

# Masked Longing

**BY HOWARD ROCKEY** A ROMANCE OF RADIO

**SYNOPSIS:** Aileen Gray, lecturer, accidentally discovers a mysterious singer of radio, who on a rainy night, her face ends her stage career. Douglas Channing, artist, makes her a porcelain mask to cover her scars. Because of this mask she loses the love of her life for Jimmy Crane, press agent. Aileen Kromberg, movie manager, is making advances to Aileen's sister, Vivienne when a masked woman shoots her. Suspecting it was Vivienne of the attack unless she intimates her sister, a telegram is sent "Adriana" hints the singer was Kromberg's assistant and threatens to blow the name as Aileen if necessary. Kromberg requests Adriana to marry her sister, Channing secretly tells Vivienne for her sister to marry Jimmy Crane. When she dies, she suddenly takes her in her arms.

Chapter 27

### A COUNCIL OF WAR

VIVienne felt Channing crush her to him. His kisses burned her lips. She knew that she was helpless in this battle with him.

Once again Vivienne realized she had brought this on herself. With that her instinctive struggles stopped. She closed her eyes and her body relaxed in his fierce embrace. Had she the courage she'd boasted? Had she lied to Channing—or was she lying to herself?

Suddenly he thrust her away—as though their contact permitted her thoughts to flow into Channing's mind. But he did not release her. His grip on her arm was firm. Only his voice was changed as he spoke—and it was a different light that burned in his narrowed eyes.

"Is that what you wanted?" he demanded contemptuously. "If thought you wouldn't like it. But it seems almost impossible to teach you any sense."

Vivienne stared at him—utterly mystified. That was not what she had expected, and she did not know how to accept him.

"Now, see here," he went on decisively. "You've come to the end of your fool rope. If only for your sister's sake, you're going to toe the mark. So far you haven't done much harm to anyone but yourself. But we've none of us any assurance that you won't involve us all in a nasty snarl. Unless Crane and I stick by you, you'll go to trial as sure as you live, if Kromberg does as he's likely to do—and I shouldn't blame him. From now on you're answerable to me. Don't think I don't mean it. Unless you play the game as I tell you—well, just try to beat me and see!"

Sullen, and staring fixedly at the road ahead of them, Vivienne sat in silence all the way to New York. After the ultimatum Channing had delivered behind the abandoned barn, he had not spoken either. He would have paid more attention to a Pekinese on the seat beside him. He wound the car in and out through the heavy traffic, with a dexterous hand, puffing contentedly at his pipe with the air of a man who has made up his mind and is quite at peace.

Not until they were out of the tube, on the Manhattan side, did he make a stop. Then he ran up beside a hot-dog stand and stepped out on the pavement.

"Eat?" he asked, but Vivienne gave him a look of scorn. So he left her waiting there while he munched a sausage roll and telephoned Klein's office. Then, without divulging his plans, he started the car uptown.

"We're going to hold a council," he said when they reached the theater. "You're invited to sit in. Naturally, you won't be discussed. You are my affair. In whatever else comes up, you're expected to take part."

Incensed at his treatment, but helpless, Vivienne sulkily followed him through the theater lobby into Klein's anteroom.

"Walk right in," said Sadie Kohn, with a kitchenside smile for Channing. Vivienne gave her a sneering glance and Sadie's unfailing memory recorded a caustic item.

"Hello!" Klein greeted them affably. "If here ain't the prodigal daughter—and not a motion picture! Welcome to our city. Only that fatted calves ain't appropriate for daughters, I suppose, we'd have one here this minute. How about some Scotch?"

"It was a bit odd driving over," Channing accepted as Vivienne ignored the producer's garrulousness and nodded to Jimmy Crane.

"Hey, Sadie! Where's that cork-screw?" Klein called to his secretary. "All right. Close the door. I'm in conference, understand?"

"Shall I tell them the rest—about Kromberg?" Channing asked Vivienne. She shrugged and he did so briefly. "Under the circumstances, I thought that Vly had best be here."

"Sure," said Klein. "Four minds

is better than none at all. And we gotta decide something. Now let's see. We got Channing's story, and Jimmy's speech is ready. As for what I been doing, the committee reports a flop. Kromberg beats it to Philadelphia, and then goes to see Aileen. For all I should know about it, he might have seen Sadie Kohn. The guy just didn't tell me."

