

# Masked Longing

denial—that you're going to say I did it!"

She realized the hopelessness of attempting an alibi. The other woman would not be in the picture, if Kronberg should swear no one else was there. Vivienne supposed a jury would refuse to believe her story.

"I haven't decided—what to say," he told her quietly. "I have my suspicions—and they may be well founded—but if there was another woman I mean to let you know she is. I don't encourage ladies to behave toward me that way."

"Whether or not you admit it, we were not alone. I've no memories who that woman was."

"Then I have," he suggested. "Well, suppose I told you that it would be difficult to have her arrested tonight? If I did, I should, naturally, need your cooperation. In spite of the fact that the woman was masked—yet you should have recognized her through her dominie."

Vivienne stared at him horrified. "What are you hinting?"

"Perhaps that you had an accomplice—certainly a friend. Or that the mask was not a disguise, but a certain identification."

"That's a lie!" She stood up trembling.

"Haven't you better sit quietly until we've talked this over? If there was a woman—which I may or may not admit—you're either going to help me have her brought to justice, or else I'm willing to compromise, and agree with you that you did it."

"You mean that you'll charge me with shooting you—if I don't accuse someone else?"

"That sums up the situation," he answered with a smile. "Of course, it might have been someone jealous of the attention—I appeared to be offering. Or, it might have been a person who fired in your defense. That and the mask would narrow it down—considerably," he added.

"You shouldn't—because it isn't true. Tell me what you want?"

"How should I know?" He shrugged. "I suppose you were listening in tonight when the lady who was wearing Channing's mask made her debut on the air. If this little affair of mine—should come up for consideration—it might be supposed that you and she—were friendly, shall we say?"

Vivienne's fingers worked convulsively as she tried to control herself. "Surely you don't suppose that I—don't even dare suggest that she—"

"Wears a mask outside the studio—and that she might have followed you to the office in my theatre? That would seem quite logical—if the lady to whom I am alluding is she. Then my office association with the artist who discovered me—is easily established."

"Suppose I deny it—and it's proved that the woman you hint about was elsewhere at the time?"

"Then, unless Channing saw someone else, it's likely that suspicion would narrow down to you."

Vivienne enquired upon the bench. She knew Kronberg was relentless, but would he go through with what he proposed if Alleen were proved innocent. At the time of the shooting, Alleen had been alone in their own apartment. For that reason there was no one who could testify to the fact. Any evidence against her would of course be circumstantial.

Yet if Kronberg pressed the charge it would ruin Alleen's career. Her identity would be revealed, both of their names would be on every tongue—and even their acquittal would leave them damned in the judgment of a sensational-loving public.

"Oh—what do you want? I'll do anything—!" she stammered miserably.

"What would you suggest?" he asked coldly. "Not dramatically, I think, my personal interest in you—has undergone a change. But I haven't the faintest intention of letting you go free."

"I almost wish—I had—killed you!"

"Unfortunately you missed your chance—and I've no inclination to give you a fresh opportunity. Suppose you think the matter over. Let me hear from you—shall we say within a week."

Kronberg stood up. "I can't think of anything further that we need discuss. I've just time to make my train and get back to New York tonight. So, if you'll forgive me, I'll be getting on."

He raised his hat and started off, swinging his stick as he strode away and left her sitting there.

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## Chapter 22 A DOUBLE THREAT

Vivienne joined him in the entrance hall, there was nothing reassuring in Kronberg's courtesy. His punctilious attitude was too typically military.

Of course, his suggestion of going out had been more for his own advantage than any consideration he might have had for her. Obviously, he did not desire whatever he had to say to her to be overheard.

"Perhaps you know of a night-club," he said. "This is my first visit here. From that you assumed he had made the trip solely for the purpose of finding and questioning her. 'If you do, I'll call a taxi—'

"No," she declined decisively. Not for anything, would she trust herself alone in a cab with him. Flirting about for someone to go. Vivienne thought of Rittenhouse Square where they would find a beach. People would be passing—and there should be policemen. But what if she should appear to one and Kronberg should turn the tables by demanding her arrest?

