

BANNERS FLYING

BY MARY RAYMOND

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THE STORY: Christie Colton has been a badly injured young man to a hospital. The young man seems to think he knows her. On her return home Christie discovers he is Stephen Marston, with whom her twin sister Jan is in love. In the ensuing months Christie's fiancé, Bart Sanderson, joins the Air Force. On the eve of a party in Jan's home comes news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

AN EVENTFUL PARTY

CHAPTER VI

A PARTY people would never forget—

Well, at least Christie would never forget it, but she could not look ahead.

Right now, Jan was standing in the doorway of Christie's room. "Oh, twinnie, you're beautiful!" Christie breathed.

"Am I?" Jan asked, her voice stirred by excitement. "I really wanted to be tonight—for just once in my life I want people to stare at me. I'd like to be like you."

"Goodness, Jan, I never looked as beautiful as that. You're like Cinderella—only there won't be any cinders for you tomorrow."

Christie's eyes followed the retreating shimmer that was Jan's gown. "Don't forget to bring Stephen to me," she called.

She secured pink camellias on the shoulder of the simple, white formal she had chosen, and hurried downstairs. She saw her father's pleased appraisal of Jan as she took her place beside him in the receiving line.

JUST then, Christie caught Hollis' eyes. He was standing near the entrance. He looked troubled, and, instantly, Christie felt a sober certainty that something had gone wrong. Nothing except some major domestic disaster could prick through the butler's English calm.

"What's the matter, Hollis?" Christie had crossed the room quickly.

"These, Miss Christie. They've been coming in steadily for the last hour."

Christie's hand shook as she lifted the stack of envelopes from the silver tray. "Don't say anything to Mother, Hollis," she cautioned. She fled to her room, sat down and began opening the notes. Calling cards—any number of them... Mrs. Pemberton Brooks regrets... Mrs. Donald Trent regrets... Miss Elizabeth Trent. Miss Lancaster, a member of Westwood's oldest family, wrote: "I'm not in a party mood tonight, Eleanor. All I can think about is that Westwood's boys will soon be in this awful war."

Christie dropped the stack into the wastepaper basket. She was feeling a burning resentment against the letter-writers. What terrible things people could do in the name of patriotism.

Well, she wouldn't let them do this to Jan!

She picked up the little French phone on her desk and dialed quickly. Miss Lancaster answered.

"This is Christie Colton, Miss Sarah," Christie said, coolly. "I think you are old enough to know what patriotism is—it hasn't anything to do with intolerance and petty punishment."

"Well!" Miss Lancaster exclaimed. "I don't know what the world is coming to when young people start insulting their elders. And don't you remind me of my age, Christie Colton."

"What some of you are doing is going to leave a scar on Jan as long as she lives," Christie continued. "I'm ashamed of you, Miss Sarah."

"I'm ashamed of myself," came Miss Sarah's voice. "I have been ever since I sent that note. I think you are a pretty brave girl, and I'm coming over as soon as I can get into my best dress. Anything else I can do for you?"

"You can call about a dozen people for me."

"Give me the names, but I think I know them already."

nurse knew my name," Christie said. "I should have figured it out, but—"

She broke off, because the young man had taken both her hands. "Names don't matter. After Jan told me her twin sister had been my pilot, I never thought of you as 'Christie.' It was more fun to think of you as my rescuing angel."

Definitely, he was a young man who must be put in his place. Christie withdrew her hands. "An angel," she laughed. "I gave up my wings when I promised my fiancé not to fly any more."

He surveyed her soberly. "I always suspected I'd be too late for heaven. When I was a kid, I used to have a nightmare. All about St. Peter slamming the gate just as I got there."

"You're extremely—" Christie's voice broke, half in indignation and partly in amusement—"silly," she ended lamely.

"Christie—" Bart was standing in the doorway. Jan was with him. In a quick glance, Christie saw that Bart was amazed, and none too pleased to find her here with a tall, blond stranger. As for Jan... she thought Jan looked tired. All the glow had gone.

"She saved my life," Stephen said to Bart. He smiled at Christie. "This is the first time I've seen her since."

"I remember about it," Bart spoke casually. "Christie happened to be the only person at the airport who could pilot a plane."

"That's about the story," Stephen Marston's voice matched Bart's in coolness. "Funny thing, when I looked up at her, I thought she was Jan."

"Oh, Christie always manages to get there first," Jan said. Christie flashed a quick look at her sister. Jan's voice had sounded queer, different. And for a fleeting moment, her eyes had looked hard and cynical.

(To Be Continued)

NEWS FROM THE FRONT money order accompanied the longest letter Mrs. William F. Brazier of rural Johnson county, Kansas, has received from son Roger, an apprentice seaman in the navy:

"Dearest Mother: Please buy a bond and spend what's left for dog food for Coach."

General John A. Lejeune was placed in charge of the largest number of combined troops ever commanded by a marine corps officer in 1918.

HAVE YOUR RADIO REPAIRED NOW!

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THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



ANSWER: Because the leaves persist throughout the winter.

CANADIAN PROVINCE

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| HORIZONTAL | Answer to Previous Puzzle | 12 Billiard stick. |
| 1 Depicted province of Canada. | 1 Mithril | 15 Cleaners. |
| 8 Net proceeds (abbr.). | 2 Tuna | 18 European state. |
| 10 Priority (prefix). | 3 Snap | 20 Pig pens. |
| 11 Norwegian river. | 4 Road | 22 Incorporated (abbr.). |
| 12 Dove's call. | 5 G | 23 Siamese coin. |
| 13 Little demon. | 6 Stem | 24 Sail yard (Scot.). |
| 14 Female saint (abbr.). | 7 J | 26 Narrow fillets of cotton. |
| 15 Ringlet. | 8 E | 27 Girl's name. |
| 16 Seine. | 9 A | 28 Soak flax. |
| 17 Symbol for tellurium. | 10 D | 29 Nova Scotia (abbr.). |
| 18 Fragrant oleoresin. | 11 R | 30 Its capital is— |
| 19 Editor (abbr.). | 12 D | 33 Experts. |
| 20 Compass point. | 13 A | 35 Heraldic shield fillet (pl.). |
| 21 Alternating current (abbr.). | 14 M | 37 Test. |
| 23 Perfume. | 15 H | 39 Step. |
| 25 Its fertile prairie extends from the border to the Saskatchewan river. | 16 I | 41 Piece out. |
| 31 Walking | 17 O | 42 Infant. |
| | 18 U | 43 Poker stake. |
| | 19 N | 45 Within (comb. form). |
| | 20 E | 47 Dry. |
| | 21 S | 48 Thrive (music) (abbr.). |
| | 22 W | 51 Direct current (abbr.). |
| | 23 A | 52 Sun god. |
| | 24 C | |
| | 25 O | |
| | 26 F | |
| | 27 P | |
| | 28 L | |
| | 29 K | |
| | 30 J | |
| | 31 Q | |
| | 32 Z | |
| | 33 X | |
| | 34 Y | |
| | 35 V | |
| | 36 B | |
| | 37 N | |
| | 38 D | |
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| | 52 C | |

