

King Tommy

CHAPTER XI—Continued
—15—

By George A. Birmingham
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"I accept it," he said, "in recognition, not of the services I have rendered, but of those I hope to render to your native land. I think you understand me, Count Casimir."

Casimir did, or thought he did. No doubt Von Steinfeldt was of opinion that he would render valuable services to Lystria by marrying the princess and ascending the throne.

"I am also charged by his majesty," he said, "to inform your excellency that if at any time you should wish to visit the Mascotte a table will be reserved for you and a proper deduction, fifty per cent in fact, will be made to your bill."

"I shall certainly accept the invitation," said Von Steinfeldt. "I have long wished to see the Princess Calypso dance. She is still dancing there, I hope."

"She danced last night." "And tonight? No, tonight I am engaged, and the night after. Will the Princess Calypso be dancing next Monday night?"

Casimir sincerely hoped not. If his plans worked out as he wished, the princess would be well on her way to Lystria on Monday night. But he did not want to say that to Von Steinfeldt. He made an effort to get away from the subject of the Princess Calypso.

"His majesty," he said, "hopes to engage an English dancer for the Mascotte. She is, I am told, well known and greatly appreciated in London. If your excellency will come and see her when she arrives you will no doubt be pleased. Her name is Temple, Viola Temple."

"Ach," said Von Steinfeldt, "I think I know the name. Let me see. I hear a little of the gossip of the London clubs, though I should no longer be admitted as a member of one of them. Is not that the lady to whom young Lord Norheys is so deeply attached?"

Casimir felt that the time had come for getting at the real object of his mission. This chance mention of Norheys' name gave him his opportunity.

"Speaking of Lord Norheys," he said, "reminds me that his majesty asked me to say to you—"

Von Steinfeldt interrupted him. "That Lord Norheys is in Berlin. But I know it already. I had a visit from him this morning. A very charming young man. Perhaps he is over here to take care of Miss Temple."

Casimir, who had been uneasy all through the interview, became actually uncomfortable. He did not understand what Von Steinfeldt meant.

"Miss Temple," he said, "has not yet arrived in Berlin."

"Indeed, then perhaps there is no truth in the rumor that he intends to marry Miss Temple. Indeed, I have heard it whispered that another and much more desirable marriage has been planned for that fortunate young man. The Princess Calypso is, I understand a very beautiful young lady."

Casimir was not surprised to find that Von Steinfeldt knew all about the scheme for the marriage of Calypso and Norheys, but he was startled, puzzled and frightened to hear the latter spoken of in this way.

"Lord Norheys is a rich man, I believe," Von Steinfeldt went on. "He will no doubt make an excellent king of Lystria, a post which could hardly be accepted by a man without private means. And if your oil fields are developed, he will see to it that England obtains control of them. Well, England gets everything nowadays. To the victors the spoils. It is enough for us poor Germans that we are allowed to live. Please tell the king that I do not grudge Lord Norheys his good fortune. I found him a most attractive young man. I have seldom enjoyed a chat more than the one I had with him this morning."

Casimir felt perfectly certain that Von Steinfeldt would grudge the princess and the throne of Lystria to Lord Norheys or any one else except himself. He was equally sure that no German would be content to see England in control of the Lystrian oil. He felt that he was being played with, laughed at, and that some very disagreeable surprise awaited him. He began to be angry and to lose confidence in himself.

"What brought Lord Norheys here?" he asked abruptly.

"There was some trifling irregularity about his passport," said Von Steinfeldt, "and he very properly brought it straight to me."

Casimir knew, or thought he knew, all about Tommy's passport and that the irregularity was anything but trifling. He also knew that Tommy had not gone to Von Steinfeldt's office of his own free will. He had been arrested and taken there. He jumped to the conclusion that Von Steinfeldt had already sent Lord Norheys back to England and was now enjoying his triumph in a disagreeable and spiteful manner.

"I was so glad to be able to set the matter right for him at once," said Von Steinfeldt.

"I suppose," said Casimir, "that you have deported him."

Von Steinfeldt raised his eyebrows in well-feigned surprise.

"My dear Count Casimir," he said, "why should I deport Lord Norheys? That excellent young man is at present enjoying the sights of Berlin, in company, perhaps, with Miss Temple. Or did you say that she had not yet

arrived? I suppose in any case he does not mean actually to marry her. It would be very awkward for you and King Wladislaws if any formal promise of marriage existed. It might be difficult to buy off Miss Temple. I imagine that you would have to pay her more than five hundred pounds. Perhaps the king might offer her the Gold Adder of Lystria."