The very fact of her running away would be evidence against her—not enough to convict her, of course, but sufficient to warrant an officer in detaining her. At the thought of that she shuddered. She could never live down the shame of it—if she should be dragged through the scoundrel's of a public inquiry.

"As you like," assented Kronberg when she suggested the square. They walked on rather briskly. It was really too cold to sit outside, but she would not go indoors where they could be private.

When they were seated along a winding path she waited for him to speak.

"I suppose you're wondering how I knew where you were. That was really very simple. You've been under surveillance since I left the hospital. I think you'll admit that my agents have been rather clever. The mistake you made was in having Crane come over to visit you."

"Jimmy Crane?" She looked up in surprise. "How did you know that Jimmy—?"

"That was not very difficult. Of course, you were Channing's model—for his murals in my theatre. Channing and Crane are together almost constantly. Naturally, that suggested Crane as your co-accuser. Then Channing's zeal to protect you—by altering the features of the figures in his canvas—told me he must have seen you when he pretended to find me the night that he came to my office."

"Well, suppose he did?" Vivienne challenged. "Can you blame me for not wanting to be mixed up in a scandal?"

"You would avoid any consequence of your own foolishness," he remarked unapologetically. "But in doing so you've only built a case against yourself. Did you give any help to the police, or even trouble to inquire for me at the hospital? Whether or not you fired that shot, you had just one interest—and that was to save yourself."

"Whether or not I fired the shot?" Vivienne's tone was indignant. "You know very well that I didn't—and you know that even if I had—I'd have had reason to."

"On the second point, I disagree. If you recall, I think I told you so—just before the incident. But, as it happens, I do not know exactly what you did do. You were pawing at me—and after that—everything is a blank."

"That isn't true!" she contradicted. "I had no gun—and anyway—I'd have had no chance to use it."

"That might be difficult to prove," Kronberg reminded her. "If I know you to say that we were alone—just before Channing came—"

"You know very well we weren't! You saw—the other woman."

"Is anyone aware of that—anyone but you?"

"You mean that you're going to

## CARNIVAL QUEEN CONTEST GROWS HOT NEAR FINAL

With only two more days to run, the contest to select the queen for the Junior carnival, to be given at the local high school Friday night, is getting more exciting. Three of the four candidates are closely grouped while the fourth, Harriet Campbell, senior candidate, leads the way with a good margin.

Billie Hammett, junior, and Vivienne Meador, sophomore, were tied when the votes were counted last night, each having 39,700. Mocha Moore, freshman, was a notch ahead of them with 31,000. Miss Campbell, the leader, had 52,000 votes.

With a contest waxing hotter as the time for the closing of the polls Thursday nears, rumors are afloat that the different classes are massing votes to poll at the last minute to put their candidates across.

Seniors and juniors held class meetings yesterday to arouse enthusiasm for their candidates. Coronation of the successful queen is set for 8 o'clock Friday evening.

## EAGLE POINT

EAGLE POINT, Ore., Feb. 4.—(Special)—Mrs. J. W. Smith, Mrs. Lester Throckmorton and Mrs. Nettie Grover were Medford visitors Friday.

The Civic Improvement club held their regular meeting Thursday, with thirty ladies present. A pleasant afternoon was enjoyed. Visitors were Mrs. Dinmore and Mrs. A. J. Tingstad, Mrs. Jack Stowell. It is hoped these ladies will become regular members. The hostesses for the next meeting will be Mrs. Buford Clark, Mrs. G. E. Osterhout and Mrs. Walter Young.

Mr. and Mrs. Con de Vore and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bergman of Medford were visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Haley on Wednesday evening.

Miss Sybil Carter, formerly of Phoenix, was a pleasant visitor Thursday.

Lealand Pettigrew sprained his ankle Thursday while at work in Butte Falls. He will be off work for a short period. He is residing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Haley.

