

A PATH TO PARADISE

by Coningsly DAWSON

SYNOPSIS: It is less than three weeks since Clive and Santa were married, and only a few days longer since Santa obtained her divorce from Dicky. Yet they have had their first quarrel, because Santa engaged on an expensive apartment and furnished it with the things she and Dicky had used, without telling Clive. Clive's only respect will not permit him to allow Santa to pay for her luxuries—but his love for her makes him agree.

Chapter 23 THE MONEY FLIES

BUT in marriage, as Clive was to learn, there are no closed chapters.

Perhaps wives with incomes are naturally secretive. Santa had formed the habit of living with Dicky. What the rent of their apartment was Clive discovered from the janitor. The wages they paid their maid he could only guess. The cost of their housekeeping, if Santa knew the exact figure, she never told.

Her extravagance in clothes was terrifying. Every day she raided Fifth Avenue; the result was an avalanche of boxes. She flung away dollars where he would have considered cents. Since she was spending her own money he had no license to curb her.

Logically, despite her independence, her pretense was that she was utterly his possession. Never more so than when she paraded before him, courting his approval of the latest addition to her wardrobe. Once he attempted a mild protest.

"It's stunning. But there aren't enough days in the year to wear the frocks you already own."

"I'm gathering my trousseau," she pulled a face at him.

"So that's the ideal. But aren't you setting the pace a trifle fast? What I mean is—"

"I'm your slave and you're my sultan. I don't buy them to please myself. I dress for you only."

At the end of the first month when he inquired what he owed, she replied, "Whatever you choose."

"But won't you show me the accounts?"

"They aren't made up. You earn how much? About four hundred a month. Give me half of it."

That two hundred wasn't his share, he was certain. When he wrote out his check for three hundred, she tore it up. The second time she accepted it, but omitted to cash it.

He took her to task. She placed him under a crushing obligation.

"As your husband I'm legally responsible for your debts. What a goat I'd look in a bankruptcy-court if I couldn't state—"

She burst out laughing.

It was during these first weeks that he arrived home to find her reading a newspaper. The sight was unusual; she rarely read anything. She was so intent on its contents that she didn't hear his approach.

"Something interesting?" He perched on the arm of her chair. "Let's squint at it."

The paragraph was marked. It contained the news that old Mr. Dak was dead and that his only son, Richard, had fallen heir to his millions.

"Dicky must have sent it," Santa commented. "As you see, it's a Chicago paper."

Clive rose.

"I'm off to doll myself up." He glanced back from the doorway. "If he really did send it, he had his nerve."

Would he never be rid of that fellow? While he tubbed, and during dinner he brooded over the incident.

When the maid had departed and lunacy was permissible, Santa leaned against his knees, squatted on the floor tailor-fashion.

Stretching back, she coaxed him. "What's troubling the old head?"

"If you'd been his wife when all this money blew in, would you have divorced him?"

"Tickle my throat," she ordered; "be natural." Then, sensing his seriousness, "Who cares about money?"

That night she whispered:

"When will you believe that I'd rather starve with you in an attic than travel round the world in a yacht with Dicky?"

But her protestations only assured him while he was alone with her. He noted, or thought he noted, that other people regarded their marriage as catch-as-catch-can—anyway, as lacking in dignity.

Slips of the tongue forced on his attention that he was no more than her second husband. Though her entire happiness was ravenously bound up with his, nothing could efface the impression. Friends visiting, recognized certain objects.

"I said—do glad you're still using it."

Clive didn't require to be hit on the head. He gazed the joyous occasion of the gift's bestowal.

He became so sensitive he suspected that many of her love-name borrowings from her old vocabulary.

"Did you ever call him that?"

"Ridiculous old thing, do you expect me to invent a new language for you?"

More than once at dinner-parties she caused him discomfort by referring to places at which he was never present.

