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W. CAMERON

Wanted: A Wife

By OSBORN IONES

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As Paul Bolton glanced at the dozen or so freshly typed letters on his desk toward five in the afternoon on New Year's eve he reflected that they were the last letters dated 1917 that he would ever sign. Therefore the mechanical act of affixing his signature would be somewhat more momentous than that performance usually wasit would be in some slight measure epochal, because it registered the passing of another year. Therefore he took the pen from the pen tray with rather more than usual care and dipped it in the heavy glass ink bottle that lay | those? before him on his monster mahogany desk. Drawing the top letter on the pile to him he started to sign, but the pen made no mark. Irritation immediately supplanted any interest that he may have felt in the signing. It was intensely exasperating. The init bottle had been allowed to go dry and only a gummy mass of metallic black showed in the bottom of the inkwell. It was really almost pathetic, he re-

flected, that he, the president of the great concern of Blank & Bridges-he whose time was worth to that concern some twenty thousand dollars a year -should have to waste that precious time fretting over empty ink wells. Every modern convenience of efficiency in business methods had been installed in his office—there were silent openers and a girls' lunch room and employers' insurance and annual bonuses—all the result of his desire to show consideration for his emdrinking glasses and unfilled water

bottles. He was tired from an extremely trying week and so instead of rising in wrath and storming at office boys, secretaries, stenographers and every one else within reach of his voice-and Paul Bolton was quite capable of having expressed his feelings in that way, he was filled with self-pity. No one really cared enough for him to spare him those annoyances. He went to a stenographer's desk, found an intwell that happened to be filled and signed the letters dejectedly.

Then he went to his nearby apart-

ments where he reigned in bachelor supremacy, and his experience there showed him again that no one really cared. There were no fresh flowers. Bolton especially liked to have yellow daffodils and jonquils in his rooms on casion. The grate fire was not lighted. The Jap explained that no coal could be got. Well, the Jap ought to have had cared for him as much as he seemed he would have got a skuttle-ful somewhere. And dinner wasn't exactly what he wanted, and his slippers hadn't been warmed and the water was too cold. The Jap ought to

have known by that time that he didn't like ice water. So it was that the next day, when Belton began to think about New Year's resolutions, he registered two resolves, brief yet important. To get a really efficient private secretary-a young woman who would care enough to see that the inkwells were filled, and to get a wife. A wife would see to the jonquils and the slippers he

Before a month had passed Bolton had achieved one of his resolutions. He had obtained from an exclusive agency a young woman of unusual merit—Alice Blair—who had proved herself to be worth considerably more than the forty dollars a week that she had demanded. So Bolton's days were passed with an absence of confusion and irritation. Miss Blair seemed to get inside his mind and find out just what he wanted done before he had time to formulate it even to his own knowledge and she always did things with perfect ease. She didn't have to fill the inkwells or dust the desk, but -what showed her forty-dollars-aweek value-she saw to it that the office boys did. It was always that way with her. She never seemed to be

especially busy and yet everything was But Bolton still had no wife and the Jap did not improve. Another Jap would have been no better. Bolton was sure it was only a wife who could make his cup of happiness complete. And yet there were wives and wives. The wife he wanted was not like those of any of his men friends. In the first place she would have to be companionable and sympathetic and stimulating when he was weary from the office grind and then she would have to regard her task of being his wife and home maker as seriously as he regarded his business of being president of Blank and Bridges. Bolton For FIRE, ACCIDENT began accepting invitations to dinners and dances in the hope of finding his paragon but he was always unsuccessful. He was discouraged in the accomrevelling in the achievement of the first, he got into the habit of spending more and more time in his office, goonly for hurried meals and short sleep. time the extra hours at the office be- civilization.

gan to tell on his health. He really needed the home life if he was to keep up his mental vigor and good health. He sometimes wondered whether the extra hours that Miss Blair had to work-for she always stayed at her post whenever he was at the officewere not telling on her, too. But she never murmured and she seemed always in the pink of condition.

One day Bolton began wondering about Alice Blair. He wondered why she did all this for him-whether it was just the result of her training plus a keen mind-was it induced entirely by the forty dollars a week that she had demanded! Perhaps it was. But the effect it produced was the sameit really did seem as if some one cared now and that, after all, Bolton concluded, was what made the big difference. Still he kept asking himself, did Miss Blair care? How did she keep up her strength and courage for the long hours? There were a hundred petty home and social duties that usually distracted his women employees had Miss Blair none of

Mr. Bolton's last question was answered one day when he chanced to look through the carbons for the outgoing mail of the day, when he had returned unknown to her, after dinner at night. He came upon the duplicate of a letter of a personal nature, yet before he had realized what he was doing he read it. It was simply an order to one of the morning papers for the insertion of a "help wanted" advertisement. This was the advertise-

"Wanted: A young business woman wants to get in touch with a young woman whose duties will be similar to those of a wife to a busy man. That is, she must be an educated, agreeness to take seriously the task of maktypewriters and automatic letter ing a small apartment a real home She need not do the actual housework but she must see that it is done without confusion and without complaint. She must have the instinctive knack ployees—and yet he—Paul Bolton— of attending to the little things, com-had to fret himself day after day bined with the ability to be interested about such things as empty ink bottles, in the really big things. For such a remuneration will be given."

