

DAGGER

BY OPPOSITE: Reached to the...
 "Did you know he was the husband when he was in the room?"
 "Yes, but he didn't know I was Emily never told him who I was, and he wasn't the sort to pick up gossip."
 "If he'd known would he have—"
 "Dagger asked questioningly.
 "But fancy he would have done something."
 "And he had to die to make way for you?"
 "Dagger stood up. "I'm all in, Dick. Do you mind if I go home?"
 "No, if you must." Dick's face was troubled. "But you haven't told me if this is to be a wedded betrothal as I'd almost—"
 "Oh, Dick, never! I'm not that selfish. And after a while—after I've gotten myself adjusted to everything—I'll come and visit you—and her. But not just now. I couldn't."
 "Shall I see you before I sail?"
 "As often as you can. I need you, Dick." She ground a ball of fat into her eyes. "No, don't come with me. It'll be better alone. This had to be, and it's a good thing it happened this way."
 He kissed her, and at the door she turned with a ghost of a smile. "I haven't wished that you'll be happy. I do, Dick—oh, I wish it so hard! And I hope she'll be happy, too. She deserves it, poor thing—more than either of us, doesn't she?"
 Dagger's reaction to the emotions roused by Dick's news was a stark born bias of loyalty to Jack. Tossing through the night, she told herself again and again that she must not let a dead man come between her and her husband, and in the succeeding days the resiliency of youth coupled with her innate honesty—Dick's level-headed counsel—helped her to regain a normal attitude.
 Indeed, Dick's presence was helpful to her in more ways than one. His companionship took her mind off her problem, and the prestige of her intimacy with him definitely established her in the Vaneringer's set. And although he was obliged to sail for home a fortnight later, the rush of events that fell, culminating in the Armistice, kept her interested and free from introspection.
 Howard's memory again faded from her consciousness for the time being. Only on rare occasions now did his face disturb her thoughts. Would she be able to forget him, for good? Time alone would tell. Meanwhile there was the excitement of preparing for Jack's homecoming.
 Jack wrote that his knee was steadily improving, but that he would be convalescent for some time after reaching home, as the injury was slow in healing and care must be exercised in order that the joint might function normally again.
 She was truly happy and expectant when her father-in-law was able to arrange that Jack should be returned among the first of the two million. Quite humanly, she felt that she had hardly been a wife, and she hoped, with a fierce earnestness, that the physical bond between them would bring about a union so perfect as to obliterate Howard's image from her conscious thoughts. She knew she wanted Jack as a man. No woman on the pier the day Jack's ship came in craved love more ardently than she.
 It was a cold afternoon in December, with flurries of snow in the air. Mr. Vaneringer had obtained permission for his family to pass the barriers and stand beside the gangway, which was ready to be run out to the steamer so soon as the tugs had pushed her into her berth. Looking up at the decks thronged with officers in the uniforms of all the Allies, Dagger's cheeks were crimson, her eyes sparkling. Mr. Vaneringer looked an awfully affectionate in her.
 "Our Jack will want to jump straight down here when he sees you, Ah, he laughed.
 "I wish he would," exclaimed Dagger.
 Mrs. Vaneringer stirred impatiently on her husband's other side.
 "You both forget his poor knee," she objected.
 "But Dagger, ah! hearing, cried out, between tears and laughter:
 "Oh, there he is! But no—it can't—it is!"
 She ended on a sob, and Mr. Vaneringer followed her glance upward, a prey to wonderment. It was Jack's mother who recognized him next.
 "Of course, it is," she snapped.
 "Why, Jacky, dear, what have you been doing to yourself?"
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A STRANGE REVELATION

