

READY MADE WIFE

BY CORALIE STANTON

CHAPTER 34
SAFE OFFER

"Laurie," said Albery, and a wave of heat came into his voice from the flame of desire that was consuming him. "You know I love you. Don't pretend! I am glad I can't tell you how glad I am. You must break with him at once. What's the good of waiting? Let him get on with his job. I'll still be behind him, for your sake. But you mustn't work any more. You must let me look after you."

"Oh, thank you, Mr. Albery," she faltered. "But I would much rather work. I love my work. I should hate to have nothing to do."

"You will have everything to do—what all women love to do, especially when they are loved by a man as I love you. You shall have everything in the world, all the pretty clothes and jewels you want. We will travel. You shall have a villa in

He saw that she had a letter in her hand, and that she had been crying. She must have been crying a great deal, for her soft blue eyes were washed out, and they looked through red rims at him with an expression of violent revolt.

"Please forgive me," he said in his smoothest voice, regarding her with eloquent eyes, filled with contrition. "Your landlady told me to come up."

Laurie stood with her back to her quaint old dormer window on the ledge of which flourished geraniums and cherryleaves. She was a figure of icy dignity, and looked extraordinarily young.

"I don't know why you should want to see me, Mr. Albery," Laurie said. "I have nothing to say."

"But I have something to say," he retorted. "And it will be worth your while to listen to me. I am very sorry about yesterday. I was clumsy and stupid, and I don't wonder if I offended you. It was altogether a mistake. But now I want to talk to you about Rex Moore."

There was no disturbing note in his voice. It was almost business like. It was certainly deeply respectful and very friendly.

THE mention of Rex Moore's name decided Laurie.

"What have you to say, Mr. Al-



Next day, Albery's car purred up to the door.

the South, an apartment in Paris or Rome—where you like. Whatever you want will be my joy to give you."

She gazed at him in speechless amazement.

"Mr. Albery, are you asking me to marry you?"

He gave her a look that baffled her; it was so full of some suggestion that she could not grasp.

"My dear girl, I'm not a marrying man. But I will give you a position in which you will be honored and respected by everyone you meet."

She gave a cry and sprang from her chair. Before he could stop her she was at the door. She clung to the handle and flung swift, withering words at him, her eyes blazing.

"How dare you insult me like that? I won't stay here another minute. I'm going and I'm never coming back. I'll never set foot in this building again."

Her passion of outraged fury was exhausted. She opened the door with difficulty, white to the lips, and went out of the room, leaving Albery staring after her with uncomprehending, but baffled and cruel and merciless eyes.

BUT the next day, about six o'clock in the afternoon, Albery's car purred up to the little tumble-down house in Westminster where his ex-secretary lived.

It happened that the old and rheumatic landlady was standing at the front door, having just parted from a visitor.

"Is Mrs. Rex Moore at home?" Albery asked her.

Seeing a grand gentleman and a grand car, and knowing that Mrs. Moore had lately been mixed up with all sorts of people, the landlady directed him upstairs.

"Right at the top sir. You'll find Mrs. Moore. I'm afraid it's a bit of a climb."

So it was that Albery came upon Laurie, unexpectedly and unannounced, when, after knocking at the first door, he found her in her pretty, simple, flowery sitting room.

berly" she asked coldly. "And in what way do you mean that the unpardonable things you said to me yesterday were a mistake?"

"I misjudged you. For you to understand me, I must explain that I know you are not married to Rex Moore."

Her knees gave way and she sank into a chair.

"You know—that? How?"

"A young blackmailing journalist came and told me. He had been making enquiries, out in Australia, and there was no record of a marriage between you. I saw at once that he had some grudge against Moore. I bought him off, because I didn't want any gossip about Moore, but I paid him to make more enquiries. You are not married to Rex Moore, are you? Unless, of course, you have married him since he came back?"

She shook her head. She couldn't speak.

"So, you see, there was a slight excuse for me, Laurie, as you had been living with Rex Moore as his wife without being married to him."

She gave a cry.

"What do you mean? You knew this, and you never said a word to either of us! What do you think?"

