

"I was /surprised, of course," Kitty FLAVOUR -the charm of said. She waited a moment, then she added, in a low voice, "You might have given me another chance, Phil." It was clever of her to get that genuine ring in her voice, he thought, avagely. He loathed himself because against his will he found himself wanting to look at her. Perhaps it was as well for him that he did not realise that Kitty was as nearly genuine at that moment as she had ever been in all her life. The sur-

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He was getting quite interested and Sweet Eval excited himself. Eva had helped him considerably during the past fortnight. She was not in the least exacting. CHAPTER XI. "That girl will be a real pal to you To Eva the next two weeks flew. as well as a wife," my boy," his father She was too busy to think much. said to him once in a moment of illu-

derful happiness, with hours all too | warmth at his heart.

which he knew he would be everlast- me," she said suddenly.

greatest friend.

high-heeled shoes.

start the engine.

nervously

him silently.

fered by the contrast.

man every inch of him.

He broke in hurriedly.

night you. . . . "

ing of jealousy.

"Awfully hot, isn't it?"

"I like the heat." The blue eyes met

his rather wistfully. There was a lit-

tle silence. Philip had twice given the

failed to accomplish his object. He

laughed in embarrassment; he was

rather red in the face. Kitty watched

He was only a stripling still, slim

and boyishly built, whereas Philip was

muscular and broad-shouldered-a

"I aben't seen you for some time,"

you? The time passes so quickly."

"To you, perhaps," she said, slow-

She looked away from him down the

"I only came back last night," she

said again. There was another little

ed you," she went on. "I suppose I

"Thank you. . . . " Philip straight-

ned his back, took off his hat and

wiped his hot forehead. If only the

sleeves

onfounded engine would start!

said

She saw Philip often now. He came

ness to the thing he had done and of

"Of course, we will do whateber

'We can talk about that later on,"

wedding cak and her own bouquet.

fully cognisant of what a bridegroom

She could not really believe that her my life.'

Everything was ordered, even the happiness

Philip had proved himself wonder- sively.

you prefer," he said to Eva.

short and fleeting.

of the family. "

you care to. . .

ingly ashamed.

she answered.

own at all.

of emotion in the face of the man who had once told her he loved her. Philip looked at her with hard eyes. "You gave me a very complete dismissal," he said steadily. "I could do no less than take it. I told you if you sent me away then that I should not

other wrench, and this time the motor began to chug encouragingly. There were tears in Kitty's blue eyes. "I was sorry directly you had gone," She only knew that life was a won- mination, and Philip felt a sudden she said, in a low voice. "I was so sure you would come back the next Of course he did not love her, but day-I hoped so-I loked for you,

a flirtation with Peter Dennison," he

come back." He gave the handle an-

prise meeting with this man had

probed the little bit of heart which

she kept carefully hidden somewhere beneath her frills and furbelows. She

wanted to cry and she wanted-more

than anything-to surprise some sign

he was fond of her, and he respected Phil." and went as if he were already one her more than anyone he had ever He laughed bitterly. met. He was quite sure that they "You were so sure that you got up

"Of course, as you're getting marwould get along admirably together. ried in such a hurry, you young peosaid savagely. "If it's any satisfaction "Only two more days," he said to ple." Mr. Dennison said once, "you'll Eva one afternoon. to you to know it. I did come backhave to wait to get your house in or-He had driven over to bring a batch like a fool! I ought to have known bet-

der till the honeymoon's over. You of presents that had arrived the ter. I went along to see you the next can come and stay here for a time if previous night, and he and she were evening, and I saw you-in the hamstanding at the front door. Philip was mock-letting that-boy-kiss you! "My mother will be delighted to just going-he had such a deuce of a ." His voice was scornful. "That

have us," Philip said quickly. He felt lot to do before the evening, he said. finished it for me. . . ." that too much of his father-in-law It was the night of the dinner-party, Her tears were flowly fast now. would drive him mad. He was a con- and Eva was a little flushed with Philip glanced back at the housestant rominder, an ever-present wit- nervousness and excitement already. fortunately they were hidden from "I do hope Mr. Calligan will like view of the windows. He climbed into his seat. She knew that Calligan was Philip's "Good-bye," he said, curtly. He felt that he would have given ten "Of course, he will," Philip assured years of his life to have avoided this her. "And you'll like him, too-he's a scene. He shut the door of the car

