

The Secret of Mohawk Pond

By Natalie Summer Lincoln

SYNOPSIS: Seeking relief from the ominous atmosphere of Yew Lodge brings persons acquaintance to Peggy and Julia. Helplessly wired in a box while gathering flowers they are saved by Jim's timely arrival. Dropping both to safety, Jim carries the crippled girl back to the lodge where, under the romantic spell of the moment, they tell each other of their love and Peggy accepts Jim's proposal. A sleepless night, and Peggy visits Julia's room, to return from her maid a revelation that Miss Stanton Stanton ardently courted a married woman, Mrs. Annie Deale, at an army post during the war, then deserted her after breaking up her home.

THE WARNING

OBADIAH EVANS mounted the front steps of Phelps Tavern with heavy, tired tread.

His fatigue was indicated also by unusually heavy lines in his clean shaven face, lines which had not been there a month before.

The clerk at the desk greeted him cordially as he entered the office.

"A room for the night," he said, in answer to Obadiah's question. "Certainly, Mr. Evans. Have you any luggage?"

"Nary a piece," and Obadiah waved a porter back to his seat in the hall, "save this"—and he put a small black bag on the counter. "Lock it up in your safe until I get back."

His glance strayed to the clock on the wall; the hands pointed to 10 minutes past 10.

"I'll return later," and before the clerk could say more, he was out of the office.

The rain had developed into a steady downpour and Obadiah pulled the brim of his hat over his eyes to protect them as he hurried up the steps of the fall. His knock on the door brought instant response.

"Evening, Sheriff," Obadiah brushed by the astonished man and entered the hall, where he paused to remove his wet overcoat and hat.

"Can I have a private word with you?"

"You've struck the right hour for that," announced Big Bill Beach, leading the way into the sitting room. "My folks are all in bed."

He yanked the shades down over the windows with some force; he also was tired and ready for bed.

"Sit down, Obadiah, and tell me what's troubling you."

Obadiah extracted his inevitable pipe from his pocket and filled and lighted it before he answered.

Beach, judging the interview might prove protracted, refilled his pipe, also.

"How about placing a guard about Yew Lodge?" asked Obadiah abruptly.

"What's the need of a guard?" Beach countered. "Have sight-seers badgered Miss Prescott?"

"Mohawk Pond's off the beaten track," Obadiah pointed out slowly. "Then Jim and me turn back any strangers we see entering the lane. Maybe," his shrewd eyes twinkled, "we've kept Miss Prescott from receiving company, but it's better so."

Beach stroked his chin. "Darn lonesome for the kid," he admitted, finally, "unless you've turned lady's man," and he eyed Obadiah's ungainly length of limb and rugged, weatherbeaten countenance with a covert smile. His pleasantry met with a grunt.

"We're not her only neighbors," continued Obadiah, slightly ruffled. "There's Sundown."

"The half-breed Indian?" questioned Beach, speaking more quickly. "I understood he'd cleared out."

"Not yet; but he's going to," grimly.

Beach hesitated. "Didn't old man Prescott give him a deed to Blind Man's Bluff; seems to me I heard of it some time last winter."

"You heard wrong," Obadiah spoke with positiveness. "Sundown may claim squatter's rights, but won't get him far." He drew his chair closer to the sheriff. "The half-breed comes within the vagrancy law, I'm thinking."

"So?" Beach's interest quickened. "No viable means of support, eh?"

"Just so. Come out, Sheriff, and tell him to move on."

"Hold hard," exclaimed Beach, with inborn caution. "He can't get steady employment, he told me once, because of night blindness."

"Well, go on," urged the sheriff, his interest growing.

"I've just come from Dr. Wells' house. The doctor told me Sundown's eyes are peculiar, but as a general thing he can see 'most as well as you and me, day or night. He's just a faker, and a clever one at that."

"A clever faker," repeated the sheriff. "Well, I saw to gracious!" Obadiah hesitated; how far might he venture?

"A dangerous one, I'm thinking," he said, "and living too darn close to Yew Lodge."

Beach caught his meaning instantly.

"Is the half-breed troubling Miss Prescott?" he asked. "If so, I'll run him off the place; that is, if you have more caution, 'if she can prove he's a nuisance."

