

The PURPLE MASK

by Grace Curran
Novelized from the Motion Picture Play of the Same Name by the Universal Film Mfg. Co.

SECOND EPISODE.—(Cont'd.)

An unusual incident led to a final decision. As she lay upon the couch Pat imagined that she heard someone at the door of her boudoir, and to divert suspicious began pacing across the room, coming nearer to the door at each turn.

Suddenly she threw the door open, and Jacques, who had been listening, tumbled helplessly into her room and sprawled upon the floor. Pat shut the door with a quick move and commanded Jacques to be seated.

"There is work for you to do, Jacques, and unless you do as I command, I will turn you over to the authorities." Having said this, Pat remained silent, looking Jacques keenly in the eye, as if to let her remark steep into his crafty brain.

"I saw you steal the jewels last night. I followed you to Chat Noir—and it was I who knocked the jewels from your hand. If I were to surrender you to Sphinx Kelly there would be a long prison term in store for you," Pat continued. And as she spoke Jacques sat silently listening stoically to all she said.

"Give me up, if you like, Miss Pat," he finally mumbled. "I guess I can stand a prison term if you insist."

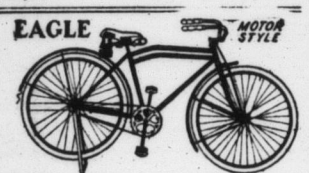
"But I don't insist," Pat chimed in. And then she made to Jacques an astonishing proposition. The crafty Frenchman's eyes fairly snapped as she unfolded her scheme. And in the end a compact was formed, between this beautiful girl and the crime-hardened Apache that was destined to set Paris agog, and the police a merry chase and, most of all, to involve Pat and Sphinx Kelly in many adventures.

"You must make me queen of the Apaches," Pat demanded. "From the proceeds of our work I will take only a percentage for charity—that is all I am going to work for; that is all I shall demand. My position in society will protect me and your influence with the Apaches will do the rest. Keep this bargain and your reward will be abundant; betray me and I will turn you over to the authorities."

Patricia Montez and Jacques then shook hands, binding their strange compact. And to each, the word of the other was all-sufficient.

"You and I will start working together to-night. The Cafe Chic will be a good test of our skill as a beginning." And Jacques promised that he would be at the Cafe Chic, prepared to do the bidding of his leader.

Old Jakobski drove a hard bargain and devoted his attention to getting rich at any deal where he could turn a banknote. He bought art subjects from struggling students, forged signatures to them and sold to gullible buyers the cheap works at extraordinary sums. He dealt in jewels, made



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loans and conducted a general business in securities. Watch closely as Jakobski fondled and displayed the pearls to his companion, with the evident purpose of effecting a sale.

It was a few moments later that Sphinx Kelly entered the Cafe Chic and looked over the crowd, passing carefully down the aisles, in a manner to attract as little attention to himself, as possible. But Pat's quick eyes discovered him before he had been in the spacious cafe many moments.

"There's the Sphinx, auntie," said the girl, indicating by a glance the direction in which Mrs. Van Nuys might look to find the man who had returned her jewels.

And there was one among the waiters who Pat knew was Jacques.

The brilliantly lighted cafe was a scene of revelry. The space cleared for dancing was filled with flashily dressed denizens of the Parisian cafes. The band played, waiters scurried here and there filling orders, and the scene was altogether one of gayety typical of night life in the brilliant city.

When Pat raised her handkerchief to her lips Jacques saw her signal and was soon standing behind her chair. Instantly he caught Pat's instructions—to watch and wait his chance to get the pearls that Jakobski was still, in his great vanity, displaying to his companion. The two men were inter-



Pat at the Cafe Chic.

Although he was eager for money, his vanity made him anxious to be seen in public places, and to be pointed out as "the rich Mr. Jakobski"—a name which was one of his favorite haunts. Pat noticed him when she entered with her aunt and took a table near the wealthy broker.

"There's Jakobski now," Pat whispered to Mr. Van Nuys. "I'm glad he has not seen us"—and as Pat looked toward Jakobski's table she saw him draw from his pocket a string of beautiful pearls.

"Just look, auntie, dear," Pat whispered. "That string of pearls would alone give us money in plenty for charity." And the girl continued to chatter, talking, evidently about the pearls.

Jacques moved away. He had arranged that another Apache should be near to respond to signals, and in a few moments the plotters had made their plans. While the band was playing the guests were dancing and the scene of revelry was gayest, the electric lights were suddenly thrown off and the place was thrown into darkness.

There was great confusion, and in an instant the Cafe Chic was in an uproar. Sphinx Kelly had seen the Apache approach the switchboard that controlled the lights, but was too far away to intercept the move, and when, in an incredible short space of time, the lights again flashed up, Jakobski was lying prone upon the table, his head resting on his forearm and his companion making signs of distress as he shouted his alarm.

