

THE WIFE

BY JANE PHELPS, AUTHOR OF "MARGARET GARRETT'S HUSBAND," AND OTHER NOTABLE STORIES.

Ruth finds Brian's message to Molly Chapter XXIII.
Tears filled Ruth's eyes as she threw her arms around her old mammy.
"I was going to surprise him, mammy. I thought he would be so pleased."
"Don't you go fer to sprise him no time, honey. He ain't comin' home much when yo's away. He sholy ain't."
Ruth wanted to ask mammy about the number of evenings Brian had spent out while she was away, but bit her lip to keep questions back. Not even to old mammy, who had known her and loved her all her life, would she express curiosity about her husband, or seem to pry into his actions.
"Go tak yo things off, honey. I'll git yo some dinner in a jiffy."
Ruth did as Rachel told her. But she could eat very little of the tempting dinner Rachel brought her. She was so disappointed that she could scarcely keep the tears back; yet Brian might come in at any moment and he must not find her crying.
Her dinner finished, she could set herself at nothing, altho she tried to read. But her thoughts were constantly straying, always Brian-ward. "I'll write Aunt Louisa," she said aloud and moved over to her desk. Idly she fingered the blotter, then her attention was arrested by the heavy lines blotted upon it. She smiled as she thought. Brian has been using my desk to write—perhaps he wrote me again last night.
Brian's lavish use of ink had allured her rather amused Ruth. His bold chirography with the heavy shaded lines was unmistakable. Now she looked closely at the blotter. At first she only made out a word here and there—"dear" and "Rachel"

and "trouble."
"He was writing me," Ruth said aloud. "I wish I had telegraphed him. Perhaps he was so lonely he went to the nearest theatre or movie."
Again she bent over the blotter. This time more carefully. Without much trouble, she finally had the entire note Brian had written not underhand, but the "not" was undecipherable. "Who could this note be intended for?" Ruth asked herself, the answer already in her mind; Molly King.
But what was it that Rachel would understand, and make trouble about? And he had called her "dear"—had warned her not to call the house because of this fear that old mammy might understand something he didn't want her—Ruth—to know. Of course she would be apt to repeat to Ruth anything her young mistress should know, of what went on while she was away.
"What can I do?" Ruth moaned, resting her head on her hand while slow tears dropped upon the blotter which had told her so much. "What shall I do? Oh, Brian, I love you, so, and you care—for her."
Ruth really considered what she had read, proof that Brian was doing something of which she would disapprove—that would make trouble between them if she knew. What could it be save that he was fond of someone else—Molly probably. Ruth never had objected to anything

else he did; never once found fault with him. And only once had she spoken of his intimacy with Molly.
"Oh, Brian," laying her head down on her folded arms, she sobbed until Rachel, hearing, came in to comfort her.
"Don't cry, honey, he'll be home soon, he sholy will."
"I can't help it, Rachel. I am so disappointed. I wanted to surprise and please him. And"—she broke out afresh.
"Thar honey, yo member what ole Rachel tells yo 'Don' sprise folkses. Taint de ting to do, honey." "I never shall again," Ruth returned. "I am going to take a bath and go to bed. You go to bed, Rachel. I won't cry any more."
Rachel drew the bath for Ruth made her bed ready, then went to her own room muttering things, which could Brian have heard, he would have found anything but complimentary. In fact she called down all sorts of punishments on his head for making "misery Ruth" cry.
Ruth was tired with her journey and the excitement caused by giving way to her emotion. She dropped off to sleep about midnight. But when the clock struck four it wakened her. She lighted the light to be sure she had heard aright. Yes, it was four o'clock, and Brian had not yet come in.
In agony, she said the sentence she had found on the blotter, over and over. Then again weeping bitterly, she arose and sat in a chair by the window to watch for his coming.
To-morrow—Brian Remains Out all Night—Ruth is Anxious.
TORONTO CLEARINGS.
By Courier Lenses Wire, Toronto, Dec. 5.—Bank clearings for the week were \$81,756,732.

Umbrellas For Both Ladies and Gentlemen

One would make an ideal Xmas Gift.
Ours are just a little out of the ordinary, and the quality is the very best.
We have them in both the Suit Case and Club Bag styles.
The prices run from \$5.00 to \$10.00.

Newman and Sons JEWELLERS 97 Colborne Street. Telephone 1140.