"My dear girl, what is there to think? I suppose you had been fond of each other in Australia, and when you thought he was dead, you passed yourself off as his widow. And when he came back—well, you were very glad to see him again, and carried on."

"You are all wrong!" Laurie cried, almost choking with indignation. "I will tell you the truth—not because of myself, or that I care what you think of me, but because he had nothing to do with it at all. He did not know me in Australia. I never set eyes on him until he came back from America the other day."

(Copyright, 1935, Coralie Stanton)

Mark Albery makes Monday, a terrible threat.

DAM CRANE AND GATE CONTRACT IS AWARDED

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—(AP)—The war department today awarded a contract for construction and installation of Gantry cranes and gates for Bonneville dam, Oregon, to the Columbia Steel company, San Francisco. The amount of the contract was \$1,181,972.

A contract for furnishing and installing lock operating equipment for the Bonneville dam was awarded the Pacific Coast Steel corporation, Seattle, Wash., for \$398,208.

A contract for construction and installation of Gantry cranes and gates for the dam was also awarded the Worden Allen company, Milwaukee, Wis., for \$129,280.

WINDOW GLASS—We sell window glass and will replace your broken windows reasonably. Trowbridge Cabinet Works.

POSTAL WORKERS PICNIC AT G. P.

GRANTS PASS, Aug. 13.—(Sp.)—Close to 80 postmasters and employees in the postal department from Jackson and Josephine counties spent an enjoyable afternoon at the Riverside park Sunday. A noon picnic luncheon was served.

Expressions of encouragement and regret over inability to attend were read from Postoffice Inspector S. H. Morse, of Eugene, State Accounting Postmaster E. T. Hedlund, of Portland and other postmasters who were unable to attend.

Under the direction of Frank DeSouza, Medford postmaster, a program of informal speeches by Medford and Grants Pass postal employees was given.

Josephine county was represented by 10 postmasters and two office employees.

Bly Man Killed When Hit By Car

KLAMATH FALLS, Aug. 13.—(Sp.)—Struck by a car Sunday night at Bly, William Mattson, 57, was almost instantly killed. James McCloskey was held for investigation in connection with the accident.

MEANEST THIEF STEALS RELIEF PAYROLL CHECKS

OREGON CITY, Aug. 13.—(AP)—Merchants here were warned today not to cash the current issue of

EX-IOWANS PICNIC IN PARK AT G. P.

GRANTS PASS, Aug. 13.—(Sp.)—Former Iowans—228 strong—gathered at the Riverside park from all over southern Oregon Sunday to hold their third annual picnic. C. H. Demaray of Grants Pass was re-elected president for the coming year and Mrs. R. W. Roberts of Grants Pass was elected secretary.

The picnic luncheon was eaten at 1:30 p.m. After the lunch several musical numbers were played by a community band from Talent, directed by W. Arnold. Robert Groeters of Grants Pass sang two songs, and R. J. Wright told a few stories.

The rest of the afternoon was given to conversation.

K. F. Boy Drowns In Federal Ditch

KLAMATH FALLS, Aug. 13.—(Sp.)—Leonard Aubrey, 10, was drowned here Sunday when he fell into a government irrigation canal from a bridge. The body was recovered by state police and the sheriff.

BEAGLE BARN BURNED WITH HAY AND CALVES

BEAGLE, Aug. 13.—(Sp.)—A grass fire, which started from his tractor, Saturday burned the hay barn and other outbuildings on the Cecil Messer ranch and also killed two small calves.

