



# King Tommy

BY GEORGE A. BIRMINGHAM

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WNU Service.

## CHAPTER IX—Continued

Janet Church, tired of standing by herself and very curious to know what was going on, edged slowly toward the table at which Tommy was sitting. The king, who has very sharp eyes, noticed her.

"By the way," he said, "why did you bring your aunt with you? Casimir tells me that she's your aunt. I suppose she is your aunt? I used to say cousin myself sometimes, and occasionally sister—not that any one ever believed me—but I never thought of aunt. I suppose now that she isn't—but she can't be, can't possibly be. But still some men have queer fancies. I suppose she isn't Miss Temple, is she?"

"No, she's not," said Tommy.

"That's almost a pity," said the king. "I don't think Calypso would have objected to her. I don't think even the patriarch would have minded. However, if she isn't—"

He had to drop his voice at the last words, for Janet had come quite close to them. The king greeted her in the most friendly manner.

"I'm just giving your nephew a little advice," he said. "I was talking about the financial position of Lystria. Low rate of exchange and all that, you know. But the worst of it is that the people simply won't pay their taxes. At least, they wouldn't in my time. Ever since I've been here I've been thinking things over and I see now that I went the wrong way about collecting taxes. All governments make the same mistake. They send round disagreeable men with large blue papers and threaten people who don't pay up. That's the wrong way to get money. As head waiter in the Mascotte I make more in a single month than I ever got out of Lystria in a year. I don't threaten any one. I don't ask any one for a tip. A good waiter can make a man feel like a worm if he orders anything cheaper than champagne, and without speaking a word can see to it that he gets a ten per cent tip at least on every bill that's paid. I take fifty per cent of what the waiters get. That's revenue, collected without the slightest difficulty. What I'm advising your nephew to do is to try the same plan in Lystria. Fire all the existing tax collectors. They're an utterly worthless lot, and their methods are antiquated. Hire a staff of waiters from some place like this. Employ them on a fifty-fifty basis, and just see what you get in. Now what do you think of that plan, Miss Temple?"

"My name isn't Temple," said Janet. "It's—"

"Of course not," said the king. "Norheys told me it wasn't."

"It's Church. Miss Janet Church," she spoke stiffly. Her impression was that the king was a very drunk head waiter.

"Church," said the king. "How very ecclesiastical! And Norheys says he's a curate. You ought to be able to handle the patriarch between you."

"I'm going to Lystria," said Janet, "to enlist the patriarch's sympathies in the cause of World Peace Through the Union of Christian Churches."

The king looked at her for a moment with a little puzzled frown on his forehead. Then he turned to Tommy.

"I must say you're managing this uncommonly well," he said. "If you can start the patriarch arguing about religion, he'll forget—it's an extraordinarily ingenious plan. I wish I'd thought of it in my time. But then I never had an aunt who could have done it. I wish I could be there, Miss Church. I'd like to hear you and the patriarch at it together. But I can't go. They'd never let me cross the frontier. Besides, I must hold on to my job here. It's all I have to live on."

Janet turned away. Drunken head waiters who babbled neither amused nor interested her. She left the room with great dignity. Half an hour later, after receiving a great deal more good advice, Tommy managed to get off and go back to his hotel.

## CHAPTER X

I have had several talks with Tommy about what happened in Berlin. It was easy, or fairly easy to get at the facts. It was very much more difficult to find out what Tommy thought about it all.

"But didn't the whole thing strike you as odd?" I asked him.

"Of course it did," said Tommy. "Odd is hardly the word for it. It was simply mad."

"Still, you went on with it. I mean to say, you didn't try to clear things up."

"I did nothing else except try to clear things up," said Tommy. "I

kept on trying. I told every one I met there'd been a mistake, that I wasn't the man they took me for; but they wouldn't believe me."

"So at last you made up your mind to take the goods the gods provided, a princess and a throne?"

"Well, of course, there was Calypso," said Tommy. "I didn't really think at first that I had much chance of getting her, marrying her, I mean. Well, I told you how I was feeling about her."

