

The Tie-Up

Jane Hawkins lived in Lake View and had a mind and much money of her own. Jane's mind was of the kind to make everybody else mind it. People whispered that she was a bit of a shrew, but this fact did not keep her suitors from her door.

Jane Hawkins was pretty, and putting this with the fact that she had \$150,000 in her own right to do with as she pleased, made her a magnet with more than ordinary drawing power. Billy Ordway and Tom Jenkins, both clerks in the same bank, had come within the circle of Jane's influence, and they were drawn like the rest.

Now, while Jane Hawkins had a mind, she didn't know it half the time. She had settled it in this mind of hers, however, that she liked Billy Ordway and Tom Jenkins equally well, and she felt more than half-assured within herself that she would marry the first of the twin who should offer himself.

Now if the two bank clerks had known this mental condition of Miss Hawkins each would have broken his neck in the effort to get to her side and on his knees first. They didn't know it, however. Jane had more of the arctic about her than of the tropics. She couldn't have been less demonstrative if she had been born on Beacon Hill. Billy Ordway and Tom Jenkins were afraid to pop the question, and that's the long and short of it.

One night the two bank clerks met each other when calling on the Lake View house. It was an early winter night one year ago. When two rivals for the hand of a young woman are calling on her there is either the liveliest kind of a time or else there is nothing doing. This last was the case that night.

Billy Ordway said something about the age of Bessie Barnett, a friend of Jane. "She's 25," said Miss Hawkins rather sharply, "though she says she's only 21. By the way, my birthday is tomorrow, but I'm not going to tell you how old I shall be."

"I hope you will have lots of presents," said Tom Jenkins, through stumbling incapacity to say anything brighter.

"Oh, I'm not of a peculiar disposition," said Jane, "I'd rather give away something on my birthday than receive anything," and the young woman cast a look that had some meaning in it on both young men.

The next day, while they bent over their books in the big bank, both Billy Ordway and Tom Jenkins kept up a great thinking. They were turning over in their minds the last remark of Jane Hawkins, and each said to himself, "Tonight the close of her birthday is the time to pop the question," and each added mentally, "I don't believe the other fellow will go two nights in succession; it's my chance, sure enough."

After banking hours Billy Ordway strook out for his room. There he dozed himself until he looked as dead as did one of the figures which he jotted down every day in the books of the bank.

Tom Jenkins likewise struck out for his room and made a painstaking note. Then both young fellows dined and waited impatiently for the hour to come when they could with propriety start out to make the evening call upon which so much depended. Tom Jenkins turned the corner of Randolph and Dearborn streets just as he saw Billy Ordway with a flower in his buttonhole board a surreau, screen himself, had time to give the extreme care with which Billy Ordway had attired himself from his patent leather shoes to his hat. "Great Scott," said Tom to himself, "he's bound on the same ground I am. I must get ahead of him. The elevated will beat that car by ten minutes."

And Tom booted through Randolph street and up the steps of the elevated. He caught a train just as it was pulling out of the station and slipped into a seat, congratulating himself on his luck.

Now for Billy Ordway. The car in which he sat reached a point midway between the tunnel under the river. There the car came to a standstill. "It's all right in a few minutes," said the conductor reassuringly, and Billy and the rest of the passengers sat an hour passed, and there was no sign of an untwisting of the knot in the cable. Billy's impatience could

stand it no longer. He swung off the car, crowded himself through the narrow passage between the train and the wall of the tunnel, walked back to the street, jumped into a cab and tore northward.

Billy Ordway reached Jane Hawkins' house and was ushered into the parlor. Tom and Jane were there, standing hand in hand, under the soft light and facing the door as he entered. He took it all in at a glance, and his heart went down into his boots, but he put a brave face on the matter and said, "I see that congratulations are in order."

"They are," said Jane, speaking for both.

Billy Ordway did not stand on the order of his going. Somehow or other when he began to think the matter over seriously he didn't feel half as bad as he thought he should. "Can't be very much stuff in a girl," he mused, "who'll throw out such an obvious hint to two fellows at the same time that if either proposes he can tie up. She has a pot of money though, and that's something," and then as he thought of the cash a brilliant idea entered into Billy Ordway's brain.

Tom Jenkins and Jane Hawkins were married. Billy was an usher, and congratulated bride and groom with equal grace if not with equal sincerity.

A year passed away. Tom Jenkins had given up his place in the bank and had taken up a small business in which he had been installed by Jane. People said that Tom Jenkins was changed. Tom looked thin and "sat on." He was. Curiously enough, the gossip who said Jane Hawkins was a bit of a shrew spoke the truth. No matter to whom Tom spoke, his tone was always semi-apologetic, so short a time does it take for a woman with a mind and a tongue to make her husband "know his place." Tom knew his place and kept it. It was way back, and Jane was as far to the front as she could get without stumbling over the footlights.

One night Billy Ordway and Tom Jenkins met on a cable car. Billy pulled a newspaper from his pocket and handed it to Tom. This paragraph was marked:

"In the Superior Civil Court yesterday a jury gave William Ordway, bank clerk, \$25,000 damages in a suit against the Confederate Traction Company for a tie-up one year ago in the company's cable. The tie-up was caused by a careless gripman, and the ensuing delay of half an hour lost Mr. Ordway a fortune of \$150,000. The jury was sympathetic and did what it could under the law."