The following attended the Craterian Thursday evening: Mrs. Frank Brown, Mrs. W. C. Channing, Mrs. W. H. Beard, Miss Fern Simpson, Miss Yetta Olson, Ruth Aiken, Mrs. Lottie Van Scoy and Hazel Stoner.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Dayles and Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Seaman entertained at cards Thursday evening. Five tables were in play. High scores were awarded Mrs. Harry Ward and Mr. A. C. Mitchell. The consolation to Mrs. L. Carter and Mr. Charles Walker. Guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ward, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Worthington, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Art Kent, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Buford Clark, Miss Danielle and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Carter of Phoenix.

Mrs. Ethel Florey and daughter, Phyllis of Medford, were pleasant callers Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stoner and son were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stoner.

Sarah Howlett who has been confined to her home with a severe cold is much improved.

Mrs. Charles Blaes of the Trail district was a business caller on Monday.

## CRATERIAN HAS COAST PREMIER

Hardships, love and comedy in one of the very earliest periods of American pioneer life is the theme and background of the new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture, "The Great Meadow," which opened this afternoon at the Fox Craterian theatre for a four-day engagement.

"The Great Meadow" has been admirably translated from the much-discussed book by Elizabeth Madox Roberts, John Arch Brown, Eleanor Boardman, Lucille LaVerne, Anita Louise and Gavin Gordon are the principal protagonists of this excellent attempt to mirror the hardships of the first group of Virginians to cross the Daniel Boone trail to Fort Harrod, the "cradle of Kentucky."

The story is a swiftly moving one. Its first portion concerns itself with Indian fights and other difficulties of the long wilderness road. The latter part takes on a striking Emory Arden tone in which Berk Jarvis, captured by Indians, returns to find that his wife has married another.

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## SAMS VALLEY

SAMS VALLEY, Ore., Feb. 4.—(Special) Mrs. Albert Straus and young son James Dalton came home Saturday from the Purucker maternity home in Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. McDonough stopped and visited in Ashland Monday.

The Ladies' club met Thursday at the Seaguller home in Antloch where Mrs. Seaguller was hostess for the afternoon. Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Grant were visitors present in addition to eight members. The ladies decided to meet with Mrs. Geo. Backus at Oak Grove for their next meeting, Feb. 12.

Members of the Sams Valley Grange who attended the practice meeting of the Poinona drill team at Central Point Monday night were Misses Eva and Ruth Frink, Frances Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Hersh Harper, Albert Straus and Stephen Wilson.

One of the principal items of business brought up at the last regular meeting of the school board and endorsed by the teachers was the fulfilling of a few requirements which will put our school among the high standard schools of the county.

Young people from Ashland will conduct the next young people's meeting Sunday evening when an entertaining program is promised.

Teachers from Sams Valley who have attended recent local institutes were Ada East and Misses Grace and Ruth Digham at Eagle Point, and Madge Mitchell, Frances Wilson and A. B. Collett at Central Point.

Emma Frink who attends the Antloch school, is confined to her home with mumps.

The last few days of warm weather have started up farming operations and created a rushing business for oil houses evidenced by the many deliveries in our own little district.

Mrs. Wm. Holtbeck is on the sick list and was attended by Dr. Sweeney Sunday.

## MISS DEGERMARK ON ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

Appointment of Miss Carin H. Degermark, supervisor of physical education in the Medford city schools, to represent southern Oregon on a state athletic board was announced today. Miss Degermark will be the district representative on the state organization committee of the women's division in Oregon. Appointment is made by the National Amateur Athletic Federation authorities.

## STOMACH BOTHER?

If you have to be careful of what you eat, and drink, and suffer from gas, heartburn, bloating, sour stomach and dyspepsia, who not make the Dietex 15 minute test? Harmless yet works with great speed. One of the ingredients has the amazing power to digest 3,000 times its own weight. Don't give up. Get Dietex at any drug store. Put it to the test. Money back if you don't feel free from stomach distress. Only 40c. For sale at JARMIN & WOODS DRUG STORE.

## Desert Drama Coming to Holly



Leni Stengel, who plays the role of that name, and Lester Vail in "Beau Ideal" Radio Pictures sequel to "Beau Geste," which comes to the Holly tomorrow.