"He was just showing me his pearls," the man said when Kelly had forced his way to Jakobski's table. "Did you see anyone approaching?" said Sphinx.

"Not that I noticed," Jakobski's companion replied. "Suddenly the lights went out; I heard a strange sound, as of someone striking a blow, and when the lights flashed up again, there was Jakobski as you see him, knocked out."

The bag Jakobski clutched in his hand was empty.

Kelly stooped to the floor and picked up a perfumed handkerchief. A hurried glance disclosed an initial. The Sphinx looked over to the table where Pat and Mrs. Van Nuys were seated and, after a moment's consideration, advanced toward them.

There was a wild, frightened look in Pat's eyes as she saw Kelly advance. When he neared Mrs. Van Nuys' table the Sphinx reached into his pockets, drew forth a pair of handkerchiefs and stepped up to the thoroughly frightened girl.

(To be continued.)

Crops of Steel in Verdun Fields.

"Prometheus," the organ of the German iron trade, makes an elaborate calculation as to the quantity of steel which is now lying on the hill-sides round Verdun. According to military reports, it often happened that as many as one million shots daily were fired from guns of various calibres. If, however, one million shells are taken as the weekly average of the daily average, we reach almost incredible totals. Taking the ground fought over as 260 square kilometres, and the average weight of the shells as 90 lb., no less than 1,350,000 tons of steel exploded on the area in question. This weight is sufficient to load 135,000 heavy goods wagons, and works out at 13 tons of steel per acre. Taking the price of scrap steel at \$17.50 per ton, we have a crop of steel worth about \$225 per acre, a crop which "Prometheus" thinks is well worth garnering.



The Housewife's Corner

Home Canning.

Looking ahead to needs that lie beyond the immediate present, Government food experts and food experts who are not in the service of the Government are urging the public to prepare to do home canning this year on a larger scale than ever before. With the planting of the home garden, whether in city, town or country, preparations should be made to preserve as much of the surplus produce as possible.

This applies especially to the farmer. It would profit him, to plant not alone for the current season's consumption, but for the purpose of raising enough vegetables to supply the family's needs throughout the Winter, with a margin, perhaps, to sell. "Canning in every kitchen" should be made a part of the slogan, a garden for every home. Never before, we are assured, has the nation faced a greater necessity for learning the lessons of economy. Let us do our best, through gardening, canning and preserving, to prepare for the exigencies of the future. The Summer should see no fruit and vegetables going to waste because demand for the moment is slight.

Emergency Kit for the Household.

If every mother would have in a certain place the appliances and supplies that are needed when minor accidents happen to the younger members of the family, emergency occasions could be met with far less disturbance than is usually the case. About the most satisfactory emergency box to use is a white enameled tin bread box.

The family physician can suggest the proper equipment for such an emergency box. One doctor has suggested the following articles necessary:

One bottle of arnica, labeled "for bruises and sprains."
A two-ounce bottle of witch hazel, labeled "for hemorrhage."
A two-ounce bottle of alcohol for cleansing.

A two-ounce box of powdered boracic acid for antiseptic use.
One roll of absorbent cotton.
One package of adhesive strip an inch wide.

One package of wooden splints.
One paper of small safety pins.
A small flask of brandy.
Several rolls of bandages.
One pair of scissors.

Several old soft towels, which have been thoroughly sterilized and which should be kept wrapped in tissue paper.
Every mother needs to know something about bandaging. She needs also to know the simple remedies for the various hurts and accidents that are sure to come to youngsters from time to time.

Tested Recipes.

Plain Omelette.—Beat 3 eggs very light, add ½ teaspoonful salt, dash pepper, and 3-tablespoonfuls hot water. Heat omelette pan and add 2-tablespoonfuls clear bacon fat or 1-tablespoonful butter. Cook slowly. When thickened and browned underneath put in grate of oven to brown on top. Fold and serve on hot platter. This will serve four people.

Lemon Cookies.—Cream ½ cup butter, add 1 cup sugar, 2 well beaten eggs, 2-tablespoonfuls milk and 1-tablespoonful lemon extract. Sift 3 cups flour and 2-tablespoonfuls baking powder and add to mixture. Chill and roll out thin, using half the dough at a time. Cut in fancy shapes and bake in a moderate oven. This will make five dozen cookies.

Rhubarb Sauce.—Do not use any water in the cooking which should be done in double boiler. Stir when rhubarb begins to soften and when reduced to an even pulp remove from fire and pass through a colander. Return to fire, sweeten and cook long enough to melt and combine the sugar. This makes a stiff jelly. It is excellent for tarts.

Boiled Salad Dressing.—Put 6-tablespoonfuls vinegar and 3-tablespoonful butter into double boiler or granite pan. When butter is melted, take off and cool. Beat 3 eggs very light, add 1-tablespoonful mixed mustard, ½ teaspoonful salt, ¼ teaspoonful pepper, ¼ teaspoonful celery salt and 6-tablespoonful milk. Pour into cooled mixture, set on fire, stir till thickens, take off and stir until smooth.