SIAMSE WILL EXECUTE ARMY REVOLT PLOTTERS

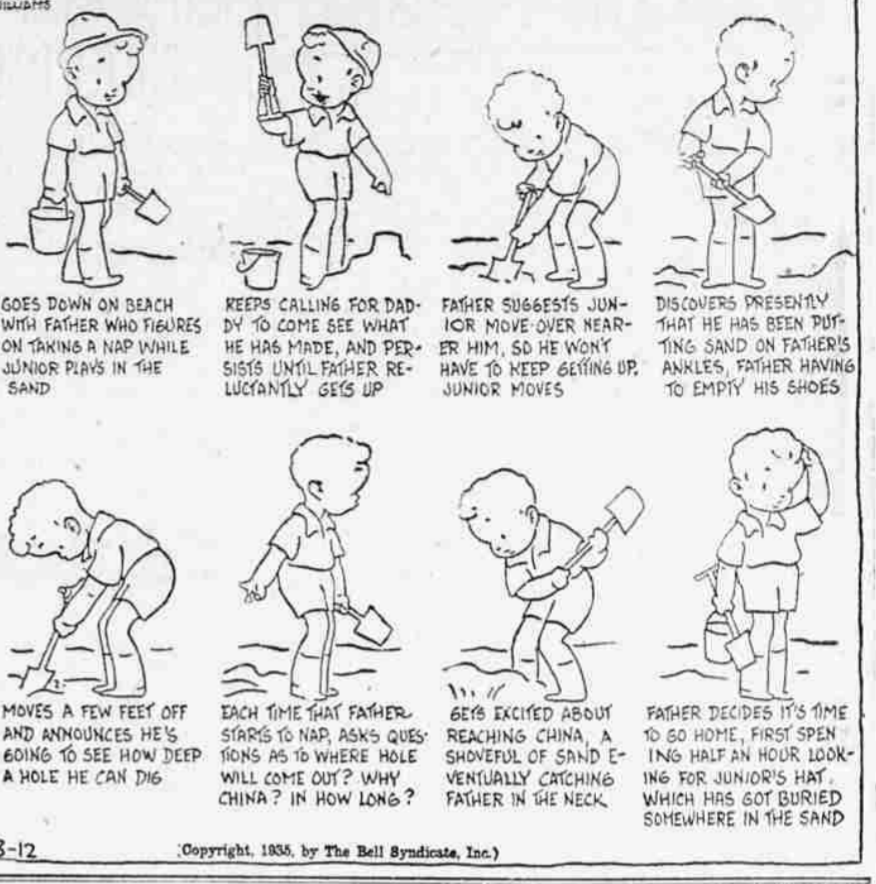
LONDON, Aug. 13.—(AP)—Advices from Bangkok said today execution of from 15 to 20 persons was expected to result from discovery of a plot for insurrection in the Siamese army and navy.

SIAMSE WILL EXECUTE ARMY REVOLT PLOTTERS

It isn't a gag.

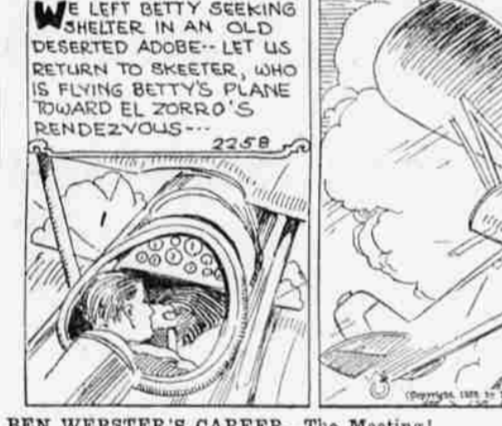
CHARLESTON, S.C., Aug. 13.—(AP)—The births of Pete and Repeat Jones, negro twins, have been duly recorded here.

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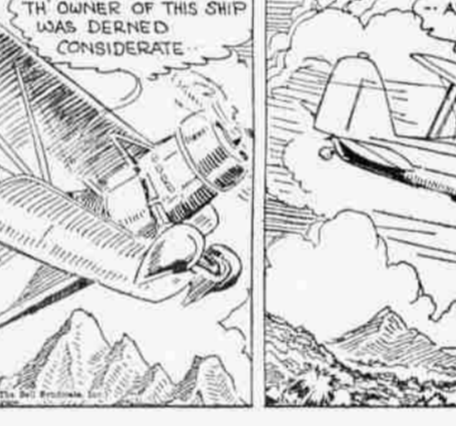


By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Rebels on the Move!



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—The Meeting!



THE NEBBS—The Broadcaster



THE BUNGLE FAMILY—Overtime



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—The Meeting!



THE NEBBS—The Broadcaster