"Aileen!" Vivienne sprang up. "What—where is she now?"

"Always wait for your cue, kid!" Klein bellowed indulgently. "According to schedule, she's feedin' tea to the head of a home for cripples and the Big Perfume Poppa. By the way, Jimmy, you missed a bet. Why didn't you think o' Miss Santa Claus givin' presents to them cripples? Or are you givin' Gluck the goods, and passin' me stage-money?"

"Speaking of Santa Claus," said Crane, "just what's the answer to this?" He had dropped in at the Ambassador to get the Christmas card.

"Adriana again?" asked Channing. "I wonder if Kromberg couldn't tell us who the goddess is."

"I imagine he could make a guess," Jimmy agreed with him. "Just the same, I doubt if he's sure. Unless my theory's completely wet, that's why he went to question Vivienne and Aileen. I think what the man is trying to do is make sure before he acts. He wants to find out about Aileen and either pin it on her, or be satisfied that she's not the girl and go after someone else. What are you going to do, Vivienne? About answering him, I mean?"

With a defiant glance at Channing, she said she did not know.

"What would all of you suggest?" "That you answer nothing—for the present anyway," Channing took her up. Then he turned to Crane. "Is Kromberg still at the Ambassador?"

"No," said Jimmy. "I asked, just now. He registered this morning and checked out this afternoon."

"That would suggest that he found out whatever he wished to know."

"Where do you get that bright idea?" Klein asked disgustedly. "Even I'd have the sense to leave after I'd showed my hand. Hasn't he fixed it so both of the girls practically have to answer him, or admit what he already thinks? Now, take this theater business. He offers Aileen and Vivienne both a personal appearance. Ain't it natural to jump at the chance? If they don't, then what's the answer? And the fact that Channing highlights the guy don't help matters any."

"Aileen can claim that Gluck won't let her," Jimmy reminded him. "And Channing hasn't admitted that Vivienne is his model."

"A lot of good that does. Kromberg knows it—and what does he care for Gluck? Besides, he'd say yes in a minute, and Kromberg knows he would. Now you take it from me—and it's true—if they don't show up at his opening, he'll be wise that they're scared."

"You mean that you want us to?" asked Vivienne, visibly uneasy.

"You know that Dwight changed the features on the proscenium boxes."

"Ain't that in itself suspicious?" Klein replied to Crane. "Was he hiding something, maybe? And is there something besides a contract makes Aileen year that mask? Maybe all that ain't important, and again, maybe it is."

"I'm inclined to think you're right," Channing had been considering as the producer spoke. "Whatever we think about Kromberg, the man has intelligence."

"You said it!" Max Klein agreed. "When that guy goes after something, he gets it or knows why. If we got more brains, maybe we win. If we haven't, I don't like the looks of things. That's flat—and cash with order."

"It might be better to bluff it out," Jimmy Crane suggested. "If we do, we tell the world we're not afraid of him. A lot of worthwhile people will be at his opening. I don't see what we have to lose."

"And by being nice and friendly, we give him a quiet lunch. There was no doubt in Max Klein's mind of the wisdom of such a course. He did not add that something more prompted his suggestion. Only Jimmy sensed that another, and more compelling reason prompted Klein's advice. No doubt he believed that the premiere of the new Kromberg Theatre would prove an interesting event—perhaps on several scores."

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Max Klein makes a discovery at Kromberg's theater opening—tomorrow.

## "Big Money," Clever Comedy, Now Showing at Holly



James Gleason, Eddie Quillan and Robert Armstrong in "Big Money", A Pathe Feature.

For the first time since they appeared in the Pathe picture, "Oh Yeah," Robert Armstrong and James Gleason are teamed in strong roles in the Pathe comedy drama, "Big Money," now play-

ing at the Holly theatre. Eddie Quillan and Miriam Segar are featured in the leading roles. With this feature picture the Holly is showing another interesting Pathe News Reel and a

Vitaphone act. Also for the evening performance only, tonight and tomorrow night, at 9 o'clock, the Boy Scouts will be seen on the Holly stage in a short demonstration.

## Frederic Marsh Stars at Craterian



Scene from "The Royal Family of Broadway," starring Ina Claire and Frederic Marsh, a Paramount picture.

