrible."

"Use a flatiron; I'll help."

But Julia scorned the suggestion.

"I kin git that dar housekeeper, Miss Deborah, to stay hyar," she went on, doing her thinking aloud: "Mister Jim will let her come, if yo' asks it," with a knowing smile.

Peggy blushed, then looked up bravely.

"We are engaged, Mr. Jim and I—"

"Lawsy, Miss Peggy, I knowed it." It was Julia's turn to chuckle. "Ain't I got eyes in de back ob mah head?" Then she sobered. "Honey, I wishes yo' all de happiness in de worl' an' I wishes de same to Mister Jim; he's one fine gemmin. I been watchin' him close, an' he's mos' good nuff fo' yo'."

"Thank you, Julia—" Peggy's eyes resembled twin stars. "We owe Mr. Jim so much, you and I, for he saved our lives this afternoon."

"He sho'ly did," agreed the other with vigor and enthusiasm enough to satisfy even Peggy.

Julia broke off suddenly as a thought struck her.

"Miss Peggy," she exclaimed, half rising in bed, "did yo' think to gib dem spy glasses back to Mister Jim? De ones I done haul off his neck in tryin' to git out ob de bog? I toted 'em home when he brung yo' an' cleaned 'em off an' laid 'em on de liberry table."

"He found the binoculars and took them home—"

"He did?"

Julia sank back, much relieved. She twiddled with the bedclothes for a moment in nervous hesitation, glanced at Peggy, then looked away, only to gaze at her a second later with appealing troubled eyes.

"Miss Peggy," she began, taking a long breath, "dem thing yo' call bi—bi—"

"Binoculars, Julia."

"Yassam—spy-glasses, I calls 'em. Well, Miss Peggy, Lieutenant Stanton had a pair jes' lak 'em."

If Julia had exploded a firecracker, Peggy could not have been more taken aback.

"What do you mean?" she demanded. "Had you ever seen Lieutenant Stanton other than that one time when he passed us on horseback on the Milton road?"

"Yassum—lots ob times."

The truth was out at last and Julia breathed more easily.

"Now, Miss Peggy, don' git excited an' I'll explain."

"Go on; was he here and you didn't tell me?"

"I didn't know him hyar"—swiftly Julia evaded a direct reply, and for fear Peggy would analyze her answer, spoke more rapidly. "He was at Front Royal befo' yo' Ma an' Pa cum dar—it wuz 'bout de fust year ob de wah."

"What was he doing there?" questioned Peggy. "Lieutenant Stanton was in the navy during the war and that is an army post."

"He wuz payin' 'tention to a married lady dar," broke in Julia. "A Mis' Beale, her name wuz, Mis' Anne Beale. She wuz stayin' at de boa'din house whar I worked den, while Lieutenant Stanton was visitin' on de pos', not so fur away. Mis' Beale useter leave her lamp lighted when her husban' war'nt dar, an' Lieutenant Stanton used his spy glasses to see her window. He lef' 'em once, an' I took 'em back."

"Well, did the husband find out about the flirtation?"

"He sho'ly did an' kicked up a turrible fuss; Mis' Beale had to leave."

Julia smiled reminiscently.

"Yo' Pa and Ma heared 'bout it, Miss Peggy, 'cause it made a consid'ble stir in dem parts."

"Yo' Ma tole me several years later dat she heared Lieutenant Stanton nebber went back to her an' Mis' Beale died ob shame an' a broken heart."

"Poor woman!" exclaimed Peggy, in genuine pity.

Julia raised up in bed, her black eyes flashing. "Yo' done a good deed when yo' killed Lieutenant Stanton—de yeller dawg."

"Hush, Julia, hush!" Peggy covered her ears. "Don't let's talk about it or I won't sleep a wink tonight. And," rising swiftly, "it's high time we were both in bed and asleep. No more reading tonight!" —her eyes fell on the book by Julia; swiftly she stooped and picked it up, turning it over as she did so. "The Bible, Julia—"

"Yassum; I foun' it on de table in de big guest room," meekly. "I thought maybe it might ca'm me to read 'bout David an' Goliah."

Peggy chuckled. "That isn't exactly the passage in the Bible I'd pick out as particularly soothing," she said, tucking the book under her arm.

"But David done up Goliah same as yo' done up Lieutenant Stanton—"

Peggy's upraised hand stopped her.

"Good night, sleep tight," and she put out the light and sped to her own room.

She stopped on her way to bed to take a paper from the top drawer of her dresser, then feeling chilled after her long absence in Julia's bedroom, she hunted in her closet for an eiderdown quilt.