The former pushed back his chair and rose.

"I'll prove it," his graft tones deepened. "I have your promise, Sheriff, to act if Sundown gives Miss Prescott trouble. Remember, the girl's living there alone, with only a negro maid. Your promise, man."

"You have it," was the prompt and emphatic reply, and Beach followed his caller in to the wide entry. "Say," as Obadiah snatched up his overcoat and slid into it, "Miss Prescott gave me a ring today."

"She did? What for?"

"Asked me to come and see her." Sheriff Beach opened the front door as he spoke and Obadiah stepped past him.

"And said I was to be sure and bring her gun—"

"Her gun?" repeated Obadiah, with rising intonation.

"The one she used to kill Stanton," explained the sheriff.

"What did she want the gun for?" he asked, lowering his voice.

The sheriff shrugged his shoulders. "She didn't say; a woman's whim, I guess. Maybe, with a faint chuckle, "she wants to try a pot shot at me. So long, Obadiah, and he closed the front door."

Obadiah found the office at Phelps Tavern deserted except for the night clerk. He was about to depart with his black bag when the latter stopped him.

"Just a moment, Mr. Evans; you haven't signed the register," and he spun the book around so that it faced the farmer.

Obadiah was about to blot his signature when his gaze fell on the name entered above his own. He stared at it with puzzled, amazed eyes.

"By," he halted the clerk as the latter started to enter a room off the office, "which room has Mr. Philander Chase?"

"None; he only came for dinner—late at that," responded the clerk quickly. "He asked me the distance to Goshen and concluded to drive there. Is that all, sir?"

Obadiah nodded. "Your room's on the second floor, same as you've generally had. Shall I go up with you?"

"No, thanks. I know my way about," and the clerk, thankful to secure a few undisturbed hours of sleep on the couch in the rear room, departed.

Left to himself, Obadiah crossed over to the hall and looked about; the porter was not here, nor any belated guests of the tavern. No sound disturbed the stillness.

Still holding his black bag, Obadiah entered the telephone booth and closed the door with infinite care. He grew hot and stuffy in the narrow box, but waited with untiring patience while the telephone operator struggled to get Echo Farm.

At last he heard the sound of a receiver being removed from the hook and Jim's voice came faintly over the wires.

"Hello, Jim—Pop speaking," Obadiah moderated his voice and enunciated his words with unusual care. "What's that you say?"

"I've got 'em both."

"Both?" echoed Obadiah, pressing the receiver to his ear and his lips to the mouthpiece. "Are you sure now?" and with his free hand he wiped the moisture from his forehead.

It was Jim's turn to question. "The wires carried a humming noise, drowning out Obadiah's voice."

News Notes of Pomona and Subordinate Grange Chapters Given by Official Reporters

Grange Calendar. (For this week.)
Eagle Point, Tuesday, December 17, 8:30 p. m.
Talent, Thursday, December 19, 8:00 p. m.
Central Point, Friday, December 20, 8:00 p. m.
Sams Valley, Saturday, December 21, 8:30 p. m.

Grange Motto.
In essentials, unity;
In non-essentials, liberty;
In all things, charity.

Co-operation.
Co-operation is the farmer's salvation
No other selling will do;
So let us all join the construction gang
And not the wrecking crew.

Declaration of Purposes.
We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and in general, acting together for our mutual protection and advancement, as occasion may require.

Business Relations.
For our business interests we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers into most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence, we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits.

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests, what ever. On the contrary, all our acts, and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economic contact.

We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness; protection for the weak; restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed justice, and justly distributed power. These are American ideals, the very essence of American independence and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of the American Republic.

We desire only self-protection and the protection of every true interest of our land, by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade, and legitimate profits.

Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity.

Eagle Point Grange. Eagle Point Grange will meet on Tuesday evening, December 17, at 8:30 p. m.

At this meeting, we will have the annual installation of officers, which will be a joint installation with Sams Valley and Lake Creek Granges.

The Grange installation ceremony is a beautiful and impressive ceremony and all who can should avail themselves of the opportunity of seeing and hearing it.

It gives the Grange another opportunity of driving home some of the many beautiful and inspiring lessons which can act as such a stabilizing factor in the midst of the hurry and tumult of modern life.

