

Nothing Venture

by Patricia Wentworth

SYNOPSIS: Rosamund Carew, Jervis Weare's former fiancée, demands \$100,000 from him, offering a sister Ann about "bad luck" when he refuses her. Jervis and his young wife Ann are at lunch with the Tettertons, where Nan and Ferdinand Francis come to their own auction. The Rosamund's friend, Robert Leonard, weakened the bridge that almost plunged Nan and Jervis to their deaths two days before.

Chapter 29

"ARE YOU HURT?"

NAN got up to say good-bye at a quarter to three. Her heart was like a hot burning coal. She had had to sit by Robert Leonard, to take her coffee from his hand, and to listen while he talked. Her burning anger lit a bright color in her cheeks and made her eyes brilliant. She felt as if anything she touched would be liable to scorch or go up in a little puff of smoke. It was a dreadful feeling of course, but it made her very sure of herself.

When she got up to go, Leonard looked at his watch and exclaimed, "I'd no idea it was so late! I ought to be attending to my incubators at this very moment. Give me a lift as far as my gate, will you, Jervis? My car's dead till I can get someone out from Croyston."

Impossible to refuse of course. Nan wondered whether Jervis would have liked to refuse.

He said, "All right," with an air of complete indifference.

At any rate she wouldn't have to sit next to the man. F.F. would have that pleasure. F.F. would be in the middle of the road with the knees of his trousers torn and the car across the road, very neatly upside down, her bonnet hitched up on the stone parapet.

He couldn't see Jervis, and he couldn't see Nan. He felt grateful for the parapet, because if it hadn't been there either, but at the bottom of the cliff like a smashed egg. He came out of his daze with a jerk and ran forward just as Nan crawled out from under the front seat. She pulled herself up by the wall and said,

"Where's Jervis?" Ferdinand ran round to the other side of the car.

She said, "Where's Jervis?" again.

She couldn't run, because her legs didn't feel as if they belonged to her. She crawled round the car, holding on to it. It looked so odd upside down. The sides were smooth; her fingers slipped on the paint. She got round to the other side and saw Ferdinand dragging Jervis clear.

Jervis did not move or help himself at all. Then she saw his face. And when she saw his face, she forgot all about her legs not belonging to her, and she let go of the car and ran to him.

There was a most dreadful moment. Was he dead? Everything stood still, her thoughts wouldn't move. She couldn't draw her breath, and a blackness like the shuddering darkness of a nightmare made a wall around her. It was like being buried alive; her mind switched crazily back to that incredible stage hypothesis she once had seen to him and his bedraggled subject, whom he "buried alive" in a dirty white robe. She didn't know how long it lasted. At last Ferdinand's voice came through the blackness. He shook her arm.

"Nan! Nan!" Ferdinand turned back to Jervis. He had dragged his inert body to the roadside, and now was bent over him, his hand to Jervis' heart.

"Is he—dead?" asked Nan in a curiously small voice. Ferdinand did not answer; he signalled her to come, and when she had sat down with the wall at her back he lay Jervis' head in her lap and quickly sealed down the cliff to the sea. His came back with his hat full of cold salt water. Nan wet Ferdinand's handkerchief, and bathed his face. There was a smear of blood mixed with dust.

"Oh Jervis!" she cried. His eye lids fluttered. He sighed, and was still.

(Copyright, 1932, Liepincott) Ferdinand Francis does some reasoning, tomorrow, that influences several lives.