GRUEN Vert thin Watch

Plumbing, Heating, and Electric, when done by men who know how, gives satisfaction, service and economy.

T. J. Minnes Phone 301 9 King St.



Xmas Gift Sale

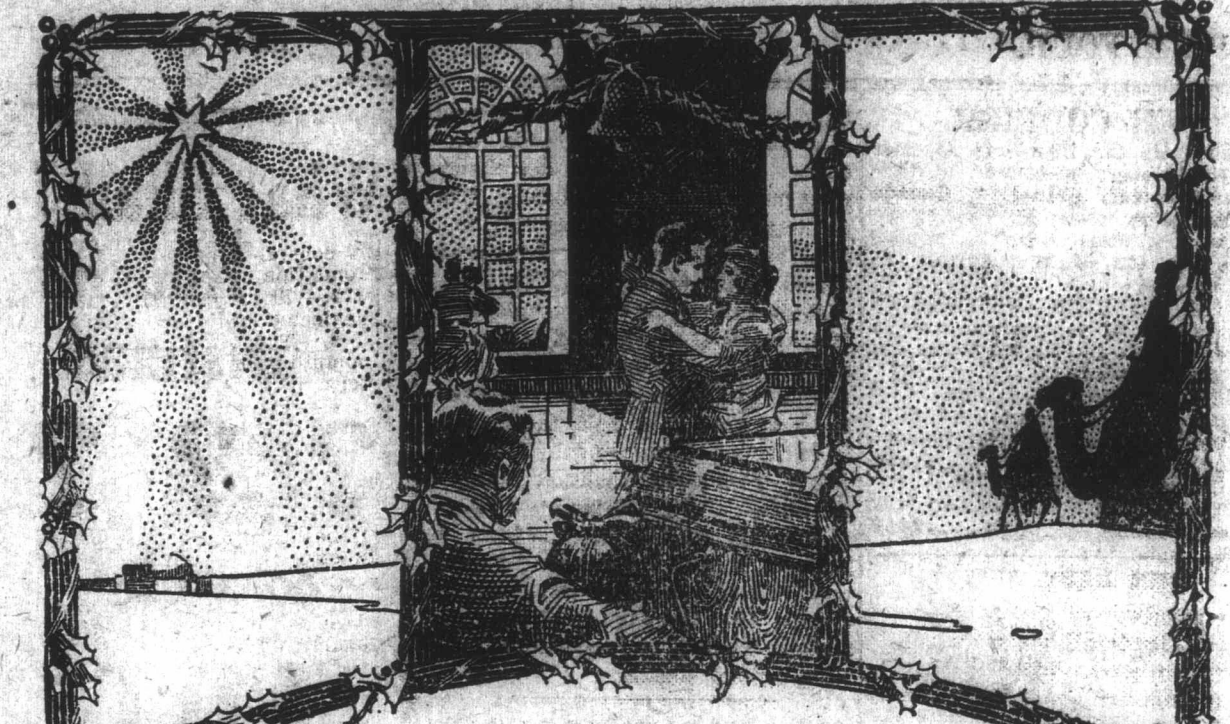
Are you prepared with the necessary shoes for Christmas? If not we advise you to buy now. To miss this great sale is to ignore thrift. Great three-day sale on Friday, Saturday and Monday, Dec. 6, 7 and 9, at THE BRANT SHOE STORE.

Visit our store and see our great assortment of Christmas Slippers, in all colors, from 50c up. Very suitable for Christmas Gifts.



Ladies' Black Kid Shoes, with white top. Regular \$6.50. Sale \$3.89
Boys' and Girls' Heavy School Shoes. Sizes 8 to 10 1-2. Reg. \$3.00, for \$1.98
Ladies' beautiful grey kid Shoes, French heel. Reg. \$10.00, for \$5.95
Men's high-grade brown and black Boots, Neolin soles. Reg. \$7.50, for \$4.95
Ladies' Gunmetal Shoes, Regular \$7.50, \$4.95 for \$4.95
These are only a few of our many great bargains. We carry a full line of Ladies' and Gents' Rubbers.

Brant Shoe Store 91 Dalhousie Street.