"When we visited Havana—"

Even when she had provoked a litter, she sailed on gaily, with a bright glance at Clive, "That was before your time."

Tactless of her! No husband is pleased to hear his wife mention a honeymoon in which he was not included.

"I wish you wouldn't, Santa."

"But what's the harm. Every one knows," she faltered utterly to comprehend his fastidiousness.

"That's as may be. But why yell it from the house-tops?"

With repetition of the offense, she invented an explanation.

"I was paying you compliment. The few times I was happy with Dicky I fancy that I must have been with you."

And that really seemed to be the case—that her memories of her husbands had blended.

Her other husband! One never saw him. He pattered about like a disembodied spirit. As far as Clive was concerned, he felt that his marriage was haunted. The haunted marriage! Already he had acquired enough data to write a book on it. In his most peaceful moments he was continually blundering on foot-prints left by Dicky.

Meanwhile all her effort was to convince him that her past was most remotely banished. She lavished gifts on him—stick-pins, cuff-links; whatever suggested itself to her generosity. For his birthday she begged permission to give him a check suit—a black and white one. She chose the tailor.

"You're so handsome. I long to see you in one that's made-to-measure."

Under pressure he consented, to discover that Dicky Dak was one of the tailor's favored clients.

"Mr. Dak is a rare one for checks, sir. He's what we call a snappy dresser."

Before the suit came home Clive had taken an aversion to it. When it had been hung in his cupboard he never wore it.

Santa accused him of not caring for it.

"Frankly I don't."

"But it fits. What's the objection?"

"I'm not Dak. I purchase my clothes ready-made. Always have."

"As you choose," Santa smiled. She was imperturbably pleasant. "The janitor's about your size. Why not give it to him?"

He didn't tell her; to hold up his end he was drawing on his savings. His out-of-pocket expenses for the attire-tickets, automobile-hire, general entertainment, amounted to more than his contribution to house-keeping.

Pride demanded that when she showered him with gifts, he should return them with an equal generosity. He was living on a plane which nothing in his prospects warranted. To increase his nervousness he had a shrewd suspicion that his firm's affairs were going none too prosperously.

Three months after his scatter-brained return from Chicago, Mr. Cleasby called him into his office.

"I've been watching you, Clive. You're all strung up. Ought to take a holiday with your wife. There's a concern we've financed in London. I wish you'd run over and make a report on it."

Clive clinched with the offer. Away from familiar surroundings Santa might re-adjust herself.

"When the affair in London is concluded and it shouldn't take long," Mr. Cleasby added, "you can dash off to France, if that suits you, and snatch a brief honeymoon. You kind of slipped up on your honeymoon."

"We did, sir. I've sometimes thought—"

Mr. Cleasby finished his sentence. "That a honeymoon might have made all the difference. You're right, my boy. Women expect 'em. They don't feel married without a honeymoon."

When that evening Clive repeated the theory, Santa confirmed it by plopping herself in his lap.

"My sultan, that wise old guy said a mouthful."

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A chance meeting in France, tomorrow, makes a great change in Clive's and Santa's future.

BOURBONS BOAST ADDED STRENGTH IN LEGISLATURE

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 12.—(AP)—

A Democratic representation of eight senators and 17 members of the lower house of the Oregon legislature, the greatest percentage the Bourbons have had in more than a score of years, will go to Salem in January for the 1933 session.

In the 1931 session of the legislature Senator Strayer of Baker county was the only Democrat in the chamber. At the next session he will be associated with seven of his fellows.

In the house two years ago there were seven Democrats. In last Tuesday's election 10 more were added.

The senate is composed of 30 members, and the house membership amounts to 60 representatives.

Douglas county, Benton-Park, Coos-Curry, Washington, Hood River-Wasco and Union counties elected Democrats to senate places, and Multnomah elected three Republicans and two Democrats.