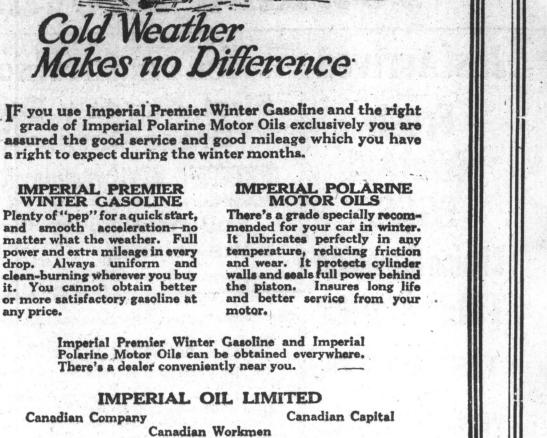
ripping good sort. I've known him all with a little slam. Kitty brushed her tears away. "You wedding day was so near. Though no- . He looked at her, and a sudden thrill will never love her as you loved me," thing else was ever spoken of she felt of pride swept through him. She was she said. that it must be someone else's wed- so soon to be his wife, and she look-Philip looked at her and his hear ding for which such elaborate prepar- ed prettier this afternoon than he had contracted. ations were being made, and not her ever seen her before. Her eyes were "No," he said, "I sincerely hope not.

Eke stars and her face radiant with He drove off without another word. But his light-heartedness had gone. He took a step towards her impul-Had he any right to marry Eva while this other girl still held his "Shall I come over and fetch you | heart?

's supposed to do. He was, perhaps, this evening?" he asked, with a curi-He know her to be a worthless flirt too anxious to do everything expected ous note in his voice. "I shan't see you and yet . . . yet . . . He clenched his of him. He was desperately afraid that by myself all the evening-with all teeth in pain.

he might fall short of the standard of those people there. I can drive over in Nobody could account for love. perfection set up by tradition and the car. Mr. and Mrs. Dennison won't He wondered if he had been very generations of bridegrooms. He had mind." He was a little agitated and rough and unkind. He hoped not. He loaded Eva with presents. He had giv- embarressed. "Would you like me to?" made up his mind to keep clear of Apsley once he was married ring, and was surprised that she still But there was no need for her to He knew that she was coming to the

wore the one he had first given her. answer. Her eyes were answer enough. wedding. He would have given any-"It's such a shabby old thing," he Philip caught her hand and held it thing had it been possible to preven hard for a moment; then he turned it. Eva had asked her, and it had been, impossible for him to object. "I shall come at half-past six," he To stand at the altar with some one recently: who was not Kitty, and to know that She gave a little cry. "Half-past six she was there behind him in the -but dinner isn't till eight." crowded church. . . . As soon as he "I know-but I want to talk to you." got in he rang for a stiff brandy. Pre-He drove off feeling happier than parations were going ahead for the husband being he had done for weeks. Things were night's dinner party. There were going to be all right, after all. stacks of flowers in the hall and a He had slowed the car a little to great display of silver on the table as turn out of the gate, and as he did so he passed the dining-room door. a girl darted back just in time to Mrs. Winterdick met him in the hall. avoid being knocked over. It was Kitty "Well, Phil, dear?" she said anxious-If the engine of young Winterdick's "Well, mother!" He stooped and car had not, by some unkind freak of kissed her. "This looks like business fortune, stopped at that moment he -eh?" He indicated the flowers. would just have raised his hat and . . I wanted everything to "Yes. driven on; but, as it was, the car be as nice as possible." "Like yourself I am a most credu- for further aid. Then I investigated came to a standstill just outside the ous person. I believed her. I still and found they were professional dead "It's sure to be top-hole," he said. gate, bringing the driver exactly He turned to go upstairs. Mrs. Win abreast with the girl on the path. whose one child is about three years waste of that money that should have terdick called to him. "There's a wire She was looking very cool and old to ask if she had any outgrown helped someone who needed and defrom Tom Calligan, Phil. He'll be on dainty, as she always did, in a pale the 5.45. It gets in at 6.30, I think." discarded things I could give the poor blue frock and a shady hat, and her







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protested. "I like it best-I always shall," she away. told him. Mrs. Winterdick was giving her said. much talked about dinner party two nights before the wedding. Philip's best man was coming, and in aunt from whom he was supposed to have prospects, and everybody

en her a most expensive diamond he asked, rather breathlessly.

whom Mrs. Winterdick considered anybody at all. "I shall be terribly nervous," Eva told Phinp. He laughed

"I want you to meet Calligan. You'll Arlington like him--besides, you must know who's to be best man before the actual



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"Good! I'll run the car down to creature. little feet shod in the trimmest of meet him. I----" He stopped. He had She Didn't Like This Catechism just remembered his promise to Eva.