DAGGER leaned forward over the table, her face suddenly white and strained, as Welling mentioned that he was to marry Emily Howard.
 "Blaine's wife?"
 Dick bowed his head.
 "She—it wasn't exactly her fault. They'd worked on her. Fancy I told you something of how it happened. Of course, I was bitter—not so much against any one person, unless it was her mother—the whole idea of the thing, y'know." He was silent while, twisting his glass around and around. Dagger's face remained white and still. "I met her this last year. We—we rather hit it off. Picked up where we'd dropped apart—if you know what I mean?"
 "But the stricken look in Dagger's eyes made him wince.
 "Legally, she's a widow," he said very low.
 "Because—" Dagger swallowed hard—"Blaine's dead?"
 "Yes."
 "Did they find him?"
 "No, dear. But when a man's reported missing in action and no trace of him is discovered, when all the recognized agencies fail to come upon a piece of evidence to prove him alive, that man is—dead."
 Dagger's throat continued to work spasmodically.
 "How awful!" she said. "No, no, not you, Dick. This makes me realize—it's like seeing him, dead, I think I must have kept a hope in the back of my heart." A sob choked her. "Silly, wasn't it? And I'm another man's wife!"
 Dick reached across and patted her hand.
 "You're happy, aren't you?" he asked.
 "Yes, I'm as happy as I know how to be. But there are times Blaine seems to come between me and Jack. And I oughtn't to feel like this. It's not fair to Jack. He loves me—and I love him, I really do, Dick. But it's not like the love I had for Blaine—I mean I love for Blaine." She laughed on a note of hysteria. "I'm a queer sort of woman, aren't I? I love two men—and one of them's dead!"
 Drawing uneasily on his pipe, Dick strove to frame an adequate answer.
 "Not many men and women go through life without lovin' more than one," he pronounced. "I'm an exception, from what I can see. As for you, you're young, and the luckiest thing that could have happened to you was meetin' this Jack of yours."
 "But how can I keep on loving a man who's dead?"
 "Loyalty. You're loyal as any thing, Dagger. That's the kind of stuff that's stronger than death. Only don't let it make you unhappy."
 She straightened instinctively in her chair.
 "I don't care so much if it makes me unhappy," she answered; "but I mustn't let it make Jack unhappy. He doesn't deserve it."
 Dick nodded.
 "You won't. Not your style."
 Silence fastened upon both of them again.
 "When are you to be married, Dick?"
 "Some time durin' the winter, I expect."
 Another burst of hysterical laughter shook her.
 "If you don't mind, I won't come. I couldn't stand it."
 "No, I fancy you couldn't," he assented gravely. "But you aren't going to let this come between us, are you? Emily's a good sort. She and Blaine—well, y'know the truth is she told Blaine the circumstances when they were married. That's why they were apart most of the time."

Chapter 17
 "What terrible change has the war wrought in Dagger's husband? Read it in Monday's chapter."
 staying a couple of weeks with her mother, Mrs. Tom.
 Mr. and Mrs. William Hoeft and children leave today for an extended visit in Medford.
 Mrs. Elizabeth Grisson is staying this week with her daughter, Mrs. H. L. Tom.
 Mrs. R. A. Peck spent the week end at the ranch, with her son, Henry Peck.
 Mr. and Mrs. Vance of Fossil creek, stayed a few days this week at the Dead Indian soda springs.
 Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Peck, Henry Peck and mother were in Medford Monday, to witness the performance of the touring air fleet.
 Mr. and Mrs. John Owens and sons, Dean and Roscoe, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Grisson, and Mrs. Elizabeth Grisson, picked up the Dead Indian soda springs Sunday.
 Andrew and Herbert Grisson took a load of hogs to Medford Friday.

LAKE CREEK

Mrs. E. E. Meyer is spending a few days with friends in Medford, while Mr. Meyer is away in the mountains looking after their cattle.
 Roy Grigsby, Wm. Hoeft, Tod Hoeft, and Harry Tom spent Sunday at Fish Lake. They reported the fish were not biting very well.
 Miss Thelma Moore of Medford has been staying the last few days with her mother, Mrs. C. R. Moore, who has been quite ill. Mrs. Moore expects to go to Medford today, to remain for a week or two while receiving medical treatment.
 Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Nussbaum were Medford shoppers Thursday.
 Mrs. Roy Grigsby and children returned Sunday with Mr. Grigsby, to their home in Medford, after

NILS AND VIVIAN MARRY IN RENO.



An interrupted romance of three years culminated in the marriage of Nils, now of Vivian Dunca, little Eva of the Dunca sisters stage team, and Nils Asher, Swedish film actor.

