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The following Alvinston players were registered with the O. H. A.:—Charles Wall, Arthur Davenport, Simon G. Williams, R. A. Temple, C. A. Norworthy, John E. Hamilton, Frank Hamilton, Peter Leitch, Russell Shaw, R. A. McEachern.
Mr. Druman, who lives on lot 26, in the 9th con. of Dawn, happened with a very serious accident on Friday when his arm got caught in a corn sheller. Before the machinery could be stopped it was terribly mangled and had to be amputated above the elbow.

The Fall Trade

It Brought With It Business of Another Kind
By MILLARD MALTBIE

"Ethel," I said to my fiancée, "we must fix our wedding day either before the fall trade begins or after it is over, for I can't get away when it is on. If we fix it before it must be within, say, a month; if after we shall need to put it off for at least three months."

"I am afraid," said Ethel reflectively, "that it must be later rather than before. I've done very little in the way of getting ready and couldn't possibly complete my preparations within a month."

"You mean buy your trousseau?"

"Well, yes. But there are some small matters that need to be cleared up before we're married, and they all require time."

"Such as?"

"Oh, they are of no importance to you, simply affairs between me and acquaintances of mine."

"Obligations you wish to pay off?"

"Oh, no; not that at all. I'm not indebted to any one for favors."

"Old scores then?"

"That's more like it."

"Mention one of them."

"Well, there's Nell Blanchard. Last summer when we were at the Springs together she treated me very badly. Ned Franklin was there and devoted himself to me. Ned prejudiced him against me and got him away."

"What sort of a retaliation do you propose?"

"That's something I wish to speak to you about especially. You may object."

"Well, out with it."

"Why, the only way I can punish her is to show her that I can have him if I want him."

"Pshaw!"

"I was afraid you'd act mean about it."

"You mean that on the eve of your marriage with me you propose to bring down another man?"

"Only to punish Nell Blanchard as she should be punished."

"Do you think that it is treating me right to carry on a flirtation while



"WHY DID YOU NOT TELL ME OF THIS FORMER LOVE AFFAIR?"

making your preparations to marry me?"

"But I'm telling you beforehand that it's for a special purpose. Besides, how many cases there are where everybody is surprised when an engagement is announced, persons saying, 'Why, I supposed she was going to marry So-and-so.' Nobody knows yet that we are engaged. How you will laugh in your sleeve when you hear of reports of my engagement to Ned Franklin!"

"It will be just too funny for anything, won't it?"

"And won't Nell be mad?"

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"She'll burst for spite."

"Being one of those fellows who consider the courting period a season wherein the girls are prizes to be gambled for, I saw no way but to chime in with my fiancée, pretending that I was quite willing she should remain in the ring till the last minute. Some men would have informed the lady that the old scores were ended upon her engagement and if she proposed to still take a hand in paying them off she must take back her freedom. But, for me, I never considered a girl a woman, but, rather, one to be played like a fish. I had supposed that I had landed Ethel, but now I saw that the landing must be deferred. So I told her that we had better put off our wedding till after the fall trade, and by that time I expected she would have paid all her indebtedness in the way of punishments and would have especially caused Nell Blanchard to rue the day that she had stepped in between Ethel and Ned Franklin."

At this she declared I must not imagine she would encourage Franklin. We had a busy season, but I was not too busy to keep an eye on my fiancée. A lover is a pessimist, and I was by no means easy in my mind upon this vindication Nell was arranging for herself. Franklin I knew had been her favorite before I had appeared on the scene, and prior to our engagement I had suspected that I was serving for a snare by which to trap him. I heard something of his recent attentions to Ethel since she had begun her vindication, and some of my intimate friends, who knew that I was interested in her, began to look upon me with commiseration. Now and again I asked Ethel how she was getting on with her vindication, and she said that Nell was simply green with envy and jealousy.

I have never believed in defensive warfare. It is a military principle that the advantage preponderates to the attacking force. I considered bringing the matter to a focus by telling Ethel that if Nell was green with envy and jealousy nothing more was required and there was no further necessity for her playing Mr. Franklin in the matter; also that she had been reported to be engaged to him and all the surprise she could wish for would occur when her real engagement with me was given out, with the wedding soon to follow. But did not Ethel know all this without my telling her? And if she knew it what was to be gained by telling her?

If Mr. Franklin was destined to win in the game—as I strongly suspected he would—the end would be Ethel's giving me a rigmorale about her having unwittingly, unknowingly and unintentionally got into an unfortunate position and that she was obliged to give pain to me or Mr. Franklin and she was absolutely crushed; also that she had loved him and he had loved her till that horrid Nell Blanchard had come between them and made all the trouble. Then under such distressing circumstances I would be expected to do a magnanimous, noble part by relieving her of her frightful embarrassment by releasing her without blame.

One day I received a note from Ethel chiding me for not having been to see her for a week. She simply called my attention to the fact without comment. I replied that the fall trade was at its height, and I was working nights. I received another note stating that I had not worked every night, for I had been seen at the theater in company with a pretty girl a few evenings before. My reply to this was a confession. The young lady I had taken to the theater had once been a "flame" of mine. She possessed certain letters I had written her when I thought I loved her, which I was desirous to get into my possession before being married. In order to do this I must dissimulate. When I had won her confidence I would the better devise a scheme for securing the letters.

I was quite sure this would bring matters to a climax, and it did. Ethel wrote me to come and see her at once. If I delayed she would send back the engagement ring I had given her. I thought over my next move and decided to go to see her. I found her very much troubled, though she endeavored to conceal evidence of the fact. Her face was heated, her eyes were restless and her bosom heaved.

"Why did you not tell me of this former love affair?" she asked in an accusatory tone.

"Because I supposed it was off long ago."

"And now it's on again."

To this I made no reply. I looked at the ceiling.

"Unless you wish to break with me you must drop it at once."

"I have not yet recovered my letters."

"Your letters! Nonsense!"

There was another silence. I took my eyes from the ceiling and directed them out through a window.

"Well, what are you going to do?" Ethel asked.

I responded in a quiet, reflective tone that if she would not object to my letters being used against me after my marriage with her I would let them remain where they were. I would call the next evening upon the lady possessing them and endeavor to persuade her to give up all idea of there ever being anything between us.

"Is it necessary that you should call to do that? Can't you write?"

"I committed myself in these letters I am anxious to secure and I should use diplomacy in the matter. Just as you have been diplomatic in setting yourself right between Franklin and Nell Blanchard. By the by, how is that affair progressing?"

I looked at her with a cold stare.

"I have finished it," she replied ruefully.

"Indeed. It's a pity I had not taken up mine earlier; then they would both have been ended together."

"I thought you said you would end the matter at once."

"I said I would endeavor to do so."

She had taken hold of her engagement ring and was toying with it. I knew she was meditating taking it off and handing it to me.

"You would not have me treat a girl who loves me harshly, would you? You know how you have been situated with regard to Franklin."

There was a long silence. I thought it time to bring the matter to a focus.

"I will make you a proposition," I said. "Drop Franklin without a word, written or spoken, and I will do the same in my own case."

Another long silence, at the end of which she put off her hand to me. I clasped it, drew her to me and that was the end of paying off old scores. By this time the rush of the fall trade was over and we were married within a month. We passed over the border dividing the single from the married state, and prenuptial nonsense gave way to antenuptial conditions.

Miss Mable Prowse, for eleven years organist of the Forest Presbyterian church, was presented with a handsome music cabinet on her retirement from the position.

A rest room for ladies will be established in the public library, Forest, under the supervision of the Women's Institute. The county council will probably make a grant towards the upkeep.

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