This will be the last regular meeting of the year and plans are now being made for another year of Grange work. Just how successful the year of 1929 will be depends largely upon our understanding of Grange and our loyalty to the cause and to the leaders who will carry charge.

The lecturer announces that there will be no lecture hour program on Tuesday evening, as the evening promises to be a full one.

Last Thursday night, Dec. 12, the Lake Creek Grange held their regular meeting in the Eagle Point Grange hall, where they put on the third and fourth degrees of the United Order of Grange.

A large class composed of Eagle Point and Lake Creek Grange candidates.

Prof. Crosby of the O. S. C. spoke at the meeting on the subject of poultry. There was a large crowd of interested people present, some of them coming from a long distance. Many people in this and neighboring communities are interested in poultry and are going into the industry quite extensively.

Co-operation among farmers who are Grangers should be taken as a matter of course. Loyalty of Grangers to their leaders should also be taken as a matter of fact.

The Grange was founded upon the principles which involved co-operation. Through co-operation the Grange has grown to be a powerful organization so powerful that no successful, no progressive, and yet so conservative, and with it all so just and fair in its policies that public men of affairs have taken off their hats to the Grange.

The Grange combats spiritual values and social values as well as economic values. The Grange is always found opposing vicious legislation and promoting salutary legislation.

The leaders in the national and state Granges are chosen for more than their understanding of economic problems, they are invariably men of deep sympathies, high character, are thoughtful, progressive, far-sighted men who approach the great economic problems of the day with an unbiased yet understanding mind.

The officers of the National Grange are practically always found on the right side of every question concerning agriculture, and the loyal thousands of Grange members backing them make them a power to be reckoned with in promulgating legislation for agriculture.

Calvin Coolidge said, "The progressive conservatism of the Grange and its sensible way of considering farm problems and presenting farm needs has given it a position of influence in the nation and has led those in positions of responsibility to listen to the views of the Grange with consideration and respect."

And it was not only Calvin Coolidge who had such great regard for the Grange and its leaders, we find our present president has paid a high tribute to the Grange organization and to its officers by placing its national master, Louis J. Tabor, a representative on the organization committee of the National Grain Marketing Corporation, the wool pool and the National Livestock Association. Master Tabor says, "The Grange will heartily support this program and will urge others to do the same. We most earnestly wish for the success of this great experiment."

For years we have felt that the welfare of the farmer dependent upon receiving legislative advantages, governmental assistance, business and financial opportunities, equal to the opportunities enjoyed by those in other walks of life. Here we find that the farmer has been confronted with obstacles that create inequality.

The great hour has arrived. The government has promulgated and set in operation machinery to assist the farmer in the greatest of all problems which concerns agriculture, marketing so that the farmer may receive a fair recompense for his products.

While it is not the plan that has been advanced by the Grange, in matter of detail, yet the Grange will co-operate with the government and asks that we give it a fair trial before we condemn it. So, as loyalty is one of the requisites of a good citizen, and of husbandry we are constrained to believe that if a man of such exceptional ability and understanding of agricultural problems as National Master Louis J. Tabor recommends the Federal Marketing Act, then, by all means should we support it.

Whether this act will be successful or not depends on the farmer himself. Will he permit himself to be influenced by propaganda which is being circulated, that to co-operate with the federal farm board will bring ruin and disaster upon the farmer. Let us remember that there is an organization composed of millionaires who have raised millions of dollars to combat the plans of the Federal Farm Board.

Another thing to remember is, that these same millionaires acquired these millions by marketing the farmer's products, so it is no wonder that they wish to have no governmental interference in the marketing of farm products. They are looking to their bread and butter. Let us be wise enough to look to ours.

There are many co-operative marketing organizations which have proven of great value in marketing farmers' products for more than could otherwise be had, but it might take fifty years to control the marketing of farmers' products, because of the inability to finance such co-operatives by the farmers. So now that the government is willing to finance such organizations let us by all means co-operate. If we are all willing to do this, it may reduce by fifty years, the time when the farmer will be on an equality with other industries, and control his own marketing and price.