Frederic Marsh, who is being hailed as the newest "weakness" of the feminine film fans, will be seen at the Fox Craterian theater tomorrow in a picture that gives him a chance to display romantic and comely traits which he has hitherto held in abeyance because of the requirements of his roles.

The picture is "The Royal Family of Broadway," Paramount's filmation of the celebrated stage play, "The Royal Family," which smashed the records of Broadway a season ago and which has since had great success in stock companies

and touring productions throughout America. Marsh is seen as "Tony," the veritable "prince" of the "royal family," whose mad capers, merrymaking scrapes with women who fall in love with him, and other manifestations of erratic genius keep the picture in a continual uproar of mirth.

Ina Claire is seen as Julia, the sister of Tony, and Mary Brian is seen as Julia's daughter, bred in the tradition for stage stardom, but not yet ready to step into the shoes of her mother.

## Western Thriller Coming to Rialto



Jose Bohr and Myrna Loy.

Jose Bohr, who appears in one of the principal roles in "Rogue of the Rio Grande," coming tomorrow to the Fox Rialto theater, has achieved prominence on the various stages of the Spanish speaking

countries before making the journey to Hollywood. His first roles in pictures were in Spanish versions of big feature productions, among them Reginald Denny's part in "What a Man!" and Eddie Dowling's role in "Blaze of Glory."

## JACKSONVILLE P. T. A. ENDORSES LEGISLATIVE MEASURE AT MEETING

JACKSONVILLE, Ore., Feb. 10.—(Sp.)—A meeting of the Parent-Teachers association was held at the high school auditorium Friday afternoon.

Meeting was opened with singing of "Parent-Teachers Band," and the reading of the Parent-Teacher prayer by Mrs. Pick, president.

There was a short program consisting of a piano solo by Annes Norris, a group singing by children of the third and fourth grades, violin solo by Mattie Norris accompanied by her sister Annes, and a talk by Mrs. G. Q. FARDIN of Medford on the free textbook bill.

The association endorsed House Bill 34, but unanimously opposed House Bills 33 and 34. The secretary was empowered to write to Representatives Day and Denny and Senator Dunn the decisions of the Jacksonville P. T. A. concerning these bills.

Mrs. Fichtner, president of the

## FIRST VOTE CAST BY JUDGE COLVIG WAS FOR LINCOLN

With Abraham Lincoln's birthday occurring next Thursday, also marking the opening of the super-production at the Holly theater of "Abraham Lincoln," Judge William Colvig, nearing his 83rd birthday, was in a reminiscent mood today and recalled the first vote he ever cast was for Lincoln back in 1864 when the judge was a member of the United States cavalry stationed at Fort Klamath.

There were 94 votes in the company, and when election day came only one man failed to vote for the "Great Emancipator." There were no ballots and each soldier made known his vote to the officer in charge, who marked the vote in a poll-book. When came the turn for the judge to vote, he announced he was not of age.

"If you're old enough to be a soldier," the officer told him, "you're old enough to vote," and so the judge cast his vote for Lincoln.

The only dissenting vote was cast by General McClellan by a soldier, on grounds that he had served under the general before the Civil war.

The Holly theater will present a free matinee Thursday afternoon for all G. A. R. members in southern Oregon and their wives. Widows of veterans who have answered the last roll-call are also to be guests of the management. Tickets will be available at the Mail Tribune office or at the box office of the Holly theater.

## FELLOWSHIP MEETING FULL GOSPEL CHURCH

Pastors and delegations from different points in California, Ashland, Klamath Falls, Grants Pass, Talent, Eagle Point and other localities were in Medford Monday attending the fellowship meeting at the Full Gospel church.

Visiting pastors, also Pastor R. D. Steyffer and District Chairman Samuel Swanson brought the messages of the afternoon. Sunday night and Monday night the pulpit was filled by Chairman Swanson, a man of remarkable spirituality and power.

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## HENSELMAN WILL SELL BONDS FOR FITKIN CO. HERE

George Henselman, who graduated with honors from Medford high school way back in 1914 is again making Medford his home. He is associated with Robert F. Pelouze, better known to his many friends as "Bobby," now northwest manager for A. E. Fitkin & Company, Ltd., investment bankers. Both these boys left Medford about the same time, George going to the University of California and Bob to Stanford. Both saw service in the World war and later fought many "battles" on the golf courses around Portland.

