

THE LOVE SONG OF THE BELLS

By D. F. Washburn

WHEN sitting on the front porch of our Fayette street home talking over the events of the day...

Suddenly, as if from a dream, Russ moved and spoke. His voice was strange, peculiar to the domestic atmosphere of the group.

"In just two minutes you will hear it." The words were a warning. "Fear what?" I asked amazed at his sudden seriousness.

"A romance," he said, "and he is at her bedside."

Another prepared a basket of food, and with a suitable vase of flowers Russ and I visited the home of the little old couple.

A few days later we were overjoyed to hear the melody once more. The same old tune as clear and audible as before.

It had been a dreary day. The sky was overcast and the fall of darkness sent us indoors earlier than usual.

Slowly and suddenly, as if a wail of a thousand heartaches, the music came. But the "I Love You Truly" was lost in strains of "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

We understood. Flowers were sent to the little old lady's room as a token of the greatest and purest love we had ever known.

"What do you make of it?" When did you discover it? I asked.

"Just a few nights ago. I heard the melody accidentally while attempting to weave a rhyme into the notes of the bells."

"Probably somebody sending a love song, as dad says," I conjectured.

"But you haven't witnessed the strange part of it yet," Russ said. "That music cannot be heard any place but here."

Of course we did not think that possible, but upon investigation the next evening we found that Russ was right.

We were sitting on the porch waiting for the chimes that evening and were not disappointed. They were clear and unmistakable as before.

"Well, who is the bird sending love songs to his best girl?" asked dad.

"Yes, or who is the guy that gummed up the mechanism until it imitates Paderewski?" I added.

"Folks, it's a romance," Russ explained. "A beautiful little romance that has been going on under the very eyes of thousands for more than twenty years."

"You remember the gray-haired old night watchman at the town hall? Just Frank, I believe they call him. Well, he has been climbing that tower to wind his clocks every night exactly at the stroke of seven."

"But, I asked, "why is it that the music cannot be heard farther down the street?"

"Because it is overtone," explained Russ. "Overtone is the disturbance of fading sound vibration and can only be heard when the vibrations reach a certain speed. For that reason they can only be heard exactly the right distance from the source."

"The little old watchman taps those notes to be heard at his little home, which is exactly the same distance from the tower as we are."

The explanation was accepted. Each evening we sat on the porch waiting for the love song. We would never leave for an appointment until we had been cheered by the strains.

And one night in September we failed to hear it. We looked at each other in surprise. No one spoke for a while. Then, to camouflage his real feelings, dad asked:

"I wonder who scoured the old beaver out of the tower?"

"Perhaps the old lady has wrapped a frying pan around his head,"

"Maybe he's fallen and broken his neck."

"Wonder what she'll think when she doesn't hear it?"

Many were the conjectures as to the cause of the music's failure. None of them satisfied us, however, and the next evening Russ returned with an explanation.

"She is ill," he said, "and he is at her bedside."

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Farm Reminders

Successful Oregon farmers find it profitable to watch the health of their ewe flock. They give special care to any animal that appears to be run down. If the animal has a parasitic disease, however, it will not respond to such special care. In such a case a sample of the manure of the ewe is gathered and put in a tin or bottle and sent to Dr. J. N. Shaw, instructor in veterinary medicine, Oregon Agricultural college, Corvallis, where it is examined and the exact parasite determined, which is essential to proper treatment.

Farmers of Oregon contemplating sowing clover or alfalfa next spring are laying in their seed supplies while there is time to have the seed tested. The seed laboratory at the state college is in better position to rush tests through in the fall and early winter than when the usual rush comes in January and February when clover is planted or in April, just before alfalfa sowing.

Oregon is probably the leading creeping bent grass seed producing state in the union. Considerable acreages of creeping bent are being threshed each year for seed in Coos and Clatsop counties. The quality of the seed is exceptional in that each kind grows so pure that fine even turfs are obtained. This grass is considered superior to the south German mixed bent commonly imported, according to experiment station specialists.

The annual meeting of the State Bee Keepers association will be held at Hermiston, November 17-19. A jack rabbit drive will be a feature of the meeting.

Wet fall weather in Oregon results in potato blight. This usually shows in dead spots in the leaves and stems which result in the plants going down rather rapidly. This disease may be checked by spraying with bordeaux mixture before an infestation appears or in its very early stages. Dusting with bordeaux dust has also been found effective by the experiment station. Serious infestations of the disease frequently cause considerable rotting of the potatoes.

NOTICE OF BUDGET MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the budget committee of the city of Vernonia, Columbia county, Oregon, a municipal corporation, has filed in the office of the levying board, to-wit: The city council of said city, its detailed estimate of the total amount of receipts, and also the total amount of money proposed to be raised by taxation and expended by said municipal corporation for all purposes for the fiscal year of 1928, which estimates are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Administration Expense, Police department, Fire department, Health department, Street department, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Superintendent's salary, Water collection, Supplies, maintenance and extra help, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Sinking fund, Investors Syndicate sinking fund, Interest, etc.