Perhaps this is the spring time in the farmer's year of hope and the laborers will be faithful they will reap a harvest of long hoped for control of their own business. Master Tabor has placed his hand to the plow. Let us be ready to co-operate and sow the seed of faith and hope, so that ultimately we may be in a position to dispense charity because of overflowing bank accounts.

Jacksonville Grange. The annual installation of officers of four Jacksonville county Granges was held Thursday evening with the Jacksonville Grange as host. Other Granges participating were Central Point, Talent and Live Oak Granges.

The old county court room was filled to capacity, many spectators having come from the various Granges to see the work put on. The installing officers were Sister Gertrude Haak of Eagle Point with assistants, Sister Grace Cowden and Conductress Sister Irma Seaman.

Much praise is due Sister Haak for the creditable way in which the work was done, the whole ceremony being given from memory.

The masters installed were John Anderson, Central Point; Goddard, Talent; Oscar Shepherd, Rogue River, and Theodore Sims, Jacksonville. Other officers of the Jacksonville Grange installed were: Charles Wood, secretary; Mrs. Mabel Sims, lecturer; Justin Judy, steward; Homer Cooper, assistant steward; Mrs. Lottie Brown, chaplain; Geo. Wendt, treasurer; G. O. Sanden, secretary; Phil Thurston, gatekeeper; Mrs. L. M. Cooke, wives; Callie Sanden, Pomona; Ruth Severin, Flora; Mrs. Emma Conner, lady assistant toward; Charlie Hoover, chairman of executive committee.

At the close of the installation the chair was turned over to the incoming master of the Jacksonville Grange, Ted Sims.

Interesting addresses were made by the new masters as well as by retiring and past masters, and R.

Lake Creek Grange. Lake Creek Grange held its regular meeting on Thursday evening, Dec. 12, at the Eagle Point Grange hall.

The third and fourth degrees were conferred upon a large class of candidates from the Lake Creek and Eagle Point Granges.

The work was put on in an impressive manner by the Lake Creek degree team with Claus Charley as drill master.

A. G. Hildebrand, master of the Eagle Point Grange, assisted by acting as steward.

During the lecture hour Mr. Crosby of Oregon State college gave a most interesting and enlightening talk on poultry management.

A word of appreciation and expression of thanks was given to Sister Haak for her work.

A social hour followed the closing of the Grange at which time sandwiches, cake and coffee was served.

Enterprise Grange. Enterprise Grange met in regular session last Saturday with the usual number present.

The different committees reported progress. A fine new range has been installed, and the proceeds of the regular dances have added to the amount of funds in the treasury.

One new member was obligated in the first and second degrees, and one application for membership received.

Enterprise Grange approves the action of the Jackson County Pomona Grange marketing committee in its efforts to make a survey of the foreign products shipped in and sold in the local stores, that are, or might be, produced in the Rogue River valley.

The following resolution was adopted: Whereas, marketing is the major problem of agriculture;

Whereas, Co-operation has proved to be the best of all agencies in the marketing of agricultural products;

Therefore, Be it resolved that any periodical published for general distribution, that willfully and purposely publishes all failures of co-operation and prints nothing of the success of co-operation, is very unfair and we believe not worthy of the support of the agricultural classes.

The Grange voted to have a public installation of officers and a turkey dinner on New Year's eve, Dec. 31, at 5 P. M.

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The Audit Bureau of Circulations

Publisher's Statements and Audit Reports

Advertising has won for itself a place on this continent which it enjoys nowhere else and the advertiser and advertising agent and publisher members of the Audit Bureau of Circulations — and they comprise the dominating element in the advertising field of the United States and Canada — consider that this prosperity is based largely on the confidence fostered by this association.

National advertisers need deal with no publisher who fails to present a detailed and authentic survey of his circulation, bearing the stamp of the A. B. C., a stamp placed after impartial investigation. Most local advertisers are in the same position. The A. B. C. membership includes nearly fifteen hundred publications, circulating in every corner of the continent, north of the Rio Grande.

Through the A. B. C., a steady stream of circulation information is constantly flowing into the hands of advertisers and advertising agents. As of March 31 and September 30 of each year, the newspaper members present sworn publisher's statements, giving their circulation statistics for the preceding six-month periods.

Fifty traveling auditors of the Bureau visit the publisher members once a year and examine the documentary evidence behind their circulation claims.