"Yes, I understand that. But all the same—what I'm trying to get at is this: what did you think was happening? How did you explain it all to yourself? Did you try to think it out?"

"I thought it out all that night," said Tommy, "at least as long as I stayed awake. I dare say I was awake for as much as an hour or an hour and a half after I got into bed, and I was thinking hard all the time, partly about Calypso, of course. But—"

"Mostly about Calypso, I expect."

"Well, you may say mostly," said Tommy. "Still, I did think about the others, Casimir and the king, and about the absurd way they were going on, insisting that I was some one I wasn't and all that."

"And what conclusion did you come to? How did you explain it to yourself?"

"It sounds rather absurd," said Tommy, "and I dare say you'll think me a fool. But you know the way that fellow Casimir keeps on quoting Shakespeare?"

"I have heard him do it and marvelled."

"Evidently he'd read a lot of Shakespeare," said Tommy, "and admired him and all that."

"These mid-European peoples," I said, "all admire Shakespeare—im-

menently. They know him a great deal better than we do."

"That's what I'm getting at," said Tommy. "Casimir admires Shakespeare tremendously, and I dare say the king does too. I don't profess myself to know all the plays off by heart. Still I've read them. At least, I've read most of them. Do you remember the beginning of one of the plays—I didn't remember which it was at the time, but I've looked it up since, and it's 'The Taming of the Shrew.' At the beginning of it there's a kind of little play which hasn't anything to do with the shrew, or the taming or anything else."

No more than Tommy am I a Shakespearean scholar. But I recollect that there was a kind of prologue to 'The Taming of the Shrew.' It's about a sort of spoof," said Tommy, "which a lot of people played off on a ragged beggar called Christopher Sly, pretending to believe that the poor man was a king or a great lord or something until they very nearly persuaded him that he was!"

I remembered the scene when Tommy described it. A certain lord, returning from hunting with his attendants, all of them in merry mood, found a beggar in a bed in an inn. And out of sheer gaiety of heart set to work to persuade him that he was a wealthy nobleman.

"My idea was," said Tommy, "that they were trying that trick on me. I don't know how the game ended in Shakespeare. In fact I don't think it did end. But I thought I might just as well go through with it and see what happened. There was Calypso, you see."

"Yes," I said. "You've told me how you felt about her. Did you believe she was a princess?"

"Of course, I didn't," said Tommy. "At least, not at first. I thought she was just a dancing girl. And I thought her father was a head waiter, and that Casimir was a silly ass who'd got Shakespeare on the brain. I'd have chucked the whole thing and kicked Casimir next time I saw him, only that I really did want to—"

"You wanted to marry Calypso?"

"Most frightfully," said Tommy, who is a very simple soul.

"Considering your position," I said, "and your profession, and—and my sister Emily, don't you think you ought to have hesitated about marrying a girl like that?"

"I suppose I ought," said Tommy. "But I didn't. A fellow doesn't, you know, when he's—I told you that Calypso laid me out, absolutely a gone man, the very moment I saw her."

That is all very well; but I still think Tommy ought to have thought what he was doing. If he married her, supposing her to be, as he thought, simply a German dancing girl, he would have had to take her home with him and she would have been the curate's wife in his sister Emily's parish. What sort of example was Calypso likely to set to members of the Girls' Friendly society? What would the members of the Mothers' union have thought about her? What would dear old Canon Pyke, simplest, gentlest, most innocent of men, have thought of a curate's wife who kicked her legs into the air on the platform of his parochial hall at the annual entertainment of the Temperance society?

And Emily herself? My imagination utterly failed when I tried to imagine Emily's reception of Calypso. She had not a very high opinion of Tommy before he went to Berlin. In her original letter to me about his disappearance she had said that he was not altogether suited to be a clergyman. She would have been confirmed in that opinion when he came back with Calypso for a wife. There was no real harm in the girl. She was as thoroughly respectable as Viola Temple was. But Edmund Troyte, who was a man of the world, shielded at the idea of his nephew marrying her. Emily, who is a lady not of this world but of the next, would have been outraged and scandalized, if Canon Pyke's curate, a man who preached to her on Sundays, brought home Calypso as a wife. How would Calypso have taught a class in Sunday school? Emily would regard it as part of the duty of a curate's wife to teach a class in Sunday school.