He fingered the pink ribbon on his breast as he spoke.

"Or a table at the Mascotte and fifty per cent off her bill. But I forgot. She has already been engaged to dance there."

Casimir was by this time nervous as well as angry. Von Steinfeldt would scarcely venture to laugh at him so openly unless he were very sure that he had the best of the game.

"I suppose," he said, "that you have imprisoned Lord Norheys if you haven't deported him."

"Even if I wished to imprison him," said Von Steinfeldt, "I don't. We poor Germans lost the war, you know. The hand of the conqueror lies heavy on us. If I arrested an English nobleman in the streets of Berlin, I should probably be tried for my life by the League of Nations. My property would certainly be confiscated. But I need not talk of such things. Even if I could do so with impunity, I should not want to interfere with Lord Norheys or to curtail his liberty in any way."

Casimir has the temper of a healthy and therefore amiable child. But like most children and simple minded people, he is liable to sudden gusts of passion which he cannot control.

"You've just taken five hundred pounds of our money—" he said.

"For the impoverished German aristocracy," said Von Steinfeldt, "and I assure it will be well spent."

"You have accepted the Order of the Golden Adder—"

"In return for services which you hoped I would render to your country. Is not that so, Count Casimir? Well, I have rendered them before you asked me. Three hours ago your friend Lord Norheys left this room entirely free to go where he chose and do what he liked."

"I don't believe you," said Casimir. "If you will inquire at his hotel," said Von Steinfeldt, "or Miss Temple's hotel— But I keep forgetting."

You said she was not in Berlin. Or perhaps he has taken the princess out to luncheon somewhere. Or he may be making arrangements for his journey to Lystria. You will find him somewhere no doubt if you look for him. He is certainly at liberty."

Casimir rose from his chair and crossed the room.

"I don't know what you expect to gain," he said angrily, "by treating the king and myself as you have; but if you think that after this the Lystrians will ever accept you as a king, you are very badly mistaken."

He opened the door as he spoke. When he had finished speaking he passed through it and slammed it violently behind him.

I have no doubt that Von Steinfeldt smiled. He probably chuckled when Casimir left him. The mistake about Tommy's identity was sure to be discovered sooner or later. When it was discovered every one concerned would feel so foolish that there would be no further talk about an English candidate for the throne of Lystria. Once Lord Norheys was out of the way, Von Steinfeldt's own chances would be greatly improved.

CHAPTER XII

Casimir spent a harassed and trying time for the rest of the day.

He was convinced, and the king agreed with him, that Von Steinfeldt meant to play a trick of some kind.

It was conceivable—indeed, likely enough—that the German would have accepted a bribe. That he had allowed Lord Norheys to go free before he was bribed was a thing which neither the king nor Casimir could believe. But they did not know and could not guess what kind of a trick Von Steinfeldt meant to play, or what trick he could play. The simplest thing to do was to send the princess and Tommy off to Lystria at once.

Unfortunately, this was not possible.

The arrangements for crossing the frontier and their reception in the Schloss Ambray were not yet complete. The plan which Casimir had made was that the patriarch and the leading notables of Lystria should be waiting at the Schloss to celebrate the wedding and the coronation immediately after the princess and Lord Norheys arrived. But the patriarch was not there, and nothing could be done without him. Only a few of the nobility were actually in the Schloss. Casimir required three days to have everything ready.

But if Von Steinfeldt had any card in his hand and meant to play it, it was plainly unwise to keep the princess and Lord Norheys in Berlin. He and the king decided to send them to Breslau. There they would be within easy reach of the frontier, and when they crossed it would at once be among the mountains of Lystria. If they stayed there quietly, Von Steinfeldt might not guess where they were, and they would, at worst, be

farther out of his reach than if they stayed in Berlin.

Casimir's original plan had been that his sister, the Countess Olga, should accompany the princess as lady-in-waiting. Neither he nor the king could go with her. They would be closely watched and stopped at the frontier. But he had every hope that, with the passports he meant to provide, the princess, Lord Norheys and the Countess Olga would be able to get into Lystria.