In the house of representatives Democrats will occupy seats from Columbia, Clackamas, one from Yamhill; Lincoln, Benton; one from Coos-Curry, Josephine; one from Jackson, Union and Baker. Multnomah county elected nine Republicans and four Democrats.

Only one "independent" will hold a seat in the legislature. He is Henry Semon of Klamath county, elected with Ralph Horan, who received the Republican and Democratic nominations.

The membership of the state senate, as compiled by the Associated Press, follows: The party designation appears after the name of each senator. (Holders are not included):

First: Marion—Charles K. Spaulding (R-D) unopposed.

Second: Lynn—Clyde Williamson (R) unopposed.

Fifth: Douglas—Walter S. Fisher (D) unopposed.

Seventh: Josephine—Jas. T. Chinnock (R-D), unopposed.

Eighth: Coos-Curry—John D. Goss (D) unopposed.

Ninth: Benton-Polk—J. H. McPadden (D) unopposed.

Tenth: Washington—Edwin Allen (D) unopposed.

Twelfth: Clackamas—Lynn E. Jones (R-D), unopposed.

Thirteenth: Multnomah—Allan A. Bynon (R), Harry L. Corbett (R), Dorothy McCullough Lee (R), Isaac E. Staples (R), Ashby C. Dickson (D).

Sixteenth: Hood River-Wasco—James H. Hazlett (D).

Eighteenth: Gilliam—Sherman Wheeler—J. P. Yates (R).

Twenty-first: Union—Wallawa—Henry L. Hess (D).

Twenty-second: Grant-Harney-Malheur—Robert M. Duncan (R-D), unopposed.

Twenty-fourth: Lincoln-Tillamook—Washington-Yamhill—Peter Zimmerman (R).

The personnel of the state representatives elected Tuesday is shown in the following Associated Press compilation:

First: Clatsop—Edward O. Judd (R) unopposed.

Second: Columbia—O. Henry Olsen (D).

Third: Tillamook—Geo. P. Winslow (R-D).

Fourth: Washington (two to elect)—J. O. Johnson (R), E. J. McAker (R).

Fifth: Multnomah—(13 to elect)—P. H. Dammasch, Richard Deich, Herbert Gordon, John H. Hall, Frank H. Hilton, Dorr E. Keasey, K. K. Kubli, John H. Lewis, Frank J. Lonsorgan, Lowell C. Paget, all Republicans.

Sixth: Clackamas-Multnomah—Harvey Wells (R).

Seventh: Clackamas (three to elect)—Howard C. Belton (R-D), Donald J. Ryan (R-D); Al A. Wrice (D).

Eighth: Yamhill (two to elect)—W. B. Duerst (D), Arthur McPhillips (D).

Ninth: Lincoln—John E. Cooter (D).

Tenth: Polk—Dean H. Walker (R).

Eleventh: Benton—H. C. Herron (D).

Twelfth: Marion (four to elect)—Carle Abrams, Romeo Gouley, Mrs. Hannah Martin, Otto K. Paulus, all Rep-Dem; all unopposed.

Thirteenth: Linn—(Two to elect) Charles Childs (R); J. K. Weatherford, Jr. (D).

Fourteenth: Lane (three to elect); Earl H. Hill (R); Charles A. Huntington (R); Elwin A. McCormack (R).

Fifteenth: Douglas (two to elect);

A. G. Clark (R); B. F. Nichols (R). Sixteenth—Coos: J. R. McCloskey (D).

Seventeenth—Coos-Curry: W. H. Bennett (D).

Eighteenth—Josephine: W. T. Miller (D).

Nineteenth—Jackson (two to elect): Earl B. Day (R); E. C. Kelly (D).

Twentieth—Hood River: Teunis J. Wyers (R-D) unopposed.

Twenty-first—Wasco: Levi Christian (R).

Twenty-second—Gilliam-Morrow-Sherman-Wheeler (two to elect): E. W. Snell (R-D); J. O. Turner (R-D) unopposed.