Youn; Winterdick's heart gave a "I forget-I can't," he added hurried-She put me through a catechism raitorous thump as he looked at her. Iy. "See that Banks goes, mother, willomewhat as follows:

t was impossible to avoid speech as you, and tell him to take the run-"Are you sure she is worthy?" he clambered out of his seat to re- about? I want my own car." He went "What do you exactly know about her, other than what she tells you?" on and up the stairs slowly. "Where did her husband work last?" "Mother!" he called over the balus-"Do you realize that it's quite posters, "who else is coming to-nightsible for her to go around with this besides the relations. I mean?" hard luck tale to impulsive people She looked faintly surprised. like you, collect old clothes and sell thought I told you the list, Phil. starting handle a gigantic wrench and There's the vicar, and Mr. Arlington them?"

She ended by saying, "Yes, I have and Kitty, and Mr. Spencer, and . . . quite a few old things of baby Mary's Philip had disappeared. and if you will look this woman up Somehow he had hoped that Kitty and can assure me she is all you would not come. He thought it would In her mind she was comparing him have been kind of her to refuse, knowclaim I will be glad to help her."

with Peter Dennison, and Peter suf- ing what she did. He went into his "Now I can't understand that attitude. Suppose the woman were an room and shut the door. imposter (although I doubt it, else In two days' time he would be a she would not come back persistently married man. This afternoon he had as she does), wouldn't you rather run found the thought rather pleasant, but the risk of being taken in than feel to-night . . . He glanced at his watch. that you had missed a chance to help It was time to dress if he were going she said, presently. "Not since that to fetch Eva at half-past six. He wishin this day of awful unemployment? Especially when it means only. ed now he had not made the suggesclothes that you cannot possibly use tion. He wished-but what was the use. "No--you've been away, haven't of wishing? He took off his tweed coat yourself.

"I wish you would write something and flung it across the rom. If only it had been Kitty! If only on this subject."

I Think the Other Woman Was Righ she had stuck to him! If only she had put their love before everything else! hot dusty road with a little sick feel- If only . . . He met the reflection of As I wrote to my Letter Friend (I want you to know that I got her perhis harassed face in the glass. mission before I wrote this) I would "You're a bally rotter, that's what be glad to write something on the you are:" he apostrophised himself silence, then, "I have not congratulat- | disgustedly. subject only I should have to say just what she didn't want me to say. ' (To be continued)

I believe the woman who said "investigate before I give all these nice The quaint peasant bodice has come 'things away" was right. back with the long embroidered Whom was she protecting by in-

Here is a letter | self-she would give away those

that came to me things sooner or later-but the wor- may not be worthy. Better give unwisely than not at all. I simply mean thy person who ought to get them? Whensever we give carelessly we that the best kind of giver gives the "A woman came time and pains to insure wise giving, rob not ourselves but the people who ing for work, her ought to have been helped, and really as well as the money or the discarddeserved it.

No Excuse for Not Giving. one of the army of unemployed. I This is a lesson that I learned some j at ELLIS'-dec8,tf had no work and years ago when I gave away, without she asked if I investigation, a fairly large sum of could not at least money to a man who claimed that if give her some old he could get his family back to the

a baby, her first, he could get a good job. I gave him clothes. She has country town from which they came to decide on a name for the baby?" Mrs. Bensonhurst: "Well, we ba just going into rompers and she has the money for railroad tickets for the gan at A, and thought of all the names no cloth to make, nor money to buy, family, and he promptly disappeared beginning with that letter; then we with it leaving the family to appeal took B. and so went through the whole

alphabet. "But the child's name is Alice, lo. So I called up an acquaintance beats. I never forgave myself the thought."

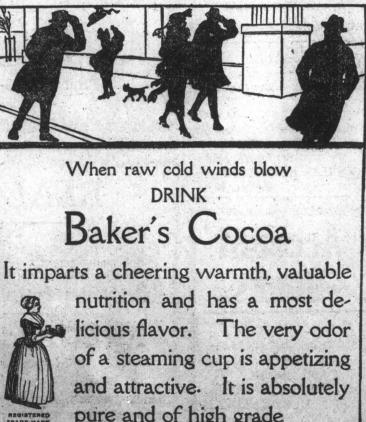
"So it is. When we got as far as Z we went back and began all over served it. Henceforth I have adopted again at A."

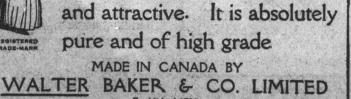
themselves by saying that the person

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