

The Hollywood Story

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CHAPTER XX.

Hollywood is full of rumors. They fly about the great studios, and they hover over luncheon tables and flit through hotel lobbies and along the boulevards. Such-and-such a star is getting a divorce; so-and-so is leaving this studio for that one; Amalgamated is going to do nothing but super-productions; a certain featured player is to be started.

Here is the official announcement that is not preceded by a host of rumors. It was a rumor that Lottie Watkins wanted to discuss with Dan Rorimer, and Dan was surprised at its nature, he did not think it at all strange that Miss Watkins should have heard it ahead of him, for news in Hollywood traveled in roundabout fashion. And, besides, Louise wrote for a group of gossip movie fan magazines, and she knew her Hollywood.

Continental Pictures, Louise Watkins said, was going to be sold. Lawson Brothers were going to buy Continental and merge it, or ally it, with their other studios. She had dropped in early on Rorimer and Collier that Sunday afternoon, had run into Johnny Riddle and informed him that Paul and Dan were having "open house," and had brought Johnny with her.

"I thought you'd be interested," she told Dan.

"I should be," Dan admitted. "Is it straight?"

"It's not official, of course, but don't be surprised. Continental is close to the wall as it is. I imagine they will be rather glad to be bought out instead of going under a sheriff's hammer."

Rorimer shrugged. "Well, it's all news to me. I suppose Mr. Rorimer will find himself scouting around for a new job pretty soon."

Paul Collier observed dryly: "You're lucky you haven't had to do your scouting before this," and at Louise's inquiring look Dan explained.

"I got sore at Adamson and tore up my contract."

"Yeah, just like that," Paul commented.

"I think he's smart," Johnny Riddle said. "Be independent; that's my motto. They think a lot more of you, Dan, if you tell them to go to the devil once in a while."

"What'll they do, Louise?" Dan asked.

Miss Watkins didn't know. "I suppose they'll continue to operate under the name of Continental and apply some of their well known efficiency."

"There's room for plenty of that," Dan observed. "I beg your pardon."

"—or maybe they'll merge it completely. But that's not very likely; the name Continental still means something."

"Well, I'm for it—especially if it means that Adamson goes out on his neck."

"And how about you?" Paul demanded.

Dan said: "My time was almost up anyway. Only a couple of months to go on the contract, and I know blamed well Adamson would never renew it. In fact, I'm expecting the air any day—in large and copious quantities."

He smiled. "Paul," he explained to Louise and Johnny, "worries about me. I'll give him gray hair yet."

Collier growled. He said that it took two to run an establishment such as theirs. "I'd like to maintain you in the comfort you are accustomed to, but I can't afford it."

Dan laughed and went to the kitchen, and Collier, turning to the others, said, "Independent, that's him all over."

"Quit picking on him," Johnny Riddle advised. "I like to see a man who can tell some of these high-powered executives where to get off and make them like it."

How's Dan's girl friend getting along?"

"Coming right along, Johnny. Better keep an eye on her; she'll make a good client for you."

"Johnny can't sign a new client without losing his heart to her," Louise Watkins said. "That might complicate matters. If she's a friend of Dan's, who is she?"

Collier said he didn't think Louise knew her. "Anne Winter is her name. You met a friend of hers one day, over at Continental. Eva Harley. That blond girl, remember?"

Louise did.

Johnny Riddle, Collier observed in an envious tone, undoubtedly had the greatest racket in Hollywood. "It's all very well to have a legitimate publicity business and to make money at it."

"Lots of it, too," observed Louise Watkins, "although he does nothing but complain about business." She laughed and called to Dan, who had appeared in the doorway with a tray of glasses, to come in. "We're making Johnny Riddle feel bad, Dan."

"It can't be done," Dan said. "Where there's no conscience there's no feeling."

Riddle grinned, started to protest.

"Let me tell this," Paul Collier commanded, and he continued: "For clients Johnny has the most beautiful women in the world—"

"I have a few men," Riddle said stoutly.

"—and when they're beautiful and nice," Paul went on, "he falls in love with them. He has a staff to do all his work for him and he spends his time playing golf and dining with these beautiful movie girls, and at the end of each month what does he do? He sends them all a bill. I ask you, is that a racket or isn't it?"

Riddle chuckled and lighted a cigarette. "Kid me," he said, "go ahead and kid me. But don't think I fall in love with more than one at a time. I wouldn't have any business if I did. You can't remind a girl you're supposed to be crazy about that she's behind in her payments."