Four years changes the tempo of "The Chameleon Desert." When Brennan went to Arizona on a location hunt he found his sets in one spot, and his back-story on another.

The "sets" hadn't moved. During the four years two ranges of sand dunes and a wide valley between them had moved away from the ruins of the movie fort a distance of three miles. The wind-sifting the sand before it had moved the sand mountains at a rate of slightly less than a mile a year!

Ralph Forbes, Loretta Young, Irene Rich, Lester Vail and Don Alvarado appear in the "Beau Ideal" cast. Forbes and MacAllister were in "Beau Geste."

## EVANS VALLEY

EVANS VALLEY, Ore., Feb. 4.—(Special) The past week has been springlike, and the farmers have been plowing and preparing for gardens and crops. However, the miners are wishing for more rain.

Professor A. B. Sacre and family are preparing to move into the place owned by the Hillis brothers. Previously occupied by Sid Smith, the latter having sold the remainder of his lease to Prof. Sacre.

Mrs. Ruth Hood spent the week end at her home near Medford.

Mary Dimmick took a number of the girls basketball team to Phoenix Friday evening where they played the town teams. Others who attended the game were Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Ringer.

Mrs. Alden Brooks who recently moved to our vicinity from Provolet entertained the Ladies' Stitch and Chatter club Thursday, each lady bringing a covered dish for dinner. The afternoon passed quickly with fun, taking pictures and a business meeting at which time each woman presented an ordered roll call with a timely household hint, or a recipe. The following ladies were present: Mesdames Frank Knutzen, C. R. Hill, Smith, J. L. Oscar Biener, Fred Miller, Sadey, Hoffman, Oscar Johnson and Elery Stone, all of Provolet, and Mrs. Eva Steward and Mrs. Jack Steward who formerly lived at Provolet; Mrs. Vern Orr and the hostess, Mrs. Brooks.

J. E. Smithberger has sold his farm to H. J. Morse of Medford who has already taken possession. The Smithbergers are building on their land farther up the creek near the Neuchammer home. We are glad to welcome the Morse family to our valley and also glad not to lose the Smithbergers from our midst.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Fields and children are leaving for near Grants Pass to make their home.

There has been quite an epidemic of colds and sore throats in our valley with many of our folks having their turn with Mr. Clark, who lives on the Morton

## ONCE A GENTLEMAN Scores Holly Hit

Four butter roles, such a willful and complete characterization are played in James Cruze's smart, comedy sensation "Once a Gentleman," featuring Edward G. Robinson, Horton and Lois Wilson at the Holly Theatre. Horton portrays Oliver, the perfect butterfly, the chief comedy role in this hilarious tale.

Witty, entertaining dialog, riotously funny situations, and expert acting make this James Cruze picture a joyous laugh fest. Other prominent in a large cast are Lois Wilson, King Fawcett, Francis X. Bushman, King Baggot, Evelyn Pierce, Emerson Treacy and "The Trade Short."

This sparkling comedy closed at the Holly tonight. An unusually fine program of selected short subjects is also being shown for the last time tonight with this feature picture.

## JUNE COLLYER Star Of Rialto Picture

Feminine hearts of Medford will hop about in a most charming manner, when their owners see June Collyer and Elvyn Hughes in "Extra-Vagance," which opens at the Fox Rialto theater today.

It is a story of an innocent young wife who longs for beautiful things and doesn't realize the high price she is paying to obtain them.

June Collyer is the wife of

## STOPS Pain and Itching from Piles!

Don't put up with painful piles another day—or hour. There is positive relief, very often, for the very worst case. Pyramid suppositories are designed to stop the pain—and even all itching. Relief comes quickly. The first application will bring you much comfort and ease. Try them today. Remember the name. Just say "Pyramid" suppositories to any druggist; 60 cents.

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## TYPING TECHNIQUE COMES EASIER TO MUSICAL STUDENT

Playing a piano or other musical instrument which requires the use of the fingers proves to be a great aid in learning to typewrite, in the opinion of Mrs. E. C. Jerome, typewriting instructor at Medford high school.