Once more in bed she dragged it over her and with pillows at her back, perused the Bible. First, however, she scanned the paper with its pencilled memorandum in her own handwriting, reading aloud under her breath, the underscored message copied from the old Bible.

"When thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off."

Peggy read it again, wrinkling her brows in thought. Who had placed the arrow on the margin calling attention to that underscored passage? Was it done in days gone by? Or was it done fairly recently by her Uncle Herbert? If so, was he trying to convey to the reader that there was something hidden in Yew Lodge?

Was the message particularly meant for her? She had "expectation" surely, the expectation of inheriting his fortune, and it would be "cut off" if she did not implicitly obey the restrictions in his will. Was that promised "reward" another will and a later one, or gold, or jewels, or a hoax?

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Obadiah Evans decides on a plan of action and visits Sheriff Beach in tomorrow's installment.

EASTERN STARS ORGANIZING FOR SHRINE BENEFIT

CHICAGO, Dec. 16—(AP) Twenty-two midwestern and eastern football stars who will represent the east against the west in the Shrine benefit game on New Year's day at San Francisco, today began active organization.

The squad includes 11 eastern players and a like number from the midwest, the former selected by Coach Kerr of Colgate, and the rest by Dick Hanley of Northwestern. The first workout was set for today at Dyche stadium, Northwestern's home field, which will be the training ground until the squad starts west.

The team this year appears to be more powerful than last year in the line, while the list of backs also is impressive. Outstanding among the linemen are Cannon and Twomey, of Notre Dame; Anderson and Erickson, of Northwestern Bronko Hagurski and Tanner of Minnesota; Bill Mooney of Georgetown, and Red Steigar of Purdue.

Famous backfield men of the season who will invade the west are Frosty Peters, Illinois; Willis Glassgow, Iowa; Lloyd Brazil, University of Detroit; Tommy Dowler, Colgate and Tony Holm, Alabama fullback star.

OUTBOARD MOTORS TO HAVE SELF-STARTERS, BROWNE HDWE. TOLD

The year 1930 will see outboard motors equipped with electric self-starters. News of this revolutionary development which has long been hoped for by boating enthusiasts the country over, was received here today from the Johnson Motor company, Waukegan, Ill., manufacturers of outboard motors, by Browne Hardware company, their local representatives.

"This news comes as one of the most important announcements ever made to boatmen," said J. P. Smith, secretary of the local outboard motor club, "and the innovation of the self-starter marks a new era in the steady upward progress in the amazing development of this popular marine motor. "Everyone knows the tremendous impetus the electric starter gave the automobile world, and I am positive this impetus will be repeated in the outboard field. Ease and certainty of automobile starting for outboards are accomplished facts for 1930."

The new electric starters will be standard equipment on the Sea Horse motors which power the new Johnson Aquaflyer matched units for 1930, according to Mr. Smith. In design and operation the new starters are both simple and efficient. The starting unit consists of the electric starter itself, generator and flywheel all in one. Power is obtained from a six-volt battery and the unit not only starts the motor, but also charges the battery and supplies current for the lights.

RUDOLPH RETAINS LEAD IN CUE PLAY

DETROIT, Dec. 16.—(AP)—With 13 of the 28 games completed, Erwin Rudolph of Chicago is still holding the lead in the world's championship pocket billiard tournament here. He won his fourth straight in as many starts by defeating Pasquale Natalie of Detroit last night by 125 to 77 in 31 inning. His high run was 37 to Natalie's 29.

By the feature of yesterday's play was the sensational uphill fight by Ralph Greenleaf, former title holder, to keep from being eliminated. Greenleaf defeated Onofrio Lauri of Brooklyn, 125 to 123 in 24 innings of grelling play. In the first half of the 17th inning Greenleaf was trailing by 115 to 79.

TALENT

TALENT, Ore., Dec. 16.—(Spl.)—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hart, for several years residents of Talent, have moved to Medford where Mr. Hart is employed.

Mrs. Carter and children of Oakland, California, are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Johnson. Mr. Carter is expected to arrive soon and they will take up the residence near Talent.

Ellis Beeson of Thorp, Wash., is visiting relatives and friends in this vicinity for the next two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Home of Selma, spent the week-end with Tom Lamb and Mrs. Katie Mason.

Mr. and Mrs. Mee of Medford called on Mr. and Mrs. Farges of this city Dec. 14.

QUESTION CITIZENSHIP CALIFORNIA NOMINEE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(AP)—Final action on the nomination of Al Ottodal to be collector of internal revenue at San Francisco which has been opposed by Senator Johnson of California, has been held up pending an investigation to determine whether he is a citizen of California.