Anyway, Collier had the real racket, he said. "Everywhere he goes the big stiff is as welcome as Santa Claus. Why? Because he writes a glib little column on the movies every day, and it goes to a list of papers longer than Hollywood boulevard. Do the studios

PARAGRAPHS

By Robert Quillen

It wouldn't be the land of the free if it wasn't so easy to get out on bail.

Don't waste time at Medicine Lake, Mr. Hoover. A mere lagoon of medicine won't cure what ails us.

Cooperation would solve most of our problems. Freckles would be a nice coat of tan if they'd get together.

Hardtimes: A period when people quit feeding the cow and wonder why she gives less milk.

Yet so many think they are tolerant when they are merely too selfish to give a darn.

LAUGHTER, THE DOCTORS SAY, MOVES THE DIAPHRAGM. TOO MUCH OF IT IN A TALKIE ALSO MOVES THE RIGHT ARM OF THE FELLOW BEHIND YOU.

Evidently it's true that the good die young. The liars are the only ones to survive a wreck.

We still wait for a golf game that will let you stand in the shade and sock it a mile every lick.

But if quinine cures malaria, why is the disease common in lands where the natives eat grapefruit?

ANOTHER THING YOU MISS IN A RADIO SERMON IS THE WHISPERED COMMENT ON HATS.

The average novel brings the author less than one thousand dollars, which shows there is some justice left in the world.

AMERICANISM: Producing movies and literature in which let drop a remark that took Dan by surprise.

(To Be Continued)

the hero reaches for a pistol; wondering why the ordinary citizen acts that way.

The monkey is nobody's fool. He doesn't record the exploits of a few killers and call that the history of his race.

"Let's Be Abnormal!" headlines the Literary Digest. Always somebody trying to make us be good.

It's bad enough to publish a morose magazine, but how shameful to let the world know that two million Americans like it.

The air mail is a great institution. It enables many a circular to reach the waste basket 48 hours sooner.

Mr. Mellon is looking for a way to make the silver dollar popular. He might change the inscription to read: "Good for one bushel of wheat."

Correct this sentence: "Honesty and hard work brought me here," said the important citizen, "without the assistance of luck."

PASSENGERS TRIPLE

WASHINGTON.—Airplane passengers increased about three and one-half times last year over the number carried in 1928, according to a report of the U. S. Department of Commerce. This department also found that passenger-carrying business has increased 29 times in volume during the last four years.

Corrections To Errorgrams

(1) There are 12, instead of 10, zodiacal signs. (2) Tanny is the sign of the bull, not the lion. (3) Betelgeuse is a star instead of a planet. (4) Interpret is spelled incorrectly. (5) The scrambled word is TROOPS.

Doings of Week

In Spring Lake

SPRING LAKE, Aug. 20 (Special).—Mrs. Frank Stewart and sons Kenneth, Bill and Paul, have returned from a week's vacation spent at Crescent City and other points of interest.

Mrs. Grace Forquer is visiting with her sister near Port Klamath. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schreiner were visiting at Klamath Falls Thursday.

Mrs. W. E. Folsom visited with Mrs. Stewart Wednesday evening. Leland Cheyne visited with his grandmother, Mrs. Carl Schubert, Tuesday night.

James Hurrell has been combining in this vicinity most of the week.

Chas. Mack was transacting business in town Wednesday.

Nicaragua is planning to establish a permanent agricultural school to conduct a country-wide soil survey, instructing the natives in the use of modern implements and in cattle breeding.

foxy phann

EVERY MAN SHOULD HAVE A HOME WHERE HE CAN FIGHT IN PEACE

THE MOVIE MY ALUM CLOCK RINGS. I JUST CAN'T SLEEP ANOTHER MINUTE.

THANKS TO BEN WALKER, DANVILLE, ILL.

ERRORGRAMS

DATE CHOSE WELL FOR YOU AMONG THE TEN ZODIACAL SIGNS, FOR YOU WERE BORN UNDER THE SIGN OF TAURUS, THE BULL. I ALSO FIND A STRONG INFLUENCE OF THE PLANET BETELGEUSE, IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GREAT BEAR. NOW LET US INTERPRET ALL THIS. YOU ARE LUCKY—

There are at least four mistakes in the above picture. They may pertain to grammar, history, etiquette, drawing or whatnot. See if you can find them. Then look at the scrambled word below—and unscramble it, by switching the letters around. Grade yourself 20 for each of the mistakes you find, and 20 for the word if you unscramble it. Look on this page and we'll explain the mistakes and tell you the word. Then you can see how near a hundred you bat.