Hartman Report on Medford Pears

No. 2.
 The second installment of Prof. Henry Hartman's report on Medford pears in eastern markets is herewith presented.
 Shipments During Wind Weather Offers Promise.
 The experiments of the past season indicate that much of the trouble resulting from transit during hot weather can be avoided by storing the fruit for a month or so at Medford and by shipping late in October or early November when lower temperatures prevail. Lots of pears placed in storage immediately after picking and shipped in November kept so well upon arrival in the east that 10 to 12 days at a temperature of 65 degrees F. were required to ripen the fruit sufficiently for eating, when they were removed from cold storage late in April. Pears shipped at this time of the year practically travel at cold storage temperatures, and differences in temperature between the tops and bottoms of the cars are hardly apparent. While this method of handling would not be practical for the entire pear crop, it at least offers possibilities for lots of fruit intended to go "the long route" on the market.
 Pears Should Be Consumed During Their Natural Season.
 Among storage authorities it is recognized that varieties of pears have a rather definite cold storage life. They can be held in cold storage for a limited period and then must be disposed of. When pears are kept under refrigeration beyond their maximum storage life, they do not ripen properly upon removal. The flesh remains hard, and the skin "scalds" or turns brown, core breakdown may develop and the consumer receives a worthless product, which reacts against the pear deal in general.
 The so-called "black Rose" variety, which is the best of the pears, is nothing more than a Rose pear which has been held at cold temperature too long.
 Rose, in particular, should be watched carefully during the latter part of the storage period. The appearance of a color on Rose in cold storage is a danger sign. When this pear has been permitted to take on color at low temperatures, it often turns black upon removal to warm temperatures, and does not develop the flavor and mellowness characteristic of the variety. Rose should have a green color when it comes out of cold storage.
 Examples of pears held in cold storage beyond their normal life were common during the past season. As late as Thanksgiving time Bartlett pears were still on the fruit stands of New York City. While these appeared to be in good condition at the time of removal from storage, they often turned brown within 24 hours after the auction sale and in cases where they did not turn brown, they were often not edible. This was true of the Bartlett from California, Oregon and Washington—Washington fruit being the worst offender. Several cars of Medford Rose, sold during January and February, behaved in a similar manner and were a disgrace to the orchards under which they were packed.
 Distributors Not to Blame.
 The large distributors of New York City have recognized that pears held too long are a menace to the industry and these distributors were not responsible for the situation that prevailed last season. The New York pear committee had planned its sales program so that the cars in their possession would go to the trade in proper time. Their plans were upset, however, by the fact that some shippers held the fruit too long, that some buyers insisted upon restoring following the auction sale, and that some who had purchased on and E. H. basis held the fruit unsalable without regard for its natural keeping quality.
 The Situation From the Standpoint of Distribution.
 Along with condition and quality, it is necessary to consider the matter of sale and distribution in determining the time when the various sorts should be disposed of. If each variety could be consumed within a few weeks of picking time, the problem of delivering a satisfactory product to the consumer would be greatly facilitated. With the large tonnage that is now being offered, however, and that will be offered in the future, it is obvious that each variety must be kept on the market as long as the fruit can be maintained in a satisfactory condition. Only in this manner can the crop be disposed of without serious congestions of the markets. It is highly essential, therefore, that the crop be handled in such a manner as will insure maximum storage life for a considerable tonnage of each of the many varieties.
 In this connection it should be emphasized, also, that no one variety can hold the market to itself for any length of time. While it is desirable that each variety should predominate during its season, it would be unwise to exclude all other varieties from the market for the time being. Retailers, as a rule, like to offer more than one kind to their customers. Some consumers, for example, will buy Anjou and other clear-skinned pears, but will not buy russet sorts such as Rose and Winter Nellis. Some dealers want several varieties and will not buy any one to their displays. Aside from this there is always a considerable portion of that stock that, because of condition, must be moved regardless of season. Winter Nellis pears which have been about at harvest time, are often ripe long before Anjou that have been handled properly. Then, too, some districts are naturally much cooler than others. The season for Rose pears from the Placerville district of California, for example, is several weeks ahead of that for Medford and the northern districts.
 Storage Life of Medford Pears.
 How long can pears be safely held in cold storage? As already pointed out, the treatment at the time of harvest and during transit materially affects the life expectancy of pears. In the case of fruit that has been brought to cold storage temperatures immediately after harvest, however, and that has traveled across the country at approximately 32 degrees F., it is possible to predict quite closely what the maximum cold storage life will be. Medford grown Bartlett, so treated, can be held in cold storage about 30 days; Rose until the Christmas holidays; Comice until the middle of January; Anjou until the last of March and until April 15th in the case of exceptional lots of fruit. Winter Nellis can be held until the last of April and in some cases at late to the middle of May.
 It should be emphasized, however, that under the methods of handling employed last season, only a small portion of the Medford pear crop could have been held in cold storage to the dates indicated above.
 (Continued tomorrow.)