"His Master's Voice"

Records for Christmas

- Same Price as before the War
- 90 CENTS FOR 10-INCH, DOUBLE-SIDED
- Christmas Eve (Kiddies' Patrol)—and—Christmas Morn (Kiddies' Frolic) Miro's Band 21642
 - Nazareth—and—First Noel Lyric Quartet 17647
 - Adeste Fidelis—and—Lead Kindly Light and Nearer My God to Thee Westminster Chimes 16053
 - Smiles—and—Rose Room—Fox Trot Jos. C. Smith's Orchestra 18473
 - Oh Lady! Lady!—and—Sinbad—Medley Fox Trot Waldorf-Astoria Dance Orchestra 18477
 - \$1.50 FOR 12-INCH, DOUBLE-SIDED
 - Amoureuse Waltz—and—Village Swallows Waltz Victor Concert Orchestra 35655
 - Gems from "Jack O'Lantern"—and—Gems from "Leave It to Jane" Victor Light Opera Co. 35666
- RED SEAL RECORDS
- Star of Bethlehem Evan Williams 74187
 - Holy City Geraldine Farrar 88569

Hear them at any "His Master's Voice" dealer's

Victrolas up to \$597, sold on easy payments, if desired. Ask for free copy of 620-page Musical Encyclopedia listing over 9000 "His Master's Voice" Records.

Will There be a Victrola in Your Home This Christmas?

WELLINGTON ST. CHURCH BAZAAR

Ladies' Annual Sale of Work Was Well Patronized Yesterday

Despite the inclement weather of yesterday, there was a large attendance at the Wellington Street Methodist Church bazaar. Mrs. Detwiler with Miss Hilda Hurley and Miss Helen Cunningham received numerous callers in the Japanese tea room, which was illuminated by many pretty shaded lights. Misses Hurley and Cunningham wore handsome Oriental costumes, and the splendid program given by these young ladies was a delightful treat for all who were musically inclined. Tickets for the six o'clock dinner were sold by a was one of the principal preparations of the bazaar, which came in the group of the younger girls. This for a large share of patronage. There was the usual display of all kinds of fancy work on sale, suggesting a great choice of Christmas gifts. In the evening a program was given by Mr. Tom Darwin, Misses Cunningham and Hurley.

oppose the increase, and also to ask the city council to take action. The second resolution reads as follows, and defines the attitude of the committee:

"That the transportation committee of the Board of Trade, having considered the application of the Express Traffic Association of Canada to the Board of Railway Commissioners for increased express rates, and having requested Mr. John F. Ellis, a member of this committee to appear before the Board of Railway Commissioners to oppose such increase in express rates, and with this

end in view, to act in co-operation with the Toronto Board of Trade.

As such increase in express rates affects the interests of the city at large, the question be submitted to the attention of the Brantford City Council, with the request that the council take no table action."

Sale of Winter Coats. Special at \$13.50, \$25.00 and \$27.50. Fine all-wool materials. Women's and misses' sizes. W. L. Hughes, Ltd., 127 Colborne street.

See to the Children's FOOTWEAR

Don't wait until the last bell rings to get the children's school footwear—Bestir yourself now. Stocks are larger and more complete and prices are lower than they will be later on.
Our Hard Knock Shoes for Boys and Girls have established a reputation for themselves and for us, and wise mothers in ever-increasing numbers are coming here for their children's footwear needs.
Again we say—get the youngsters fixed up—DO IT NOW.

COLES SHOE CO.

122 Colborne Street Both Phones 474

AUCTION SALE OF FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, ETC.

I will sell for Mr. John Hunter at his farm situated one mile east of Langford, on the Hamilton Road, Wednesday, Dec. 11th, commencing at 10 o'clock sharp, the following:
Lunch at noon
HORSES—3—One bay horse, 12 years old; one bay horse, 6 years old; 1 roan horse, 12 years old, good driver.
CATTLE—29—Six good Holstein and Jersey cows, 5 of which are in full flow of milk and 1 due in December; 2 grade Durham heifers in calf; 2 years old; 1 Holstein heifer, 2 years old in calf; 6 steers, 2 years old; 2 grade bulls, 2 years old; 3 Holstein heifers, 2 years old; 4 calves, 1 year old; 4 small calves. Dates when cows are due given at time of sale.
SHEEP—Eighty-one good Shropshire and Leicester ewes; 12 registered Shropshire ewes; 2 registered Shropshire rams, 1 and 2 years old.
PIGS—Ten pigs, 8 weeks old; 9 good shoats.
POULTRY—A number of White Leghorn and White Wyandotte chickens.