PROSOT

Always in step.

ONCE UPON A TIME.

JOHN X. THE ARMY

Thrilled by the glamour of the Spanish American War which had ended but a few years before, Warden Lewis E. Lawes of New York's Sing Sing prison ran away while still in his teens and enlisted in the army, serving three years.

SIDE GLANCES

By George Clark

"If he wants to marry me I'll know it's true love, because he knows I haven't even got a job."

Out Our Way

HERE SHE IS— SHE KEEPS FANNIN' TH' SAMWIDGE T' KEEF TH' FLIES AN' BUGS OFF AN' THEN MAKES A QUICK SNAP AN' GETS A MOUTHFUL— AN' HERE'S TH' WAY SHE CHEWS, LIKE IF SHE'S THINNKIN' MAYBE ONE DID GIT IN, INSIDE OF HER SHOOIN'.

HA! HA! HE'S GOT HER DOWN TO A T HEE

LAUGH, LAUGH! I'M CIVILIZED. I AM! WHAT MAY BE A PICNIC FOR AN ANTEATER, IS NO PICNIC FOR ME.

OH, NOH. A PICNIC IS NO PICNIC FOR MA, HA!

THE TENDER FOOT.

Freckles and His Friends

Looks Like Their Man!

By Blosser

BOY! JUST LOOK ME OVER... I'M TURNING OUT TO BE A REAL DETECTIVE... YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE ASKED REDDING IF HE HAD A KNIFE, DON'T YOU, OSCAR?

YEAH—AN' HE SAID HE DIDN'T HAPPEN TO HAVE ANY— YES—YES—

WELL—WE LIED—I SAW HIM CUTTING A TWIG WITH A KNIFE YESTERDAY... WHAT WE WANT TO DO IS TO GET A LOOK AT THAT KNIFE OF HIS SOMEHOW!!

"WELL—WE'LL FIGURE OUT SOME WAY TO DO IT, IF YOU'LL ONLY THINK OF SOMETHING."

THERE'S UNCLE CLEM— GO AHEAD AN' TELL HIM WHAT YOU KNOW...

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I WAS TO TELL YOU THAT THE THIEF WHO STOLE YOUR MONEY IS HERE ON YOUR RANCH RIGHT THIS MINUTE?

YOU DON'T SUSPECT REDDING, I HOPE?

WE AIN'T SAYIN' A THING, ARE WE, FRECKLES?

Mom'n Pop

Almost a Judge

By Gowan

MOM, WAIT TILL YOU HEAR THE NEWS ABOUT YOUR PROMINENT HUSBAND! THIS AFTERNOON SOME PROMOTERS AND BIG BUSINESS MEN CAME INTO THE OFFICE—

WELL, WHAT DID THEY PROMOTE YOU FOR THIS TIME?

WAIT AND GET THIS STRAIGHT! AFTER WE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED AND ALL, THEY CAME RIGHT TO THE POINT AND ASKED ME TO CONSIDER BEING A JUDGE—

A JUDGE!! THAT SOUNDS GRAND, POP!

—OF A BEAUTY CONTEST! I SUPPOSE YOU THINK THAT'S SOMETHING TO GET ALL STEAMED UP ABOUT?

YES, OF A BEAUTY CONTEST! BUT THIS IS A REAL HONOR BECAUSE IT'S A BIG PAGEANT OF AMERICA'S FINEST WOMANHOOD, WITH \$500 IN PRIZES!

H-M-M-M, I WONDER IF MY NEW BATHING SUIT IS SHAPPY ENOUGH!

WAIT, MOM! I—AH—I DECLINED THE OFFER. IT DIDN'T SEEM EXACTLY DIGNIFIED.

Twelve Is Wild

10 To run away. 3 Impetuous. 8 Eye tumors. 1 Bare tracks. 40 Is similar to. 9 Man. 9 Pertaining to the check. 5 Existed. 11 Catch. 10 Investigate. 1 Flavor. 7 To circumvent. 12 Wild. 2 Scheme. 17 To bark shrilly. 13 Salty. 18 Solitary. 17 Weapon. 18 By. 19 To extend to. 22 Spring. 23 Antelope. 24 Distinctive theory. 27 Spurs. 29 Pronoun. 31 Snare. 33 Mother. 37 Horace. 38 Flourishing.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

WOODCOCK HAWAIIAN LEE CON RET FIXES END OWNED L TINEA NOON REPT GOWN TED HATED TOWN SATISFIES JAMES V NORIA AMEN NEW SEED BAND USE SEED