Mr. Bolton read then re-read the first was that it contained a perfect a wife should be and it was Alice Blair's ideal. Only it was Alice Blair's understood. She at least realized that with such an ideal woman home a man or woman either might endure the strain of business worries that, would otherwise be unendurable. Apperently, the letter suvertising to such a companion had gone out. Bol ton wondered what results would com of it. He almost wished that he, too might secure the wife he was looking for in some such quick-courtship manner. Then he decided to speak to Alice

"I had thought the most important thing in the world was to have a perfect secretary," he told her the next day when he had called her to his office. "Now I have decided that a perfect wife is much more important. Pardon me for reading your advertisement-I see you understand part of my own ideal for such a companion —she must be a real companion, Alice," he said, changing from his abrupt business manner to a boylsh, pleading tone that Alice had never observed before.

Alice blushed and the blush seemed to tell Bolton that she really did care for something beside the forty dollars

"Is it only because I would be a congenial companion, and a good housewife—only because Pd keep the wheels running smoothly in your home as I have in your office, is that all?"

Then suddenly Bolton wondered how had ever seemed as though those things could really have been paramount. All he could see was the shadow that lurked beneath Alice's downcast eye, the delicious curve of her lips and the graceful lines of the small, determined little chin.

"Alice," he said a little huskily, "Td want you to marry me if you were the worst housewife in the world. Somehow I see now why so many men do marry the women they do-I suppose they love them as I love you." And so in spite of the first develope

ments of the year Bolton filled the

second half of his resolution instead

of the first.

Mole Always Hungry. The little mole has recently been recommended for membership in the society of big eaters. It is so very voracious, even in captivity, that it will sometimes eat more than its own weight of earthworms in 24 hours. One little glutton, weighing four ounces, devoured 71/2 pounds of worms in one month. When the diet changed raw beef, mutton, chicken heads and rabbit liver, its appetite was unchanged Cheese, when mixed with either worms or beef, was the most toothsome bit of all.-Popular Science

Marines Have Proud Record.

show that it took part in practically plishment of his second resolution, so, all the operations of the Mexican war; and in the great assault at Chapultepec the storming party was led by Majors Twiggs and Reynolds of the maing home to his apartment and his Jap rine corps. Later-we find these same marines which fought in Mexico As time went on he sometimes imag- marching through the capital of Japan ined he was completely happy, so re- under Commodore Perry when he openfoiced was he in Alice Blair. But in ed up that ancient empire to modera

Felt That He Would Never Walk Again "FRUIT-A-TIVES" Brought Relief.



MR. LORENZO LEDUC

8 Ottawa St., Hull, P.Q. "Fruit-a-tives" is certainly a wonder. For a year, I suffered with Rheumatism; being forced to stay in bed for five months. I tried all kinds of medicine but without getting better; and thought I would never be able to walk again.

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to every sufferer from Rheumatism". LORENZO LEDUC. 50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives

Chesley Hanse of Tilley, Dead

Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

The death of Chesley Hanscom, aged 20 years, occurred at his home at Tilley on November 7, after a few days illness of pneumonia, He leaves to mourn their sad loss, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hanscom, five brothers, Louis, Lea and Percy of Tilley William of Aroostook Jot. and Douglas in the American army also two sisters, Mrs. Herbert Hanson of Perth and Hazel at home, beside a large circle of friends especially among the young folks where he was a genabout it perhaps, perhaps, she cared eral favorite. Services at the house and grave were conducted by Rev. A. Hatfield of Perth. The pall bearers were Staphen. Abram and Frank Plant and Mr. O'Connors. A memorial service will be held at a later date as Robert L. Simms, P. A. several members of the family were unable to be present owing to illness. The deepest sympathy of their many friends go out to the family in their great sorrow.

Is it nothing? Is it to be neg-lected until it leads to that terrible scourge consumption? Peps stand between winter coughs and colds, and serious consequences. Peps are tablets made up of Pine extracts and medicinal essences, which when put into the mouth turn into healing vapors. These are breathed down direct to the lungs, throat and bronchial tubes -not swallowed down to the stomach, which is not ailing. Try a 50c. box of Peps for your cold, your cough, bronchitis or ashma. All druggists and stores or Peps Co., Toronto, will supply

is too late to consider if "the company" carrying your in-surance is financially able to You have other worries at

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Farmers' 20-2

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November, 20th, 1918

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