And notice is hereby given that the said city council of said city, sitting as a levy board, will hold a meeting in the city hall in the city of Vernonia, Columbia county, Oregon, on Monday evening, October 31, 1927, at the hour of 8 o'clock P.M. at which time and place all persons, who shall be subject to such tax levy, when the same shall be made, may appear and be heard in favor of or against said tax levy, or any part thereof.

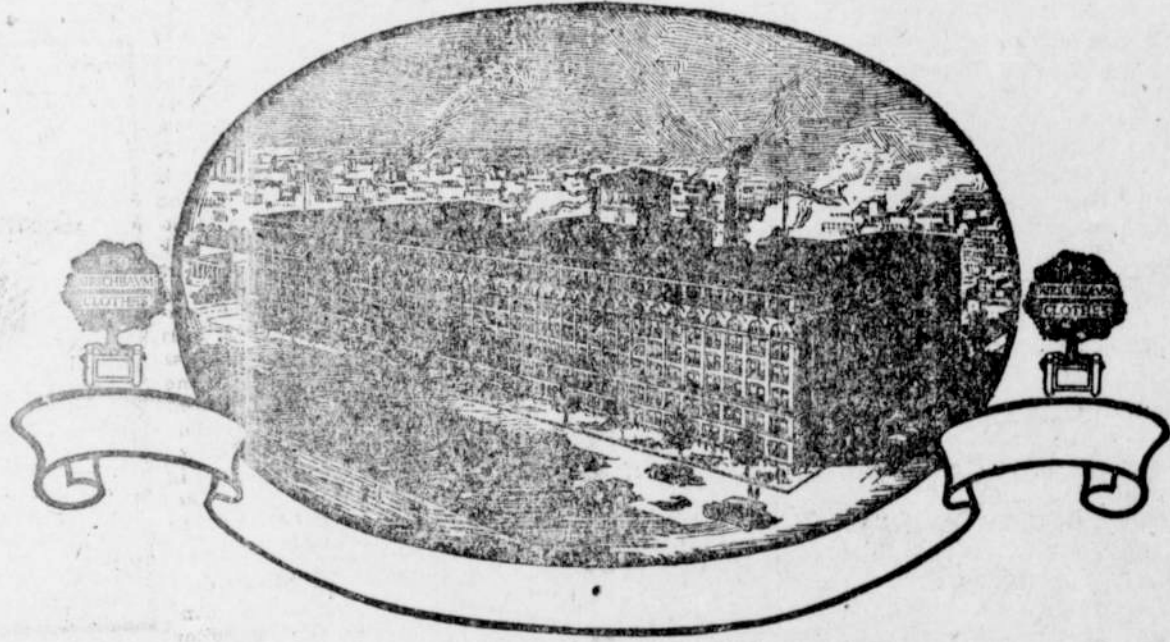
Dated this October 3, 1927. (Seal) Attest: D. B. REASONER, City Recorder.

Total \$13,500.00

Balance to be raised by direct tax \$13,765.00

G. R. MILLS, Mayor.

KIRSCHBAUM CLOTHES "Lower the Cost of Dressing Well"



The main plant and offices of the A. B. Kirschbaum Co., South Broad Street at Carpenter and Washington, Philadelphia

The House Behind the Product

The fine products of this sixty-seven year old institution are now offered to the men and young men of this community at this store. KIRSCHBAUM CLOTHES match the quality standards and ideals to which we subscribe: Approved styles, dependable fabrics, honest tailoring, good fit, long service and moderate prices. They are the clothes that lower the cost of dressing well.

The Season's New Models Now On Display 100% Virgin Wool Suit Fabrics Correct Patterns and Colors

\$30 to \$50

Miller Mercantile Company Vernonia, Oregon

Made Napoleon Admit Power of Woman's Wit

As a rule conversation as an art develops only in middle life after the mind is enriched by reading and travel and broadened by experience, but Mme. de Stael was an exception. Even as a child she showed signs of her destiny as the brilliant French authoress and leader in society, her youthful conversation being remarkable for command of words and beautiful sentiment. Her chubby fingers were usually busy writing and she delighted in composing dramas wherein she made kings and queens act all of the parts. Time and again, it is said, she amazed adults with the genius of her comprehension and penetration of character.

When she reached young womanhood the star of Napoleon Bonaparte was rising and mighty as was his will to power he feared her and paid her what was probably the greatest compliment ever paid a woman. When he came to rule one of his first official acts was to exile her, showing that he considered her a dangerous rival. He said of her, "The arrows of Mme. de Stael could reach a man if he were seated upon a rainbow."—Kansas City Times.

Queer Doings

A soldier, who had been a railway porter before the war, on his return resumed his duties, and on being asked one day by a traveler if he noticed any changes since he left, replied:

"Sure an' Oi do, sor. The elven train now starts at twelve; the express doesn't stop at all, an' there's no lasit train!"

True

The compositor in setting up a poem about Lindbergh spelled it "propeller."

"It's a mistake, I know," said he, "but it's only a slight mistake. Why all the fuss?"

"In an airplane poem you don't want anything wrong with the propeller."