Twenty-third—Umatilla (two to elect): James A. Best (R-D); James H. E. Scott (R-D) unopposed.

Twenty-fourth—Union: Victor Eckley (D).

Twenty-fifth—Wallowa: L. F. Allen (R-D) unopposed.

Twenty-sixth—Cook-Jefferson: Jas. B. Oakes (R-D) unopposed.

Twenty-seventh—Baker: John Lang (D).

Twenty-eighth—Deschutes: M. A. Lynch (R).

Twenty-ninth—Deschutes-Lake: W. B. Snider (R-D).

Thirtieth—Grant-Harney: W. E. Stockdale (R).

Thirty-first—Malheur: B. V. Staples (R).

Thirty-second—Klamath (two to elect): Ralph W. Horan (R-D); Henry Semon (ind.).

Thirty-third—Clatsop—Columbia: Fred W. Herman (R).

DR. CHAMBERS, OPTOMETRIST, will remain in his office for another week, due to the demand for his services. Reduced prices still prevail.

INDOOR CIRCUS PLAN OF PHOENIX SCHOOL

Closus, equestrians, acrobats and all the other attractions of a modern circus will be doing their acts at the indoor circus to be given Friday night by the pupils of the Phoenix schools. Performing elephants, lions, seals and a dancing bear are also due to show their stuff in a collection of stunts designed to thrill and amuse the onlookers.

The whole school organization has entered into the spirit of the affair and all who attend are promised there will be never a dull moment from the grand pageant of the opening parade to the athletic events featuring a boxing bout for the heavyweight championship of the world. A record crowd is anticipated.

CALL GRAND JURY SESSION MONDAY

The grand jury, W. E. Griever, Prospect, foreman, is scheduled to meet tomorrow to resume its adjourned session, and finish up a number of unfinished matters.

Members of the county court and other county officials, are expected to be called to testify relative to alleged statements made a week ago, reflecting on the conduct of the sheriff's office. The accusations were made a week ago two days before the election.

CALL GRAND JURY SESSION MONDAY

The grand jury is expected to be in session a couple of days and to visit county institutions and departments, and make a final report.



INEXPENSIVE SATISFYING

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Tommy "Carries The Fight" To The Bandits!



By OLLENN CHAFFIN and HAL FORREST

BOUND TO WIN—An Interruption!



By EDWIN ALGER

S'MATTER POP—Bring On The Pink Elephant



By C. M. PAYNE

THE NEBBS—A Hollow Victory



By SOL HESS

BRINGING UP FATHER



By George McManus

KLAMATH PROBE FABRICK'S DEATH SCHEDULED SOON

Klamath county, according to word received from District Attorney Ted R. Gillenwater, will proceed with the investigation against Elsworth Kocik of this city, who admitted he killed Glen Fabrick Sr., of this city, in mistake for a deer last October. The tragedy occurred in the Lodge Pole ranger station section and the death spot lies in Klamath county. The grand jury of that county is scheduled to meet within the week, when the statement of Kocik and others will be presented.

voluntary manslaughter charge. He is at liberty on bonds furnished by D. E. Millard and wife of this city. Millard, a member of the tragic hunting party, is Kocik's brother-in-law.

Date of the trial of Reinhard A. Rolfe of Central Point, indicted for involuntary manslaughter for the accidental slaying of his hunting companion, Joseph St. Germain, in mistake for a bear, will probably be set the coming week by circuit Judge H. D. Norton. The tragedy occurred in the Butte Falls district three weeks ago.

Deny Receivership
CHICAGO, Nov. 12.—(AP)—Denial of a receivership for the Long-Bell Lumber company opens the way for progress on reorganization plans, C. T. MacNellie, chairman of the bondholders protective committee declares in a letter to holders of these securities.

Sorted Delicious apples, 40c; Nellis, 25c. Bring your boxes, Medford Warehouse. Phone 316.