There are things which Tommy certainly ought to have thought about; but did not. As he said, "a fellow doesn't" when he has fallen suddenly and violently in love. And, of course, there were other considerations. Calypso really was a princess. Tommy did not know that, at the time. Perhaps no one in the parish would have known it at first; but in the end it would have leaked out. What would have happened? My sister is no more a snob than the rest of us; but, like all decent people, she has a respect for royalty. She might severely condemn the manners, customs and morals of a Berlin cabaret dancer; but she is not the woman to do more than whisper nasty things about a princess. Her position would be really awkward. A curate's wife occupies a definite, quite humble place in a parish. But a princess in any well regulated church is received at the door by the clergy in full canonicals, has a gilt and crimson chair to sit on, instead of being herded in to a pew like other people, and is often prayed for by name in the course of the service. What could be done about a princess who is also the curate's wife?

But these complicated problems did not trouble Tommy. He was able to go to sleep after little more than an hour's wakefulness, rest quietly and awake next morning prepared to play out to the end what he supposed to be Casimir's game.

When he came down next morning he went to the head clerk in the reception office and asked whether Count Casimir had called or sent any message. Casimir had done neither. But the head clerk, who felt it his duty to watch over his guests, told Tommy that he ought to go to the police office at once to show his passport and obtain permission to remain in Berlin. This, he said, was necessary in the case of all foreigners who wished to stay more than two days. The whole business, so he assured Tommy, was purely formal, tiresome, but nothing worse. Tommy had nothing to do except display his passport. He would immediately receive the necessary written permit. It was called—Tommy wrote down the word to make sure of remembering it—an Ausweis.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

**Conscience Ruled Him**

One of the witnesses at a royal commission appointed to inquire into a case of alleged bribery in an election stated that he had received \$25 to vote Conservative, and in cross-examination it was elicited that he had also received \$25 to vote Liberal.

Mr. Justice Matthew, in amazement, repeated:

"You say you received \$25 to vote Conservative?"

"Yes, my lord."

"And you also received \$25 to vote Liberal?"

"Yes, my lord."

"And for whom did you vote at the finish?" asked the astonished judge, throwing himself back in the chair.

And the witness, with injured dignity in every line of his face, answered with great earnestness.

"I voted, my lord, according to my conscience!"—Vancouver Province.

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## Kill Onion Thrips by Using Spray

Nicotine Application When Plants Are Small Will Kill Insects.

The onion thrips is a small prolific insect, almost invisible to the unaided eye. It causes injury to the onion crop by producing a condition known as "white blast," "white blight," and "silver top." The whitened appearance of the onion leaves and tops is due to the extraction of the plant juices by rasping and then by suction. Shortly after the attack begins, the leaves become characteristically whitened, then curled, crinkled and finally die down permanently.

**Insect Is Small.**

The thrips is very small in all of its stages. The adult is at first pale yellow, later turning brown. The wings are pale yellow with dusky fringes of bristles. The length is about one-twenty-fifth of an inch. The thrips is usually found in the axils of the leaves, not appearing on the leaves to any extent until present in large numbers. The mature female, by means of a tiny, saw-like organ near the end of the abdomen, cuts a slit in a leaf or stem, and in this slit deposits an egg, generally inserted out of sight. Here the egg hatches in two to seven days, depending on the temperature. The young thrips works its way out and feeds in the same manner as the adults. Their growth is rapid and in a week or two, they cease feeding and seek a suitable location in which to pupate. This is a resting stage of about a week between the nymph and adult and is usually spent in the ground an inch or two beneath the surface. The life cycle from the time of egg laying until the appearance of the adults is about three weeks, thus permitting several generations each year.

Several species of ladybird beetles feed on thrips. Rains, especially heavy driving storms, frequently destroy them in large numbers.

**Kill With Nicotine.**

Thrips can be killed when hit with a 1.6 per cent nicotine dust or with nicotine as a liquid spray. The difficulty comes in not being able to hit the insects down in the axils of the leaves. The spray does not kill the eggs in the tissues of the leaves or the pupae in the soil. Also a few winged adults escape and later infest the sprayed plants.