GOTHAM GOLFER TAKES CATALINA ISLAND TOURNEY

AVALON, Catalina Island, Dec. 16.—(AP) Tony Manero, 24 year old professional of New York city, today holds the second annual Catalina open golf tournament title as a result of some superlative shooting in the final stages of play yesterday when he wound up the fifty-four holes for a 186 card, twelve under par.

Trailing the youth from the side walks of New York was Olin Dutra, native Californian, one stroke behind, while "Wild Bill" Mehlhorn, another New Yorker, won third money with a 188.

The winning scores:

Tony Manero, 64-63-55—186.

Olin Dutra, 65-61-61—187.

Bill Mehlhorn, 63-67-58—188.

For his title winning performance Manero was awarded a check for $1500, while Dutra, the husky Los Angeles pro smilingly accepted second place money of $1000. Mehlhorn's 188 for third place won him a check of $750.

Sport Slants

by ALAN J. GOULD

The ring campaign of 1929 draws to a close with the heavyweight business on the up-grade but with chaos existing in most of the other divisions.

There are no recognized champions at either the top or bottom of the list. The flyweight and bantamweight classes are in dispute. The light heavy and full-fledged heavy crowns are on the shelf for the time being. The National Boxing association does not recognize Mickey Walker as the middleweight king, though no one has yet appeared capable of knocking it off the Jersey Irishman's thatch.

This leaves only three generally recognized world's champions at any weight—Christopher Batalino among the feathers, Sammy Mandell among the lightweights and Jackie Fields among the welters.

So confused has the modern championship situation been that the record of the past eight years reveals only two divisions with an uninterrupted title succession.

Walker, Latzo, Dundee and Fields have occupied the welterweight throne without any breaks arising. Wilson, Greb, Flowers and Walker have kept the middleweight succession intact.

Otherwise there has been at least one gap in every class due to a wide variety of causes. The death of Pancho Villa, the banishment of Phil Rosenberg, the retirement of Benny Leonard and Gene Tunney, the withdrawal of Johnny Dundee, Jack Delaney and Tommy Loughran from the classes they ruled, all contributed to the confusion. Nor has the atmosphere been cleared to any marked extent by the sundry, conflicting edicts of boxing commissions, influenced by expediency and policy.

It's a long way off, but the 1930 football season will involve an unusual number of new and entertaining rivalries. Breaking away from tradition much as Harvard and Yale have done in recent years Pennsylvania has shaken up its whole program, taking on Wisconsin, Kansas, Notre Dame and Georgia Tech to give more national scope to the Quaker program.

Here are a few of the other outstanding new hookups:

Southern Methodist and Notre Dame.

Pittsburg and Notre Dame.

Southern Methodist and Navy.

Carnegie and Georgia Tech.

Florida and Alabama.

Dartmouth and Stanford.

Ohio State and Navy.

West Virginia and Oregon State at Chicago.

Penn State and Colgate.

Colgate and Mississippi.

Looking as far ahead as 1931, the lists being prepared by the energetic schedule-makers include Harvard-Texas, Yale-Chicago and Army-Pittsburg.

PHOENIX GIRLS TEAM IN PRACTICE TONIGHT

PHOENIX, Ore., Dec. 16.—(Special)—The girls' basketball team of the high school will have their first practice tonight. Mr. Mort, one of the teachers of the high school, will coach the girls' team this year.

The boys' basketball team played the Talent team Friday night, the game being won by the Talent team. Last Tuesday night they played a game with the boys' team of St. Mary's academy at which game the Phoenix boys were the victors.

Casey's Compound for Rheumatism and Neuritis

Mr. J. G. Clark of S. 9th St., of Seaside, Oregon, states he suffered for years from rheumatism; had to use a cane. After taking Casey's Compound has laid it aside and can step off like a young man. This blood building tonic reduces pain and swelling. $1.50 per bottle Jarmin & Woods' Drug Store and leading druggists in Ashland.

Veteran Pelkey Retains Punch

Ray Pelky

Ray Pelky, the veteran Oakland fighter, who has met some of the best boys in the world in his 14 years experience and is still boxing in all the large metropolitan centers in the main event class, will have one of his hardest matches of the season when he meets Willie Feldman, New York City, here in a main event at the armory next Friday night. Pelkey two weeks ago defeated Gene O'Grady, southern Oregon's undefeated champion, in four rounds at Portland.

Shy Shires and Modest Trafton To Say It With Gloves Tonight

By William Weeks
Associated Press Sports Writer.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16—(AP) Charles Arthur (The Great) Shires, and George (Supergreat) Trafton, will say it with gloves tonight.

