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Our First STOCK-TAKING SALE IN FULL BLOOM GREAT OPPORTUNITY for Man, Youth or Child To Procure High-Grade Clothing at Ridiculously Low Prices

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Union Clothing Company

...That... Preposterous... Will..

BY L. G. MOBERLY.

(Continued.) The confidence was the confidence of un-

bounded trust, and not of superlative conceit, and Mr. Bray's eyes softened. Somewhere in a far-away corner of his not especially tender heart was a sneaking appreciation of sentiment and romance; and Dayrell rose in the elder man's estimation by reason of the light that sprang into his eyes, and the smile that for a moment flickered over his mouth, when he spoke so proudly of his lady love.

"May I congratulate you," the lawyer said gently, "and—is it indiscreet to ask the name of your fiancée? I conclude the engagement is not a secret one? It is known to the public?"

"Oh, yes," Dayrell's smile deepened. "There is no secret about it. The lady's name is Bedworth—Stella Bedworth; and the day before you sent for me to tell me of my bad luck, we had settled that our wedding should be in June. Now—"

"He broke off with a sigh, and the light died out of his eyes. "I am truly sorry for you," Mr. Bray said kindly, "coming at such a time the blow must have been additionally heavy. I suppose," he hesitated, a remembrance of some words spoken by Miranda Hume striking him with sudden force. "Perhaps Mr. Dayrell is a girl what you call a 'diamond'?"

"I suppose—yes, and your godfather—did not—did not have any difference on the subject of your engagement?" Dayrell's color deepened, he frowned. "It goes against the grain with me to say anything even apparently disrespectful about a dead man," he said slowly, "but Mr. Haines behaved very—well, I will only call it—oddly about my fiancée. When I told him about Miss Bedworth, he was a good deal—upset."

"You had a quarrel about it?" "I was not unreasonably annoyed when he said a good many nasty things about Stella's mother—and implied a good many more. Mrs. Bedworth is one of the most charming women in the world, but Mr. Haines laughed when I said so, and—"

"Perhaps you both spoke hastily, and said a good deal more than you intended? Possibly Mr. Haines had ambitious schemes for your marriage, and this engagement interfered with them. I conclude from what you say that Miss Bedworth is not rich?"

"She and her mother are anything but rich, but they are ladies to their fingertips, and she has great beauty as well. Mr. Haines professed to have known Mrs. Bedworth in her youth and also to have met Miss Bedworth. He actually asked me to give up my engagement." Dayrell broke into a scornful laugh.

"And you refused?" "Refused? Of course I refused. What did I care for his garbled stories about Mrs. Bedworth's youth, and all the other fairy tales about which he tried to persuade me to believe. I flatly declined to listen to him and told him I proposed to choose my own wife, and warned him that no one would be allowed to take up old Stella's mother. We did not part too amicably!"

"And this was on the last occasion that you and Mr. Haines met?" "Yes." "Then there is not much difficulty in finding one reason for his strange will," the lawyer remarked; "he was probably very angry with you for not heeding his wishes, or listening to his words of wisdom."

"Words of wisdom!" Dayrell broke in angrily, "words of ridiculous folly. He said things about Stella's mother, and about Stella herself, which I find hard to forget, and still harder to forgive; and he saw fit to jeer at me because I refused to be influenced by him into giving up my engagement. We undoubtedly quarrelled, and possibly my determination to stick to Stella through thick and thin induced him to leave his fortune away from me. He was exceedingly obstinate, not to say pig-headed when his will was crossed."

"He was also a very just man, we must remember, Mr. Dayrell," the lawyer said gravely, "his eyes again fixed on the younger man's flushed and perturbed face; "no mere quarrel or difference of opinion would have led him to sever from me what he considered just."

"Just! If that will be just, then I am afraid my idea of justice differs from yours, Mr. Bray. I believe, and I shall continue to believe, that if my godfather was sane when he altered his will, he altered it in a fit of capricious petulance, because he could not turn me from my own way of thinking to his. Capricious petulance I call it."

"I was just coming to find you, Stella," she said, and in her voice there was apparent the same sympathetic sadness as looked out of her blue eyes; "I have had a letter which—which has troubled me a good deal, darling, and which will, I am afraid, upset you."

If the mother's face was charming and pretty and attractive, the word "lovely" would not be too strong a one to apply to that of the girl whose steps quickened their pace at Mrs. Bedworth's words, and whose great eyes looked with a startled question at the elder woman.