Students who make the most progress in operating a typewriter are almost always those who have had some experience in music. She has found in her years of teaching commercial work.

Ability to concentrate, the strengthening of the fingers, and the loosening up of their action are some of the things students learn in music work which stand them in good stead in learning to typewrite. The ability to relax and to go away with muscular stiffness is a trait which is common to good typists and good musicians.

Champion typists in Mrs. Jerome's classes have many of them been expert pianists as well so that the transfer of training from one activity helps the student progress in the other.

Although the county commercial contests are not scheduled until April, her classes are already working to improve their speed and accuracy. Helen Power, one of the advanced typists, is writing in the neighborhood of 70 words a minute and Louise Osenbruge, a beginner, is above the 50 mark.

## BEAGLE

BEAGLE, Ore., Feb. 4.—(Special) Mr. and Mrs. George Pursel, Charles Sanderson, Lester Ashworth and Ernest Sanderson were Friday visitors in Medford.

Lester Ashworth and Ralph Miller who have spent the winter at the headwaters of Elk creek trapping are visiting at the Chas. Sanderson home for a couple of weeks before returning to their home at Troutdale, Ore.

Roy McIntyre of Medford was calling on Beagle friends Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hookerworth of the Meadows entertained their friends from Medford, Beagle and the Meadows with a dancing party Jan. 23 at their home. Over 70 guests were present and all spent an enjoyable evening.

Mrs. Chas. Anderson has been confined to her home for the past week with the mumps.

Hubert Mayfield of Dry Creek and Mary Solite of the Meadows were visiting with Thelma Sanderson Saturday afternoon.

Several children are out of school with the mumps.

Mrs. Viola Pomeroy has been

## Gassy Stomachs Made Well

Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a package of Balmann's Gas Tablets and see how quickly they will relieve all distressing symptoms.

Gas pains in the abdomen or about the heart are due entirely to gas pressure. Sometimes the circulation is restricted, causing the hands and feet to grow numb. Usually there is much grunting or rumbling in the bowels. Many sufferers complain of a gnawing feeling in the stomach, extreme nervousness, heart burn, drowsiness after eating, headaches, dizzy spells or labored breathing.

Balmann's Gas Tablets taken at meal time not only prevent all defects from gas, but they invigorate the weak nerves of the stomach and assist in restoring the whole digestive system to proper working order.

Genuine Balmann's Gas Tablets—in the yellow wrapper—can be obtained at any good drug store. Price 25c everywhere.

## WATER LILIES

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**FOX RIALTO**

As a Subscriber Guest of the

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WATCH THIS SPACE. If you are a subscriber of the Mail Tribune your name may appear here tomorrow. Only subscribers' names will be published and, during the duration of this offer, all subscribers will be given an opportunity to enjoy FREE shows as GUESTS OF THIS PAPER.

NOW PLAYING

**"Extravagance"**

## ENDS MONTHS OF "INDIGESTION" IN SURPRISING WAY

There's good news for all stomach sufferers in the sensation being created by a simple discovery, due to the quick, easy way it relieves so-called "indigestion," and its effects, such as gas, bloating, belching, headaches, nausea, heartburn, etc.

"Pape's Diapepsin" as it is called, is eaten like candy—and is just as harmless. No narcotics or habit-formers in it. Nothing habit-forming. No sooner swallowed than pain stops; normal digestion is restored.

Thousands are so enthusiastic over the results they are securing that they simply have to tell their experiences to help others. Here's what attractive Miss Clara Sheeley, 2346 Tremont St., Denver, Colorado, says:

"My mother, Mrs. Florence Sheeley, suffered from indigestion for nearly a year. Nothing agreed with her. She would have gas on her stomach, sour stomach, heartburn, and would blot badly after every meal.

"She tried a lot of medicines but nothing helped until a friend told us about Pape's Diapepsin. It ended her trouble in a surprising way."

All druggists sell Pape's Diapepsin, or write "Pape's Diapepsin," Wheeling, W. Va., for a FREE sample box.



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