After a week of bandying conversation—liberally sprinkled with personal pronouns — Shires, the fighting baseball player, and Trafton the battling football player, will wallop each other for five rounds or less on Promoter Jim Mullen's card at the White City arena.

"Just a stepping stone to bouts with the best of them," was Shires pre-fight statement.

"Shires' fight career will end tonight—suddenly," Trafton said.

It will be Shires' second fight-for-profit, and his aim is to score his second consecutive knockout victory. Shy Arthur also expects it to serve as a tune-up bout for his world series battle with Hack Wilson, slugging Chicago Cub outfielder—if the project does not collapse as it threatens to do.

Trafton, who will have a 40-pound weight advantage, will be making his initial venture as a money-seeking heavyweight boxer under a serious handicap. The handicap is a black eye, suffered yesterday during the Chicago Bears' final game of the season against Bennie Friedman's New York Giants. Trafton tackled Tony Plansky, Giant halfback ace, and came up with the dark optic.

The 225-pound grid'ron star was worried. Fearing his public would believe Shires was responsible for the black eye, he made a formal announcement that he had a black eye before ever entering the ring with the White Sox first baseman.

The only reason this Trafton won't have two black eyes when the fight is over will be because I will locate his chin before I get to work on the good eye," Arthur said.

There still was hope that Hack Wilson would leave his Virginia mountains to meet Shires in the ring, but it grew more remote today. Hack was inclined to call off the chance to pick up $15,000 and $1000 training expenses, because of opposition by the Cub management.

CHASTAIN SOUGHT TO ADD STRENGTH ON OREGON QUINT

Mervyn Chastain, a member of the University of Oregon basketball squad, failed to report for practice this year, and a call has been issued from the campus for information regarding his whereabouts, as he is needed to play forward and throw baskets.

Mrs. S. E. Chastain of this city, an aunt of the absent athlete said Mervyn worked in a logging camp in Klamath county last summer and was probably still in that district. His parents reside at 925 Patterson street, Eugene.

Chastain in his high school days played with the Medford quintet, and was a member of the first state champion team from this city. He was named all-state forward three years in a row and was a flashy player.

During his college career he was hampered by an injured shoulder, until last year, when he was a member of the first string.

Friends of Chastain in this city, said that he was planning on entering school in February and was working to secure funds to that end.

CHASTAIN MISSING AS OREGON CAGE PLAYER

EUGENE, Ore.—(AP)—With but one basketball letterman eligible, Mervin Chastain, formerly of Medford, and his whereabouts unknown, the University of Oregon this year will hold the unique position of entering its coast schedule with an entirely new squad of men.

The Webfoot schedule will be an asset to the green team, with the first seven conference games on the home court. The Oregon team will play 16 conference tilts this year, as compared to 10 last season.

ROGUE RIVER GRANGE ENTERTAINS VISITORS

ROGUE RIVER, Ore., Dec. 16.—(Special.) Live Oak Grange met for their regular session Monday night. A number of visitors were present, Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson of Central Point, Mr. and Mrs. George Beers, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dimmick and Mr. Sparks of Enterprise grange; also N. C. Westerfield of Central Point Grange. Live Oak Grange accepted an invitation to joint Talent, Central Point and Jacksonville in joint installation of officers at Jacksonville.

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Distributed by Medford Tobacco Co.

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So much of life's work and happiness depends upon the condition of your eyes that you cannot afford to overwork or abuse them.

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PLAN NEW LIGHTING SYSTEM IN TALENT

TALENT, Ore., Dec. 16.—(Spl.) A special meeting of the city council of Talent was called Friday evening. Mr. Thompson, representative of Copco was present and discussed the rebuilding of the city's lighting system, which is another important step in the administration during the past year.

TALENT GRANGERS JOIN INSTALLATION MEETING

TALENT, Ore., Dec. 16.—(Spl.) A number of local people as well as the newly elected officers of the Talent Grange attended the installation of officers at Jacksonville, December 12. Central Point, Live Oak, Jacksonville and Talent Granges were led in a joint installation by Mrs. Gertrude Haack of Eagle Point.

CIVIL WAR VETERAN OF TALENT 81 SUNDAY

TALENT, Ore., Dec. 16.—(Spl.) One of Talent's oldest and best beloved citizens, I. S. Crawford, celebrated his 81st birthday anniversary last Sunday. Mr. Crawford is a Civil war veteran and although at this advanced age is very active. Mr. Crawford has a host of friends who wish him many more happy birthdays.

Silverton.—The Appeal, publication here, changed hands.