VETERANS GROUPS HIT MOVE TO CUT RELIEF MEASURES

It is now known that at the next session of congress determined efforts will be made to insert requirements of proof that disabilities are of service origin into pension laws and other government measures for the relief and benefit of veterans, widows and dependents of veterans of the Spanish American and World wars. If this is done, most of the pensions now being received by Spanish war veterans and widows, the disability allowances of a large number of World War veterans and a considerable part of the hospitalization privileges now extended to the survivors of our last wars will be discontinued. At the present time, 84 years after 1898, it is probable that comparatively few Spanish war veterans would be able to prove service causes for their physical disabilities, although it is reasonable to believe that these disabilities for which they are pensioned are in large part results of campaigning in swampy and unhealthy tropical regions, sometimes under the necessity of subsisting on unwholesome and ill prepared food and subjected to other unhygienic incidents of experience in the Spanish American war, the Philippine insurrection, and the China relief expedition.

INSULL COMPANY HELD BANKRUPT

CHICAGO, Sept. 24.—(AP)—Corporation Securities Company and Insull Utility Investments, Inc., the two Insull investment trusts in which the public had \$300,000,000 invested, were adjudged bankrupt today by Federal Judge Walter C. Lindley.

The decrees, which Judge Lindley had indicated last night he would sign, were filed with the clerk of United States district court during Judge Lindley's absence in Danville, his home.

"It seems unlikely," Judge Lindley declared last night, "that the stockholders will receive anything of their investments. The best course of action is to institute bankruptcy proceedings, under which something may be saved for the creditors of the concern."

Of the three people in the car, two were taken entirely by surprise. Ferdinand had a moment of wondering why the road should be so much rougher going down than it had been coming up. Then he saw the black and scarlet wheel go bowling down the road like a child's hoop gone crazy. And then the car turned over and threw him clear.

Nan did not see the wheel or notice the jolting. She was looking over the steep edge of the cliff. She had never seen anything so blue in all her life. The tide was high, and the water came up to the foot of the cliff.

The first thing she knew of the accident was a violent jolt, and then the side of the car dropping away from her on her left. She gave a little cry and put out both her hands. Something struck her right shoulder. Then the car turned right over with a sound of smashing glass, and she was on her hands and knees on the rough grass with the leather seat pressing down upon her back.

Ferdinand picked himself up out of the dust of the road. He felt rather dazed. He wasn't sure whether he had been thrown clear or whether he had jumped, but he was in the middle of the road with the knees of his trousers torn and the car across the road, very neatly upside down, her bonnet hitched up on the stone parapet.

He couldn't see Jervis, and he couldn't see Nan. He felt grateful for the parapet, because if it hadn't been there either, but at the bottom of the cliff like a smashed egg. He came out of his daze with a jerk and ran forward just as Nan crawled out from under the front seat. She pulled herself up by the wall and said,

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It can be shown that the state of Oregon, Jackson county, and the City of Medford have both a sentimental and an economic interest in this subject. It is stated that payments made in the state of Oregon on account of Spanish war pensions amount to about \$150,000 per month or about \$1,800,000 per year. Payments to World War veterans of this state on account of disabilities not regarded as due to war service are probably not greatly under the same figure. Local veterans are constantly receiving treatment in government hospitals.

Without doubt most of the pensions and money allowances are immediately spent locally for necessities and living expenses.

If the threatened changes are made in the laws, age and impaired physical condition together with the present business and industrial depression will force many veterans into the already vast army of the unemployed who are without means of support where they will increase the social and economic problems that are confronting us.

Not without importance in the consideration of this subject is the well known fact that every six dollars expended by the United States government in the state of Oregon for all purposes, including veteran benefits, this state contributes only about one dollar in government taxes and through the various sources of revenue.

(Signed) DR. E. W. HOFFMAN, Commander, Colonel Sargent Camp, United Spanish War Veterans.

F. WILSON WAIT, Commander, Medford Post No. 15, American Legion.

Four Killed In Oregon Industry

SALEM, Sept. 24.—(AP)—Four men were killed in industrial accidents in the state the past two weeks. It was announced today by the Oregon Industrial Accident Commission. The total number of accidents during this period was 900.