Some Useful Hints for the Young Cook.

In roasting meat, turn it with a spoon instead of using a fork. A fork pierces the meat, letting out the juice. To remove cakes and pies from their pans, after taking from the oven set the pans upon supports so that the air can circulate freely underneath them.

Bathing the hands with vinegar after much dish-washing will keep them soft and white.

Scald the bowl before mixing the butter and sugar when making cake. This will make it cream easier.

Milk and acids will curdle; cream and acids will not curdle. When adding cream to fruit or vegetables of acid composition heat the cream in a double boiler, adding the vegetable very slowly and beating constantly.

Heavy draft horses are slowly supplanting mules upon southern U. S. farms.

Window plants should be looked over and those that do best in pots reported. Those that do best outside should be planted in the garden to recuperate.



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From the Ocean Shore

BITS OF NEWS FROM THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

Items of Interest From Places Lapped By Waves of the Atlantic.

Sydney Mines has contributed about \$20,000 towards the patriotic fund.

John B. Hawthorn, of McAdam, has been appointed high sheriff of York county, N.B.

A scheme to promote the building of ships has been presented to the New Brunswick Government.

Owing to enlistment the University of New Brunswick deficit in tuition fees is very large, and the university has now petitioned the Government for aid.

A Nova Scotia steamer, "The Pontiac," was sunk in the Mediterranean, probably by a submarine.

Hon. Angus MacGillivray died at Antigonish suddenly, May 4. For forty years he was prominent in public life. Fredericton City Council passed a resolution that the by-law should be enforced regarding the cutting and selling of meat by the quarter.

The retail merchants of Fredericton will devote their Thursday half holiday to cultivation of the lands secured for production of food products.

Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, has been chosen to give the alumni oration at the University of New Brunswick, May 17.

Mr. N. Sinclair, C.G.R., locomotive engineer, of Moncton, left for Charlottetown, where he will be instructor in standard rules in connection with the railway.

The steamers plying between St. John and Fredericton have petitioned the Government for a subsidy, claiming the prohibitive price of coal is seriously affecting the company.

Count Adam von Tarnow, who was sent to New York from Austria-Hungary as Ambassador, but who was never officially received by President Wilson, will stop at Halifax on the return to Vienna.

The Newfoundland Legislature, which ordinarily meets about the middle of February, has not yet begun this year's session because of the absence of Premier Sir Edward Morris, who is attending the Imperial Conference in London.

RANCHING IN RHODESIA.

Colonies to Furnish More Meat For British Market.

Even amid the distractions of war the development of our Colonies keeps going steadily on. Attention is drawn to the fact that a first consignment of frozen meat from Rhodesia, sent by the British South Africa Company, has been sold in Smithfield Market.

The consignment, which consisted of 88 quarters, proved of excellent quality and found a ready sale. It was an experiment, but will no doubt lead to greater things. As a matter of fact, it was larger than the first consignment of frozen beef from the Argentine, which was received in 1885. That consignment amounted in value to no more than \$1,715, but so rapidly has the business grown that in 1915 the value of meat imports from the Argentine was \$77,762,095.

It is not to be expected that Rhodesia can ever produce as much meat as Argentine, which, owing to its wonderful alfalfa fields, will always be one of the largest meat-producing countries in the world. Cattle ranching in Rhodesia is only in its infancy; but great interest is being taken in it, large ranches are being established, and good cattle of all breeds are being imported in order to improve the native stock and produce large supplies of meat fit for the British markets.

In the year 1915 only 20 per cent. of the meat imported by Britain came from British colonies, and every one would like to see this percentage increased, as it will be in the near future by Rhodesia and South Africa.

Apparently He Did.

In San Francisco there was a prominent lawyer who prided himself on his astuteness in questioning Chinese witnesses.

He was very near-sighted, so failed to note that the dress of a Chinese witness was of finer texture than that worn by an ordinary coolie. Instead of asking the usual questions as to age, occupation, etc., the following dialogue ensued:

Q. What is your name?

A. Sell Lung.

Q. Do you live in San Francisco?

A. Yes.

Q. You save God?

A. Mr. Attorney, if you mean do I understand the entity of our Creator, I will simply reply that on Thursday evening next I shall address the State Ministerial Association upon the subject of the Divinity of Christ, and shall be pleased if you will attend.

Getting Rich These Days.

Getting rich these solemn days is going to be unpopular, especially getting rich off the Government, says the Ohio State Journal. A man who makes a fortune off munitions of war is going to be regarded as a traitor to his country. In these days of the nation's peril and sorrow to get rich in any way on food or clothing, as well as on munitions, is going to meet with universal disgust.