That part of the plan was spoiled by the unexpected appearance of Janet Church. She insisted on going to Lystria, and, when he came to think it over, Casimir was not altogether sorry. The Countess Olga might be suspected. Janet Church, a wandering English spinster of a type perfectly well known all over Europe, was as safe a traveling companion as could be found for a pair of political conspirators.

Casimir and the king agreed that the party should start for Breslau next morning. Then Casimir's work began. He engaged seats in the train. He telegraphed for rooms at the best hotel in Breslau. He sent long telegrams in code to the patriarch, to his cousin Count Albert Casimir and to several other people in Lystria. He warned his sister that Colonel Heard's passports must be secured during the day. If by some unfortunate chance the Colonel had not left his keys lying about, the Countess Olga would have to cut open a suitcase or a dispatch box. If necessary she could go to prison for a while as a dishonest housemaid, but the passports must be got.

Then he tried to find Tommy in order to warn him to be ready. He came on Janet Church having her afternoon tea in the hall of the Adlon hotel, but she knew nothing about Tommy. She had not seen him since he left the hotel in the morning to go to the police office. She very willingly agreed to help Casimir to find him. They went out and searched Berlin. Janet made a round of all the picture galleries, museums and churches, a long business, and entirely futile. All public buildings in Berlin are shut in the afternoon and by six o'clock it is not possible to enter even a church. Casimir, who knew Berlin better than Janet did, rushed round the chief picture palaces and a number of likable restaurants. He failed to find Tommy.

I asked Tommy afterward how he spent that afternoon. He told me that after lunching comfortably in a restaurant, he determined to see the city in a simple and inexpensive way. He got into the first street car he saw, went in it till it stopped and came back again to the place from which he started. Then took another car and did the same thing. Altogether he seems to have worked over the course of fourteen different cars. I cannot imagine a better way of eluding a pursuer. I shall certainly try it if I ever want to keep out of the clutches of the police for a few hours.

At nine o'clock Tommy went back to the hotel, changed his clothes and took a taxi to the Mascotte. He was determined to see Calypso again, and that was the only place he could think of where he was likely to meet her. He did not meet her there, for she was at home packing her clothes. He did not even meet the king, who had taken an evening's holiday, no doubt in order to give some final advice to his daughter. Tommy, seated by himself at a table in a corner of the great room, was glad to see Casimir when he came in. Casimir was tired after his long search through Berlin, and was so pleased at finding Tommy that he ordered two bottles of champagne.

I dare say he drank too much of it. Tommy did not. He remained perfectly clear-headed and he thoroughly understood what Casimir said to him. He agreed to go to Breslau and from there to Lystria. He would have promised quite as readily to go to Timbuctoo and thence to the Fiji Islands in company with Calypso. But he insisted that he must explain to Calypso, to the king, and, at once, to Casimir, that he was not Lord Norheys. On that point he was absolutely determined. He refused to go adventuring under another man's name. If he was to marry Calypso, which he very much wanted to do, it must be as Rev. T. A. Norreys; not as a marquis or any one else.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Story of Elgin

We might use the glamorous words of childhood's fairy tales, "Long ago and far away," to tell the tale of Elgin cathedral, whose seven hundredth birthday was celebrated last August 5 and 6. So long ago as the twilight time of the early Middle Ages, so far away as Rome, must we go for the beginnings of the story of this hoary old pile, whose influence has been casting its spell upon the lives of the dwellers in the old province of Moray from that far-off time to the present. There is an old tradition that the Culdees founded the church to begin with, just as they did that of Birnie. In any case, the site was already hallowed by many sacred associations, when Bishop Andrew Moray, scion of the powerful house of De Moravia, moved the Cathedral of Spynie to the Church of Holy Trinity in Elgin.

Earth Nature's Tomb

The earth, that is nature's mother is her tomb.—Shakespeare.

LIVE STOCK

LAMBS AT WEANING TIME REQUIRE CARE

Lambs are no longer of that class of live stock that can be left to fend for itself. They assume rather the nature of the white hope of the live stock world under present market conditions.

Lamb profits, in fact, may be the only genuine profits to be credited to farm stock this fall, returns from other lines having to be largely charged to maintenance. They will then well repay a little extra attention through the summer and particularly at weaning.