She was tall and slight of build, and moved with a grace so seemingly natural that no onlooker would have believed how large a proportion of it had been acquired at the hands of dancing mistresses and teachers of deportment. Her hair piled in artistic confusion upon her shapely head, was of that shade of fairness into which golden threads spin themselves bewitchingly, and her coloring was of those delicious pink and white tints which can only be appropriately compared to apple blossoms in spring. Her great loveliness led those who saw her to overlook the indefinable that marked her mouth and chin, and to pass unnoticed too the slightly shifting glance of those appealing blue eyes, which so seldom met any other eyes directly, but dropped shyly to their white lids, whose fringe of eyelash swept so becomingly the delicately tinted cheeks.

"What is it, mother?" she said, her breath coming quickly, a soft flush of color running over her face, "what have you heard? Alan has not had an accident?"

"No—no dear, certainly not—at least not an accident in the ordinary sense of the word."

"In the ordinary sense? What do you mean, mummy?" By this time Stella was kneeling beside her mother's chair. "Then it is some sort of accident? Or what?"

Mrs. Bedworth played the part of loving mother with the same perfection which marked her playing of every part she undertook upon the stage of life, and she bent forward with a tender smile, and caressingly touched the hair that curled so softly over Stella's white forehead.

"He is not hurt physically, darling," she said, "but he has had a financial loss which may seriously affect his career."

"Oh, mother! the girl's attitude assumed, and she knelt upright, her hands on Mrs. Bedworth's knee, "has Alan lost his money? Will he be poor? I thought he was going to be tremendously rich now that his godfather is dead!"

There was a mingling of naivete and shrewdness in Mrs. Bedworth's manner which might have given a bearer a clue to Mrs. Bedworth's methods of training, but no one was present to take note of the girl's behaviour, or to see the quick glance shot at her from her mother's deep eyes.

(To be continued.)

A WOMAN'S BACK WAS NOT MADE TO ACHE

Thousands of Women suffer Utol'd Misery Every Day with Aching Backs That Really have no Business to Ache.

Under ordinary conditions it ought to be strong and ready to bear the burdens of life. It is hard to do housework with an aching back, and it is hard to do any kind of work, and what a lot of trouble sick kidneys cause.

But they can't help it. If more work is put on them than they can stand it is no wonder that they get out of order. Backaches and aches are the result of the kidneys and should be attended to immediately so as to avoid years of terrible suffering.

Doan's Kidney Pills will cure you in the same way as they have cured thousands of others.

Mrs. Theo. Craig, Almonte, Ont., writes: "I was suffering for six weeks with my kidneys, and my back was so lame I had to lie in bed. I was advised to try Doan's Kidney Pills. I did so and in one week I was able to walk with very little pain, and in five months my back was as strong as ever."

Doan's Kidney Pills are 50 cents per box or 3 boxes for \$1.35 at all dealers, or will be mailed direct for the price by The Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.

UNITED STATES NEEDS MORE RAILWAYS TO RELIEVE CONGESTION

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 14.—President J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, today sent a letter to Governor Johnson, in which he gives his views of the various phases of the railway situation in the United States. He gives the reason for existing conditions and points out a remedy. The letter says in part: "The business of the United States is today so congested that from every portion of the country arises clamor for relief. The railroads everywhere are taxed beyond their power. The people of the United States, therefore, are face to face with the greatest business problem that has ever threatened the nation. The situation is a freight blockade of enormous proportions, especially at all terminal points. How to remedy this is a problem, financial, mechanical and physical. No time should be lost in applying such measures of remedy as may be possible, and the first step toward this is to reach a proper understanding of actually existing conditions.

Daily Fashion Hints for Times Readers.



LANDSDOWNE BROADCLOTH AND IRISH CROCHET.

Quite an appreciable number of smart women, noted for their taste and originality in dress, are following the collarless and sleeveless fashions. For the warm days that prevail in the Southland this little whim has much to commend it; and even those whose throats would stand much improvement are beginning to adopt this style, to the eventual betterment of their outlines, be it hoped. The charming little toilette that is pictured herewith is the lotte of a trossouave of a coming bride whose honeymoon is to be spent at Southern resorts. White chiffon



SEPARATE BLOUSE OF CREPE DE CHINE.

A pretty blouse of light blue silk crepe served as model for the sketch, the design being effective both for light or dark materials. The rather deep yoke was of this allover lace lined with chiffon, the model blouse having cream-colored rousse lace, the sleeve flirts being of two-inch edging to match, gathered into ruffles over a net foundation. Each of these ruffles was edged with pale blue gathered silk ribbon, the ribbon also being used to form a scroll design about the yoke. Little rosettes of narrowest lace, in the middle of each being a little pale blue button, were also used about this yoke.