Early spraying when the plants are small may have some value, but after the plants get large it has very little effect.

Preventing spring infestation is the most important. The practice of growing onion sets near fields of seed onions serves as a source of infestation for adjacent fields. Greenhouses near onion fields sometimes harbor the thrips all winter and then in warm weather the thrips leave the house for the fields. Cleaning up fields of piles of refuse, such as onion tops, culls and screenings, eliminates an important source of infestation. Burning weeds along railroads, ditch banks and fences destroys hibernating stages.—J. L. Hoerner, Entomology Department, Colorado Agricultural College.

**Sweet Clover Silage Is Excellent for Dairy Use**

Sweet clover makes excellent silage for dairy cattle and is growing in popularity for that purpose each year. The Kemptville Agricultural school in eastern Ontario swears by sweet clover silage after several years' experience and claims that it is one of the most economic producers of milk. Of course something depends upon the time the sweet clover is cut for ensilage. It must be cut green enough to be tight when put in the silo. Then it will pack down and exclude the air. If too dry when put in, air will be retained and the silage will be spoiled with a mold that is alleged to be injurious to cattle. The time for cutting is when it starts to bloom. If weather conditions are right for curing well without outside moisture it may be handled as hay with good results. The sweet clover plant is all right when handled right.

**Combat Cucumber Beetle With Effective Sprays**

Any one of the four following sprays may be used effectively to combat the striped cucumber beetle.

Calcium arsenate dust at the rate of 1 part of calcium arsenate to 20 parts of gypsum or sand plaster; lead arsenate dust; lead arsenate spray at the rate of 2 pounds in 50 gallons of water; nicotine sulphate dust at the rate of 2½ pounds of 40 per cent nicotine sulphate in 50 gallons of hydrated lime.

The material should be applied first when the young seedlings are breaking through the ground. Succeeding applications should be made from two to three times a week, early in the morning while the dew is still on, and immediately after a heavy rain, being sure to cover the entire plant. Applications are necessary until the first picking.

**Alfalfa for Hogs**

Experiments conducted by the animal husbandry department at South Dakota state college indicate that alfalfa hay added to the ration of a fattening hog will reduce materially the amount of corn required to produce 100 pounds of pork. Whole alfalfa hay proved to be practically as good for hogs as chopped alfalfa. The alfalfa hay can be fed in a rack.

## Select Seed Tubers From Sound Plants

Potatoes Should Be Obtained From Healthy Vines.

Selecting potatoes in the field for seed next season is said by the potato specialist at the New York state agricultural experiment station at Geneva to be much more satisfactory than selecting the seed from the bin at planting time. According to this authority, many potato growers who use home-grown seed now follow the practice of maintaining a special seed plot from which they make a careful selection of seed potatoes in the fall for use in the next year's seed plot, using the rest for seed for the main planting. Hill selection enables the grower to choose seed from healthy, vigorous plants only, as well as from the highest yielding hills, declares the station specialist. On the other hand, seed potatoes taken from the bin are rather an unknown quantity in that they may come from weak or diseased plants and will transmit these characters to next year's crop.

Whether a special seed plot has been maintained or not, growers will find it advantageous to select their seed potatoes at harvest time, in view of the favorable results secured from this practice in the station's experimental plantings. While it is usually desirable to harvest the bulk of the potato crop after the vines have died, it is advisable to go through the field a short time before and select a sufficient number of the most vigorous plants to supply the necessary seed for next season. These hills can either be dug at once or marked for identification when the rest of the crop is harvested. In either case, however, the tubers intended for seed should be kept separate from the bulk of the crop.

Plants selected for seed should be free from all suspicion of leaf-roll, mosaic, or so-called spindling sprout and should be in a vigorous condition. Selecting the best yielding hills out of a lot will also pay in increased yields the next year for the time and work involved in making the selection.

**Best Soy Bean Varieties Named by Kansas Station**

A few of the hundreds of varieties of soy beans have proved their value, according to tests conducted by the Kansas agricultural experiment station in co-operative experiments with farmers.