DEATH SUMMONS WILLIAM WIMER, EARLY PIONEER

WIMER.—William Wimer, pioneer passed away at his home in the Rush district, August 10th, at 8 p. m., after an illness of the past five years. Mr. Wimer was born in Keokuk county, Iowa, December 27, 1864, and was aged 65 years 10 months and 12 days.
 Deceased crossed the plains with his parents from Iowa when he was a child of eight years, settling in the Rogue River valley. He attended the early public schools, and at the age of 25 he chose for his occupation mining, which he followed continuously for almost 40 years, centering his activities chiefly in the Applegate district, and also at Walden, Ore.
 He was very well known in southern Oregon, and leaves many friends to mourn his passing. He leaves two children, one daughter, Mrs. J. E. Smith of Crescent City, Cal., and one son, Onie Roscoe Wimer of Ruth, also his wife, Mary Luella Wimer of Ruth, and two grandchildren.
 Mr. Wimer was a member of the Ashland lodge of Odd Fellows for 29 years.
 The funeral service will be conducted from the Perl Funeral home Tuesday, August 12th, at 2:30 p. m., Rev. D. E. Millard officiating. Interment in the Wagner Creek cemetery. The Ashland lodge of Odd Fellows will have charge of the service at the grave.

3 ESCAPE FROM SALEM HOSPITAL

SALEM, Ore., Aug. 11.—(AP)—Three inmates of the hospital for the insane were at large today after making their escape late Saturday night by prying open a second floor ward window in the main building. They were Vernon Pense from Lane county, Joseph C. Hirs of Multnomah county and A. Bloomquist of Clatsop county.
 Hospital officials believe Pense and Hirs may attempt to steal an automobile.
 None of the men is considered dangerous.

Have Your Child's Eyes Examined

Next in importance to the care of the vital organs of a child comes the proper care of and preservation of his eyes. Blindness, or even defective eyesight should therefore be guarded against most carefully throughout the entire school course of American school children.

Recognition of the importance of conservation of sight and of the desirability of educational activity to promote attention to the correction of impediments, led Rhode Island in 1911 to the enactment of a law requiring an annual examination of vision and hearing of school children, the keeping of records and examinations, and notices to parents of defective sight as found.

We have known of so many cases where defective vision has interfered with satisfactory school work and with the welfare of children that we wish it might be universally a matter of more careful attention. We have periodical examinations of children's vision and our only wish is that even more effective attention could be given this important matter.

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SHADY COVE

Mrs. Betha Ables has moved on to the Jack Zimmerman place.
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Zimmerman are visiting at Crescent City at Mr. Sargent's, a brother of Mrs. Zimmerman's.
 Mrs. Baker has rented the Joe Hopkins place and is living on the same.
 John Laiden and wife visited at Grants Pass one day last week on business.
 Mrs. Jessie Miller and son returned from Bayview last week.
 Melvin Evans and family moved to Washington state this week to work in a fruit grove.
 Mr. Tedlow has sold his farm and moved to Eagle Point. A man from Grants Pass bought the Tedlow place.
 There was an error about Mose Johnson's burning barn. The barn that burned was owned by Dick Johnson.
 A late report says Mrs. Martha West is improving in health.
 Dick Johnson left Monday for San Diego to bring back his wife and children who have been visiting with Mrs. Johnson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grant Mathew.
 Charlie Drexler is still very sick at his mother's, Mrs. Frank Johnson's.
 Scientists Say North Pole Has Shifted—Head-line, Well, we know one place it hasn't shifted to—Arkansas Gazette.
 Detroit is connected with Canada by a tunnel, but we just wonder if it really shouldn't be called a tunnel—Ohio State Journal.
 Hopson—Construction started on new gas station by Standard Oil company on Ashbaugh corner on Main street.
 Non-skid top placed on Tualatin highway between Hillsboro and Gaston.

FATHER BLOWS UP SELF AND FAMILY

BERNARD, R. C., Aug. 11.—(AP)—Three little children and their father were dead today after the latter, Otto Zellar, placed them in a stump hole with him on a highway near their home and set off a charge of dynamite. The triple murder and suicide occurred last night.
 At least one of the three murdered children had been warned of his fate several days ago, it was disclosed when a friend said the child had told him of the father's intention to kill them all. Neighbors said Zellar's wife left him recently. The children were between two and seven years old.

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