THE CANADIAN BUSINESS OUTLOOK

Some Notes of Warning as to the Future—Tight Money and Scarcity of Labor.

(Toronto News.) The steady material progress of Canada seems almost to surprise those who are in the best position to estimate the outlook. A year ago the Canadian Bank of Commerce officials expressed a doubt as to whether the institution would be able to repeat the 14 per cent. of profit earned on the capital in 1905. At the end of 1906 the bank comes up with a net return of 17.41 per cent. on capital, but Mr. Cox again takes pains to explain that this showing was made under quite exceptional circumstances, and might not be duplicated in succeeding years.

The new president's address is full of information as to the extraordinary prosperity of the country from sea to sea, but throughout there are notes of warning as to the future. Mr. Walker thinks there are good reasons to believe that there must be trouble if they are disregarded. Canada is a heavy borrowing country, and we are not at all circumspect in the matter of borrowing abroad into new enterprises. The demands upon capital are world-wide, and trouble might arise unless we are able to meet our way we are not likely to escape a condition next autumn which may check our fair prosperity. This, then, is a time for every prudent man to survey carefully his financial position. If he has debts he should consider how he will pay them in the future, and if he has a surplus of money, he should consider how he will use it.

Next to the possible situation in the coal shortage of men for the work in coal fields, the lumber woods, on the farm and in the factory. Doubtless the full side of Canadian prosperity has been checked by the lumber woods, and it is checked by the shortage of labor, together with the high price of lumber and steel products, and the sharp curtailment in building operations.

Harm has likewise come to trade through the general lack of railway cars and locomotives. Merchants, farmers, and all classes of creditors have suffered and are suffering from the result. Still another unfortunate circumstance is that Western farmers are still speculating in lands instead of liquidating their mortgages. Moreover, in some sections farm lands have been put at a figure at which the new settler cannot profitably invest. The best news from the West is that the autumn was favorable for ploughing, and that this year's crop average bids fair to exceed last year's by from 10 to 15 per cent. To offset this cheerful prospect it is reported that towards the close of the season the land became too dry to work, and some are predicting that we are on the verge of a series of dry seasons.

According to the determination of Professor Harcourt, of the Guelph Agricultural College, Orange Meat is fifty per cent. more valuable as a food than beef.

Orange Meat taken with milk every morning and evening is the most perfect food that the human subject can secure.

Why not use the Cereal that gives the best value to the consumer by every known test?

CARNEGIE PAYS THE MOST

New York, Jan. 14.—Andrew Carnegie will be the heaviest personal taxpayer in New York. The value of his personal property has been fixed at \$5,000,000, and that of John D. Rockefeller at \$2,500,000.

The more of a truth a man knows the larger liberty he finds in it.

A Steady Trade is most important to every baker. A business in which the receipts and profits vary every week, while the expenses remain the same, is a source of great anxiety to any business man. No baker can hope for a steady and increasing business unless the quality of his bread is uniformly superior to that of his competitors. He can have no more valuable asset than the reputation that his bread is "the best in town." Any baker can win this reputation for his bread by using only "FIVE ROSES" and "HARVEST QUEEN" FLOUR.

Lake of the Woods Milling Co., Limited. Montreal. St. John. Winnipeg.

The Canadian Drug Co., Ltd.

A Word to the Trade: We have everything you require, Drugs, Patent Medicines.

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Everything you need in the Drug Business. The best articles, the fairest prices, the promptest service.

Address all correspondence to THOMAS GIBBARD, Manager.

The Canadian Drug Co., Ltd. 70-72 PRINCE WM. ST., P. O. Box 187, ST. JOHN, N. B.

RE-CAPTURED AT SUSSEX

Sussex, N. B., Jan. 14.—Lewis Atkinson, an escaped inmate from the provincial asylum, landed here this evening by the Quebec express and was taken in charge by Chief of Police McLeod, who telephoned the asylum, St. John, asking if they had missed any one. Their reply was that they had missed a man from the Annapolis morning, and requested Mr. McLeod to hold him until they sent for him.

NEW YEAR'S ASSESSMENT

Nearly \$9,000,000,000 of Taxable Property in the City—Mrs. Russell Sage Taxed \$735,000.

Does Not Color Hair

Ayer's Hair Vigor, as now made from our new improved formula, does not stain or color the hair even to the slightest degree.