Jeanie Temple who had been his youthful idol. She was intelligent. That was it—intelligent and refined-looking.

He wished that the drive to her home had been a longer one. As it was, he had scarcely time to find out that her name was Thelma Hughes, and that she lived in a little house near LeDroit Park. She did not invite him in; could not, she said, because of her mother's aversion to stage people and late hours, but she asked him to drop in and see her at some other time.

Ronnie took advantage of this invitation a few afternoons later and visited Thelma in her home. He found her to be quite as charming as he had imagined. She introduced him to her mother and father, and he found that they were fine, solid people whom he could like and respect.

Life, as Thelma's people lived it, was so very different from the life which he had known for so many years. Things were tranquil and quiet, there was no eternal rush and bustle, no split-second schedules to be followed every minute of the day as in the theatre. And Thelma—was she really the simple, true, sincere, lovable little girl she appeared to be? Ronnie set out to find out—and ended up by falling in love with her.

It wasn't a hard thing to do by any means. Thelma was not, of course, perfect, but her charming innocence and loveliness were in the nature of a revelation to Ronnie. He hadn't dreamed in his many years of life that such girls still existed. She was his ideal in many ways, and he didn't want to take any chances of losing her.

That extra week passed all too quickly for Ronnie, and when it was over and his show had to move on to Richmond, he promised Thelma that he would never love another girl as long as she would have him. And she, for her part, promised that he would be her only real sweetheart. Ronnie drove up to Washington twice during the week to see Her, and each time he was late in getting back to his show. But he didn't care. Thelma, he told himself, meant more to him than any show.

But at the same time there came to Ronnie the sudden realization that after all, he had no right to make love to Thelma. He was too soiled by life, too hardened to ask for her love. She deserved a better break in life than he could ever give her. She wasn't the type who could bear up under the strain of the showman's life, who could live in an atmosphere of constant change and uncertainty and discomfort. Of course not. She was more of the solid type—the kind of girl who would like nothing better than to settle down in her own little home and raise a family, just as her father and mother had done before her.

And so it was that many an evening Ronnie would mope around his dressing room in whatever city he happened to be appearing, dreaming, idling away precious moments deep in thought. And then, at night, he would find that he couldn't sleep, that there was some pulsing, throbbing thing within him that refused to allow him to rest. And finally, some one of the merry crowd he had known in his early years would call him up and he would find himself powerless to stave off the temptation to have a good time. Almost invariably he would wind up with the old crowd in a vain endeavor to forget the mistakes of his past.

It was while he was playing in Chicago that he resolved that he would stop it all and go straight, so that when he returned to Washington after the tour was over, he might ask Thelma to marry him. His resolve was quite firm and he announced it to his friends in the hope that they would take him at his word and leave him alone. They accepted it with good-natured smiles of disbelief. Things went well for several weeks. But then the old longings were upon him again, and almost before he knew it he was back in his old haunts, with a glass of liquor in his hand and a half-drunk girl on his arm. And his friends would smile at him genially with "I-told-you-so" expressions in their eyes.

It wasn't that he wanted to do those things. His whole being cried out against them. But it was no use. He found that he was powerless to break down the habits which he had formed in those early days of dissipation. In the mornings he would be disgusted with himself, and he would make up his mind once again to be true to Thelma's love, but the thing just wouldn't work. He always found himself slipping back into his old ways, and try as he would, he was powerless to prevent it.

Still, he never let Thelma get the slightest hint of the life he was leading. He wrote to her only when he was feeling perfectly sure of his love for her, and visited her only when he was perfectly cool and sober. He didn't dare let her see him in any other condition. He was afraid that she would never want to see him again if he did.

(To be Continued)

## Faces Charges

JAMES W. WILLARD

who was believed white for many years, is under indictment for embezzling $20,000 from his employer, John A. McCarthy, millionaire president of the Pennsylvania Sugar Co.

## Women who Buy

What do you suppose the following means?

SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
MMMMMMMM

It is the novel way the Bureau of Labor statistics has for representing the proportion of single women (S) to married women (M) who buy corsets.

Likewise, this government agency reveals that single women buy from two to five times as many furs, raincoats, sweaters and jerseys, combinations, silk chemises, silk nightgowns, silk stockings, gloves, collar and cuff sets, handbags, and purses and shoes as married women do, though the latter buy almost as many brassieres and three times as many aprons and housedresses.

# HOUSEHOLD HINTS

To make creole potatoes, add minced green pepper, a little corn, and a few lima beans, with strips of pimento, to boiled potato cubes, and cream in the double boiler.

* * *

When a velvet dress or a heavy silk garment is ready to be discarded, the best portions can be cut out and used for sofa pillows or a table cover.

If the lemons are heated before squeezing them, they will yield much more juice and the flavor will be much stronger.

* * *

Remove the dirt from between the teeth of a comb with a toothpick. Then wash the comb in a basin of cold water, to which has been added a few drops of ammonia. Wipe the comb until thoroughly dry.

## Beauty Hints

L.: Rarely does one find blackheads where the habit of taking a warm bath at night and a cold shower in the morning is established. The cold shower stimulates circulation, which in turn stimulates the oil glands to proper functioning.

* * *

A.: For those ugly brown spots on your arms and back the following lotion may prove satisfactory: Salicylic acid, 60 grains, and bay rum, 2 ounces. Apply with absorbent cotton several times daily, allowing it to dry on. If irritation follows, stop the application for a day or two and apply cold cream.

* * *

J. M. Development of the bust is accomplished by exercises which involve movements of the arms and shoulders. Swinging Indian clubs or rotating the arms, will be found most helpful. Massage is helpful when combined with exercise.

* * *

U. P. B.: Deep breathing tones up relaxed nerves and muscles, gives better circulation and quickens all the functions. The flat chested should make a habit of deep breathing. It expands the chest and strengthens the lungs.

* * *

G. T.: Vaseline will promote the growth of eyelashes. Lanolin and cocoa butter may be used also. They should be warmed and applied in liquid form with a small brush.


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*Send 4c in stamps for trial sample of Skin Whitener, Soap and Face Powder.*

DR. FRED PALMER'S Skin Whitener

"KEEPS YOUR COMPLEXION YOUTHFUL"

### Take Care of the Birds

By BERNARD WRIGHT
Baltimore, Md.

When it is in the dead of the winter in the North it is very hard to find a tropical scene where birds are singing, the sun is shining and great white clouds float across the blue sky.

There is a place in Lake Park, Florida, called the Box-Singing Tower, which was the gift of Edward Bok, a foreigner, who made a great fortune in this country. The bird box is a shrine for birds, a God-send to our feathered friends until the warm weather in the North commences.

Then a great many birds leave the South. It will be only a few short weeks when the Robins, Bluebirds and Song Sparrows will be coming back to the North, and they trust everyone. They fly up to lawns and shrubbery, and trees and parks, and gardens and tell us in their own way, that they trust us; trust us for what? For food and shelter? No, oh no. They put no burden on any one; they merely ask to be allowed to live, that is all. It isn't much, is it? So don't hurt the birds, when they come hurt the little birds, when they come home. It would be a sadder world without the song of a bird. So boys, be careful with your shot-guns.


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