Oftentimes the lambs are not separated from their mothers early enough. The ewes reach a point where they no longer give much milk, and the lambs, depending more than they should upon what little they can get, annoy them by persistently wanting to nurse. When a ewe without much milk nurses a pair of robust lambs weighing 65 pounds or more, she goes through a pretty rough experience that is none too good for her udder, because the lambs in suckling lurch at the udder so hard that the rear parts of the ewe are almost lifted from the ground. In hot weather, if only a little milk is to be had, it does a big lamb, old enough to wean, little good to keep thrusting its nose after the teat under the hot flanks of the ewe. Both mother and lamb are better off if separated. There is a natural weaning period, that is, there comes a time when the ewes will wean the lambs, but they ought to be weaned before this time comes.

If the lambs are weaned fairly early and placed on pasture or forage that has not been grazed by the sheep, they are less likely to become badly infested with parasites. This is an important consideration in places where parasitic troubles must be kept constantly in mind. If the weaning is not delayed beyond the proper time, the ewes will have time to recuperate and get in proper condition for the breeding season.

If possible, all of the lambs should be weaned at the same time, but in some there are some very late ones. They should be allowed to stay with their mothers until they are of sufficient age not to be checked in growth or stunted by being deprived of milk.

Raise More Horses for General Work on Farms

Farmers are facing a serious situation in respect to farm power. They must either decide to buy and use tractors almost entirely for their farm work or get busy and raise more horses. The horses on farms at present are for the most part getting on in years and there are few colts being born to take their places when they have passed the period of their usefulness. This point is well brought out by Professor Overton of the Purdue (Ind.) experiment station. Twenty-three per cent of the horses on the 238 farms investigated were at least fifteen years old, 29 per cent were from ten to fifteen years old, while 36.9 per cent were from five to ten years old. Slightly over 70 per cent were between five and ten years, an average of seven years old. Only 10.8 per cent were under five years and less than 2 per cent were yearlings and two-year-olds.

Professor Overton states that in four years from now 52 per cent of the farm work horses will be at least fifteen years old and will have about come to the time for their retirement. As it takes from three to five years to raise a colt to work age, isn't it time to begin thinking about the future supply? Tractors, useful as they may be, cannot entirely take the place of horses on all farms. There will always be a need for some draft animals. The man who raises some good colts will find a market for them when they are ready for the harness. Now is the time to start raising them.

Cow's Milk Favored for Raising Colt by Hand

Cow's milk may be used successfully to raise a colt by hand if treated in the following manner. In the first place it is best to use milk from a fresh cow if possible and preferably from a cow giving a milk low in fat content. To a tablespoonful of sugar add warm water to dissolve, then three to five tablespoonfuls of linseed oil, which tends to correct digestive troubles, and enough fresh milk to make a pint. Feed about one-fourth pint every hour for the first few days, always warming to blood heat. An ordinary nursing bottle with a large nipple is a satisfactory utensil for feeding the colt, but whatever is used great care must be taken to thoroughly cleanse and scald it before each meal.

Raising Early Lambs

The raising of early lambs requires better equipment, greater skill on the part of the shepherd, more time and labor at lambing, and more expensive feed. This extra labor, however, comes at a time when there is not a rush of other work, and by the time for the rush of farm work, the flock will require the minimum of attention. The lambs will be ready to make good use of the early pasture and will make a strong growth before the weather gets hot.

ROAD BUILDING

POORLY BUILT ROAD CREATES LIABILITY

When a road is built that will not outlast its cost, the builders are bringing trouble and paying cash for it. They borrow money to buy a liability—create a debt to buy something that will be a continual expense until it finally becomes a total loss through being worn out. And borrowing money to build a road that will not last under modern traffic conditions is unsound finance. In the old days of macadam and gravel roads it was no uncommon occurrence for a county or township to have as many as three sets of outstanding bonds on a main traveled highway. The sooner a bad road is put out of existence, that much sooner will a wholly unnecessary expense be cut off. Not only that, but land values will begin to improve.

Permanent road building costs money, and it is well to look at the cold-cash side of the proposition. True, the beneficial effects upon the social and educational standards of the community are not always susceptible of exact calculation, but they are certain to come; and since a permanent road costs money, we must know there is to be a profit from somewhere to offset the cost. Something for nothing has never yet been found. Profits from a permanent road come to the farmer in the reduction of hauling costs. It puts him in a position where he can get to market every day, and where he can haul two loads at one trip instead of having to make two trips to haul one load. These are a few plain reasons why a good road should be built, rather than continue trying to maintain a bad one.