RICE HILL ROUTE TO BE RELOCATED

ROSEBURG, Ore., Sept. 24.—(AP) Relocation of the Pacific highway at Rice Hill, Douglas county, to eliminate one of the most dangerous stretches of the entire system is being started by a surveying crew directed by E. E. Umphrette, location engineer, according to E. A. Collier, division engineer in southern Oregon. It is planned, Collier states, to relocate approximately one mile of the highway, reducing steep grades and doing away with the present sharp turns, which in the past have been responsible for many serious accidents.

It is planned, Collier adds, to complete the survey in time to permit the granting of contracts during the fall.

Bolivians Die in Battle. ASUNCION, Paraguay, Sept. 24.—(AP)—Seventy-two Bolivians were slain in a battle in the Chaco, in which Paraguayan troops captured nearly 100 yards of Bolivian trenches, an army communique said today.

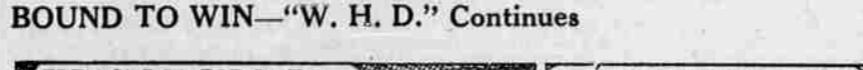
For those "thrifty" Pure Milk hose—Special 75c ETHELWYN B. HOFFMAN Sixth & Holly.

By GLENN CHAFFIN and HAL FORREST

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Dawn—And A Plane To The Rescue!



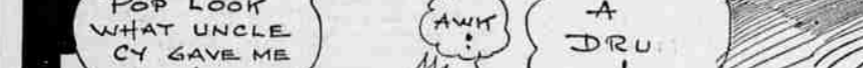
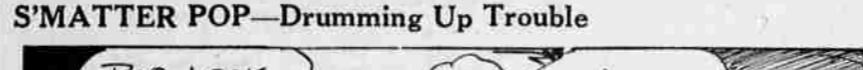
NOT ENOUGH TO BRAG ABOUT. I'M HUNGRIER 'N A COYOTE IN A BLIZZARD AN' DRY ENOUGH TO EAT SWAMP MUD



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By EDWIN ALGER

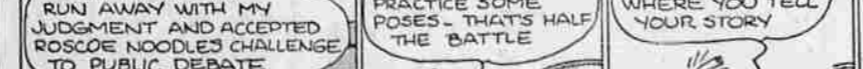
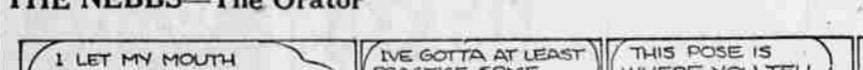
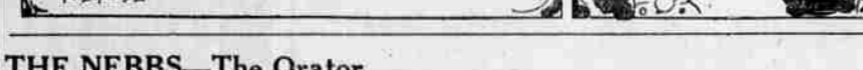
BOUND TO WIN—"W. H. D." Continues



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By C. M. PAYNE

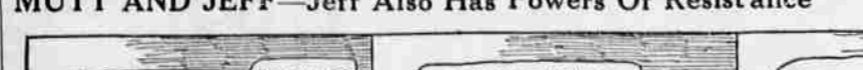
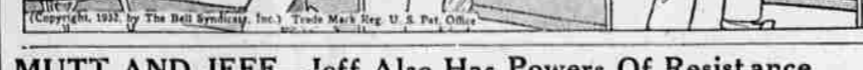
S'MATTER POP—Drumming Up Trouble



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By SOL HESS

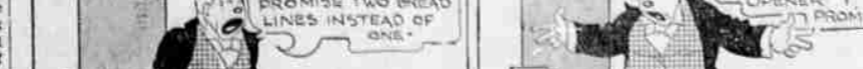
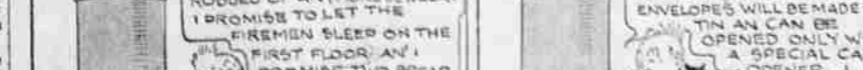
THE NEBBS—The Orator



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By BUD FISHER

MUTT AND JEFF—Jeff Also Has Powers Of Resistance



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By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER

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