IMPLEMENTS—McCormick binder; Deering mower, 5 ft. cut; M-H tedder; M-H disc drill; M-H rake; Cockshutt steel roller, new; Deering spring tooth cultivator, new; Cockshutt manure spreader, new; M-H manure spreader, good as new; set Bain sleighs; Chatham fanning mill; set 4 section diamond tooth harrows; stump drill, new; month credit will be given on furnishing approved joint notes, or 4 per cent. off for cash on credit amounts. Poultry and butchers' tools.
Wesley Almas, Auctioneer.
J. H. Day, Clerk.
John Hunter, Prop.
A. M. Patterson, Assistant.

Sale of Winter Coats. Special at \$13.50, \$25.00 and \$27.50. Fine all-wool materials. Women's and misses' sizes. W. L. Hughes, Ltd., 127 Colborne street.

MAKE THIS A USEFUL TOILET GIFT CHRISTMAS

Christmas this year will bear an unusual significance to us all. It will be no less a year of gift giving than ever before, but make your gifts this year of utility and value. All our goods are of the very best quality.

They are selected for Christmas 1918. Stocks are limited because supplies are very scarce. We sincerely solicit your early orders. Do all your Christmas buying early. We have a very large and well assorted stock of Ivory Goods.

H. E. PERROTT Corner Colborne and King Sts. Phone 292.

DR. DeVIA'S FEMALE PILLS Reliable medicine for all Female Complaints. 25c a box, or three for \$1.00 at drug stores. Mailed to any address on receipt of price. THE SCOSBY, DAVIS CO., St. Catharines, Ontario.

PHOSPHONOL FOR MEN Restores Vitality for Nerve and Brain; increases "grey matter"; "Tonic" will build you up. 50c a box, or two for \$1.00 at drug stores, or by mail on receipt of price. THE SCOSBY, DAVIS CO., St. Catharines, Ont. No.

AUCTION SALE Of Household Furniture

S. P. Pitcher, Auctioneer has received instructions from Mrs. Mair, to sell at her residence, No. 40 William street, on TUESDAY, DEC. 10th at 1:30 o'clock, the following goods: Front Parlor—Two mahogany rockers, 1 oak rocker, small table, jardiner and stand, 3 mahogany tables, beautiful music cabinet, mahogany bracket, axminster rug. Back Parlor—Very fine mahogany table, oak writing desk, large rug, clock, pictures, wicker table, 2 jardiner stands, cozy corner, oak chair, two small rugs, chest of drawers, wicker stand, cushions, books. Dining room—Rug, curtains, portieres, small table, bookcase, sideboard, extensior table, bed, mattress and springs, heater. Kitchen—Ice box, linoleum, gas range with high oven, steam cooker, step-ladder, kitchen utensils, dishes, spade, shovel, axe, lawnmower, bird cage, ash-sift, Bed room No. 1—Maple dresser, iron bed and springs, mattress, chair. Bedroom No. 2—Chest of drawers, cherry bed-room suite, bed, mattress and springs, matting, good feather bed and pillows, two toilet sets. Hall—Hall rack, rug and pictures, two verandah chairs and swing couch. Terms—Cash.
MRS. MAIR, Promotress.
S. P. PITCHER, Auctioneer.

THE IDEAL GIFT FOR DAD. Thermos Dinner Kits do away with a cold lunch at noon at the factory. See them at Brander's Drug Store.

It's Hard to Choose a GIFT For a Man

To help you solve the problem we would suggest an inspection of our magnificent assortment of Ebony Military Hair Brushes, Razors, Shaving Brushes and Mirrors. Or how about a box of clear Havana Cigars, in boxes of

25 or 50

WARD SIMPSON Druggist Optician 28 MARKET ST.



Dr. Martel's Female Pills Prescribed and recommended by Physicians. Good for all forms of Female Complaints. Sold with signature "Kaiserbrotter" Brand. At your druggist.

display are not much rubbers, overshoes and Coles Shoe Co., 122 et.
BRIAN DUKE DEAD. Dec. 5.—The Duke of the Fitzroy family, general in the is dead. He was 97

cape stoles season. Sable conceived a ectedly mod- cent advance

00 75

es ne St.

EARLY

ers De- ey—We ked.

Hudson seal, \$8.98 \$44.59 \$67.49

ding Bed- s, at 25 to Sale. A Small

\$5.95

ST.