How to get a good road system is not a difficult problem if a county or township is willing to be guided by common sense. The first step is to employ a competent highway engineer. He will make a study of traffic conditions, ascertain where the main market road runs, and build accordingly, constructing feeder lines to the main market lines with a type of material that will be less expensive than that required on the main market lines, and yet will at the same time meet all traffic requirements on the feeder lines. The main lines, if built with a solid base will be permanent.

Telegraph Wires To carry on the telegraph system of the United States 1,500,000 miles of wire are required. Next in turn comes Russia with about one-third this mileage. Germany is third and France fourth. Canada, despite its great size, has but 230,000 miles of wire, or about one-half as much as France. The United Kingdom is comparatively poorly off, with 265,000 miles of wire, while British India is somewhat better equipped.—Nation's Business.

Bridging Major Streams Helped by Federal Aid

One of the most helpful results of federal aid to road construction has been the bridging of major streams which it has encouraged and made possible, according to the annual report of the bureau of public roads of the United States Department of Agriculture. Such streams are, in many cases, the boundaries of counties or states, and the necessity of securing joint action of the authorities of the two political divisions, coupled with the inadequacy of funds available, has made the construction of modern structures over wide rivers an almost hopeless problem. Yet it is evident that no continuous road system is possible without bridging these barriers.

Federal aid and the co-ordinating influence of the federal government have been the means of securing practical action in a great many cases of this sort. The careful study of the principal lines of travel leading to the designation of the federal-aid highway system has developed clearly the need of bridges of this character over certain streams and has brought about agreement as to the locations in which the bridges should be built. This benefit has been experienced by the majority of the states, especially those of the South and the Mississippi valley.

Illinois Is Leader

Recent construction reports show that Illinois now is the unquestioned leader in pavement mileage, with California second, New York third and Pennsylvania fourth. The Illinois state highway department has succeeded, this season, in constructing more than one-sixth of all roads laid in the United States.

Good Roads Facts

North Carolina has the longest asphaltic hard-surfaced highway east of the Rocky mountains, the road extending 165 miles. Enough highways to circle the earth, 24,000 miles in all, are scheduled for construction in the United States during 1925 by various state highway departments. Good roads are coming to be a reality in all states of the Union.

Yucatan's Sisal Trade

Yucatan's sisal trade is receiving attention and it is hoped to restore her dominance of the industry. A commission from the federal department of commerce and industry will present a project for the organization of a large co-operative organization, in which every factor interested in the production, transportation and sale of sisal will be represented.—Family Herald.

Logic

"But why are the bricks of ice cream so much more expensive than the bulk?" "Well, madam, you know how high the wages of the bricklayers are now."

Colombia's Air Service

The Colombian government has granted a subsidy of \$65,000 for the establishment of the passenger air service between Barranquilla and Girardot, to be started at once.

Tuff 'un, That!

Dick—A man shouldn't ever deceive his wife. Tom—Well, if he didn't, how would he ever get her in the first place?—Dartmouth Jack o' Lantern.

Perhaps doctors do not prescribe for themselves because they cannot send themselves a bill.

WOMAN SO ILL WASHED DISHES SITTING DOWN

Mrs. Ashcroft's Remarkable Recovery After Taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Covington, Ky.—"I was so weak and nervous I could hardly do my housework as I could not stand because of the bearing-down pains in my back and abdomen. I sat down most of the time and what I could do in that way—as washing dishes, etc. One day a book describing Lydia E. Pinkham's medicines was put in my mail-box. I saw how the Vegetable Compound had helped others so I gave it a trial. I had to take about a dozen bottles before I gained my strength but I certainly praise this medicine. Then I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Blood medicine for poor blood. I was cold all the time. I would be so cold I could hardly sit still and in the palms of my hands there would be drops of sweat. I also used the Sanative Wash and I recommend it also. You may publish this letter and I will gladly answer letters from women and advise my neighbors about these medicines."—Mrs. HARRY ASHCROFT, 632 Beech Avenue, Covington, Kentucky.



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A Joke

"Ha! ha!" merrily laughed the feminine guest of a well-known hotel. "This is a good joke." "What is?" asked her husband. "Why, this neat little placard on the inside of the door, saying 'Stop! Have You Left Anything? I have packed up the soap, towels, stationery, pillow slips and sheets. I don't suppose we could take the mattresses, so I have left them. Ha! ha!'"—Kansas City Star.

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