Mr. Henselman has had wide experience in the investment field in Portland and San Francisco and Mr. Pelouze is one of the best known and most successful investment bankers of Portland. The A. E. Fitkin company is one of the largest investment firms in the country with headquarters in New York and branches in the principal cities.

Mr. Pelouze opened the Portland office in November, 1929, and in January of this year was made northwest manager, in charge of both Seattle and Portland offices.

The A. E. Fitkin Company, Ltd., has an enviable reputation, with an unbroken record of over twenty years in meeting every interest requirement and sinking fund agreement on the issues they have underwritten. They specialize in municipal, public utility, and corporation bonds, preferred stocks and investment trusts.

Mr. Henselman's territory will extend from Eugene to the California line. He will open an office here, the location to be announced at a later date.

## TEN CANDIDATES WAIT JACKSONVILLE GRANGE

Jacksonville Grange will meet on February 13 at 8:00 o'clock. The Central Point degree team will be present to put on the third and fourth degree work. There are about 10 candidates to receive the degrees. The Central Point team gives the work in an exceptional and impressive way, so a very fine meeting is anticipated.

All candidates who have not received the third and fourth degrees are asked to be present at this meeting, so that the complete initiation work may be given. The lecturer has also promised a good program for the meeting.

Home Economics club will meet with Mrs. O. N. McDermeyer of the West Side district, February 11 at 2:00 o'clock.

## SAMS VALLEY

SAMS VALLEY, Ore., Feb. 10.—(Special)—J. Sanford Richardson of Beale lane was a recent business caller in our district. County road trucks are working in this district hauling gravel to roads.

Crangers and club members who attended the regular meeting of the Recreation club at Central Point Wednesday night were Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Seegmiller, Miss Catherine Koger, Wesley McDonough, Russell, Stephen and Mrs. O. T. Wilson.

The intermediate room under Mrs. Ad. East is planning some interesting social activities for the spring months, consisting of contest debates and spelling matches with other districts.

Miss Arubuck, accompanied her civics class to Medford Thursday to hear the Kingsley trial.

## C. A. CROW N. Pacific Highway

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## NOW PLAYING "Rogue of the Rio Grande"

## LITTLE STORIES OF Little Stars



Barbara Robbins

Barbara Robbins is a graduate of the Jitney Players, those nomadic actors who set up their stage on the back end of a truck.

She played in a couple of minor roles in road shows, then came to Broadway.

When William Bolitho's "Overture" was cast, she, an unknown, was given the leading feminine role.

She is a protegee of Madge Kennedy, and it was on the advice of that star that Miss Robbins decided to take up a stage career.

## CIVIL WAR VETS WILL BE GUESTS FOR HOLLY SHOW

Civil war veterans and their wives are to be guests of the Holly theatre at a matinee next Thursday afternoon when the super-production, "Abraham Lincoln," will open for a three days run. Tickets for the guests will be left at the Mail Tribune office where they may be procured in ample time for the matinee. Widows of veterans who have passed beyond are also to be guests of the Holly and are asked to call for the tickets at this office.

There may be a possibility some local residents may have seen the "Great Emancipator," years ago, but person or heard him talk. If they are, their identity would be appreciated as early as possible, by communicating with George Olson at the Holly theatre, or "Lincoln Department" of this paper.

Schedules Eastern Crews PHILADELPHIA—(AP) The University of Pennsylvania this year will engage in rowing every eastern school that engages in the sport.

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## DEATH SUMMONS POET OF PACIFIC

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—(AP) Death has stilled the pen of Capt. Thomas J. McGinn, "poet of the Pacific" and veteran skipper. He died here yesterday at the age of 72.

Characterized as the "poet maximum" by one Harvard professor, the captain's poems, primarily about the sea, won him wide praise including that of the late President Roosevelt.

The last vessel commanded by Captain McGinn was the Rose City. They both "went out of service" August 4, 1926. Since then he had spent much of his time at his home in Coos Bay, Ore.

## JOSEPHINE CHASE AUTHORESS DIES

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 10.—(AP) The author of the Grace Harlowe stories that have thrilled school-boys for two decades is dead here at the age of 43.

Although she wrote the Grace Harlowe stories under the name of Jessie Graham Flower, and many other stories under pseudonyms, her name was Josephine Chase. For many years she lived quietly in a big house in the northern part of the city.

"The only time people will ever know I'm me will be when I die and they write my obituary," she once said.