The Manchu, Haberlandt, Midwest, and Morse varieties have given good results for seed and pasture purposes. Manchu is an excellent variety for grain or pasture. Haberlandt is a heavy seed producer and suitable for grain and pasture. Midwest is a good seed and pasture variety. Morse, while adapted mainly for seed production, is also a good variety for hay. Wilson is an excellent variety for hay. Virginia is distinctly a hay variety and usually produces high yields. Sable produces a good quality of hay.

Soy beans, like other legumes, must be supplied with the proper bacteria in order to enable them to make a normal growth on poor soils. The particular kind of bacteria necessary for soy beans is seldom if ever present in Kansas soils except where soy beans have been grown. For this reason it is usually necessary to place the bacteria in the fields where soy beans are to be planted. This can be done by treating the seed with inoculating material which contains large numbers of soy bean bacteria.

**Financial Difficulties**

Forty-two per cent of the farmers feel that their financial difficulties are due to low prices of farm products, the United States Department of Agriculture says. Seventeen per cent attribute their condition to high costs for farm labor, 10 per cent to high freight rates, 10 per cent to high interest rates, 6 per cent to reckless expenditures during the boom period, and 4 per cent to too much credit.

**FARM NOTES**

Advanced registry testing frequently results in registering advanced profits.

Leaving good enough alone may often result in missing something better.

Young alfalfa plantings are harmed, not helped, when a nurse crop is allowed to go to grain.

Ground pumice stone mixed to a thick paste in sweet oil is an old reliable polisher for the horns and hoofs of show cattle.

Like anything else, rhubarb has a limit to its productive ability. After eight weeks of harvesting give it a rest until next year.

The man who will be the most successful and wear a high average number of pigs from each sow is the man who will plan to take advantage of nature's tonics.

Attractive signs telling what is to be sold and how far it is to the stand are an important part of the roadside market. Place them far enough on each side of the market so that the motorist may slow down and stop where the fruits, vegetables and eggs are for sale.

**For Hard Workers and Hard Walkers Everywhere—USKIDE SOLES**

The Wonder Sole for Wear—Wears twice as long as best leather!—and for a Better Heel—"U.S." SPRING-STEP Heels

United States Rubber Company

**Brazil's Food Factories**

Producing foodstuffs occupies the greatest number of factories in Brazil, while clothing is next, ceramics, wood-working, furniture and textiles following in order.

**Champion Spark Plugs** are guaranteed to give absolute satisfaction to the user, or full repair or replacement will be made.

Champion X for Fords 60c, Blue Box for all other cars, 75c. More than 95,000 dealers sell Champions. You will know the genuine by the double-ribbed core.

Champion Spark Plug Co. Toledo, Ohio Windsor, Ont., London, Paris

**Coal Under City Street**

Coal discovered while laying a sewer in a busy street in Coatbridge, Scotland, is being dug up at the rate of nine or ten tons a day. The "bit" is 38 feet deep.

**Do your friends laugh at you?**

Your friends notice how your car runs. If the motor knocks and rattles and fails to work smoothly, they may enjoy your predicament and laugh.

MonaMotor Oil will keep your motor in tip-top shape. It will put pep, power, and zest into your car and give it a new grip on mileage. Enjoy driving to the fullest. Buy only MonaMotor Oil.

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**MonaMotor Oils & Greases**

**Try the New Cuticura Shaving Stick**

Freely Lathering Medicinal and Emollient

**He Feels Like a Boy at Forty**

For over a year I suffered from headaches and constipation. Someone at my club suggested Beecham's Pills. I tried them and they relieved me. I'm only forty and I feel like a boy again after taking Beecham's Pills.

Mr. J. G. Yonkers, N. Y.

This man gives good advice. Follow it, and you will quickly dispense diarrhoea, constipation and biliousness are overcome by Beecham's Pills.

For FREE SAMPLE—write B. F. Allen Co., 417 Canal Street, New York Buy from your druggist in 25 and 50c boxes

**Beecham's Pills**

W. N. U., Salt Lake City, No. 27-1925.