Audit reports present no opinions. They are based on documentary proof and are as accurate as it is humanly possible to make them.

With the semi-annual publisher's statements, checked and amplified by the annual audit reports, the advertiser can learn throughout the year fully and accurately just what A. B. C. publishers have to offer in the way of circulations when they solicit his business.

MAIL TRIBUNE

The only newspaper in Jackson County with an A. B. C. guarantee of circulation

Published Every Evening of the Week and Sunday Morning

Work on Rainrock-Cushman section of the Whilamette Valley Florence highway will start in the spring.

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Take NATURE'S REMEDY
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NR TO-NIGHT

TOMORROW ALRIGHT

Women's Hose \$1.00 Pair

Silk from top to toe with French Heel

The Toggery of Coverts

attle by Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Shepherd of Live Oak Grange. The new officers will take charge at this time and the work for the coming year started. Don't forget to phone your order for Land Plaster to George Galbraith before this meeting. All members are urged to be present.

Joint installation of the newly elected officers of the Lake Creek, Eagle Point and Sams Valley Granges will be held at Eagle Point on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17.

The following is a list of names of those who have contributed to the "little apron fund" since the last publication:
Mr. and Mrs. Orville Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ashpole, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Jones, W. E. Butler, G. H. Grover, John Snider, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nygren, R. E. Nealon, Irvin Dahback, Mrs. E. H. Tucker, Mes. Edna Huxley Bush, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Hoff, M. B. Ford, Francis Wilson, Mr. Deane Mrs. Rhy Harshb, E. C. Wallace, H. Wendt, Mrs. Jack Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Michel and Harold, Charley and Tommy Givens, Mrs. Art Kent, Paul McKinnis, Mike Sidley, Sr. and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Bohnert, H. S. Chirwin, Mr. Schyley, Ben Little, T. G. Ledwick, Wallace Crank, M. O. Kaidy, H. C. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Anderson, Mrs. Geo. Owens, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Haby, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bell, Mrs. Elmer Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Brown and Donna, Mr. and Mrs. H. Swingle, Bill Gibson, Bob Crowder, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Terrill, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Damon, Mr. and Mrs. Loren Farlow, Miss Bessie Fredenburg, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith, Mrs. J. Homan and Donna, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Davies, Mrs. Emogene Charley, Claus Charley, M. & M. Dept. Store, O. C. Boggs, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wright, and Vernon Monia.

NOTE: St. Francis Hotel

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Already famous for its "homelike" hospitality. Every commodity or service at your elbow, and all around you a sincere desire to see that you have a thoroughly comfortable, thoroughly enjoyable stay in our hotel. Dining rooms with quiet, clublike atmosphere. Continuous service in the Coffee Shop from 6 a. m. to 1 a. m. 600 Outside rooms, each with tub and shower bath, softened water, servitor radio, circulating filtered ice water, and the "sleepiest" beds on the Pacific Coast.

PRIVATE GARAGE IN HOTEL BUILDING

L. W. HUCKINS, President RENT W. CLARK, Manager

EDEN PRECINCT

EDEN PRECINCT, Ore., Dec. 17—(Special.) The Christmas club of Phoenix had a Christmas tree and a dinner for their husbands on Thursday. The pleasant affair was held at the home of Mrs. Jane Littlefield and about forty guests and members enjoyed the social time.

Mrs. Milo Furry and little son Leo Bernard, came home from the Parucker Home last Thursday. Mother and baby are both well and Dady Milo Furry is stopping here.

Mrs. Colver Furry of East Eden was visiting her husband's mother and grandmother, Mrs. Letia Furry and Mrs. M. Rose of Medford last Friday.

PHOENIX PROPERTY TRANSFERS NOTED

PHOENIX, Ore., Dec. 17—(Special.) There have been several important real estate transfers in Phoenix and vicinity this past week.

Wm. Knapp purchased from C. M. Smith lot 4, of block 16; C. M. Smith bought lots in block 11, from H. E. Andrus and later sold them to Sumner Smith; Miss Letia Furry disposed of her ranch to Ed Hamilton and wife.

E. L. Johnson who recently purchased from J. R. Webster land situated near the Presbyterian church, has commenced building and has his garage completed.