Tom Jenkins looked at the newspaper paragraph and his eyes swam. "Billy," he said, brokenly, "I congratulate you."

"Well, Tom," said Billy, "you beat me out that night by taking the elevated."

Tom lifted his pinched face. "Yes, Billy," he said, "the elevated got me there first, but I ought to bring suit against that company for \$1,000,000." Edward B. Clark, in Chicago Record-Herald.

Hungry Elks

Salt Lake, Feb. 14.—Four thousand hunger-crazed elks are on the rampage in the Jackson Hole country in Southern Wyoming and farms and ranches are being ravaged by herds of the frenzied animals. In more than one case ranchers have had to run for their lives to escape from bands of the maddened elks and bar themselves in their farmhouses.

The snow is now six feet deep. A rainstorm left a hard crust. The elks are unable to break through this crust to feed and are facing starvation.

Harvey K. Klidden, who has just returned from Jackson Hole tells a thrilling story of the raids of the elks. On Monday the ranch of William Thompson was raided. Thompson was sitting in his farmhouse looking out of a window and suddenly he saw a cloud of snow dust in the distance. Then he heard a heavy roaring sound. It came nearer and in a moment a herd of 3,000 big scraggy elks swept toward the farmhouse.

Breaking down Thompson's corral, a five-acre lot, the elks attacked thirty stacks of hay. At daybreak fifty tons had been consumed and Thompson's barn had been smashed as if it were kindling wood and everything on the farm swept away.

Twenty elks with broken limbs and badly gored laid in the scattered hay as evidence that the herd was desperate and fighting mad.

Gen. Booth injured

New York, March 3.—Gen. Booth, commander-in-chief of the Salvation army, made a misstep yesterday in going down stairs at the army headquarters here and sprained his knee.

While the injury is not serious the general has been so fatigued by his long trip in this country that he will not sail for England tomorrow, as he intended.

CONCESSION MUST BE ABOLISHED

Board of Trade Has Begun Aggressive Measures to Accomplish the Overthrow of Treadgold Octopus

Dawson, Y. T., March 6, 1903.

To the Editor The Klondike Nugget: Dear Sir,—It is the wish of the Dawson Board of Trade that you forward a copy of telegram sent this day to Messrs. the Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of Canada, Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior, William Mulock, Postmaster General, and James Hamilton Ross, Member of Parliament for Yukon, and which reads as follows:

"Oppose any attempt to pass order in council or act in parliament that will in any way confirm Treadgold concession. Are having monster petition signed and reliable data prepared to forward Ottawa asking government to aid in furnishing water for mining purposes. People are a unit in making demand and will insist upon government protection from monopoly of Treadgold Octopus."

The Dawson Board of Trade, H. C. Macaulay, Pres.

And it is the further wish of said board that your influence, help and co-operation in assisting the people of this territory to make the necessary recommendations to the parliament of the Dominion of Canada to prevent the passage through parliament of the Treadgold concession and water grant from Klondike river and Rock creek such as is and has been contemplated.

The Treadgold concession and water grant as granted by an order in council and which when ratified by the parliament at its next session will become law is in the opinion of this board one of the most iniquitous measures that was ever inflicted upon a people, and (in the consideration of the Dawson Board of Trade) will work a great hardship upon the people of this territory since it will mean the virtual bankruptcy of all the property holders of Dawson and surrounding territory, and instead of the Klondike becoming the prosperous country we expect it will virtually become the property of Mr. Treadgold and those who are associated with him in his scheme.

An immense petition to the Dominion parliament to cancel and disallow this measure is being prepared and circulated (a copy of which will be sent you) embodying the objections of the people of the Yukon to the granting of this measure and asking the government to provide water for the miners of this territory.

If this were done it would mean the commencement of a new era of prosperity for this camp, the population

Will Go Before Parliament With a Petition Asking for the Establishment of a Public Water System—Prosperity of the Country Depends Upon the Securing of Favorable Action.

of which would materially and rapidly increase and an immense avenue for Canadian manufactures and merchandise would be opened up and not only would this territory be benefited but the benefit would extend to the whole of Canada, by a measure of this kind.

That on the other hand, if we are unable to obtain this object, and should the government allow the Treadgold concession to become law it would (in the opinion of the Dawson Board of Trade, and I might say of the people of the Yukon generally) be a tremendous setback to the prosperity of this country.

Now, in order to convey to you some idea of the magnitude of the grant which Mr. Treadgold and his associates are looking for and which it appears likely they will receive, if the intention of the minister of the interior is allowed to be carried out, it having been recommended by him we believe, that the said Treadgold and his associates receive the sole and prior right to divert and take water from the Klondike river up to 5,000 miners inches for distribution and use in the district, said district comprising the beds, banks, valleys, slopes and hills of the Klondike river of Bonanza, Bear and Hunker creeks and their tributaries, and the right to divert and use the water of Rock creek, which water we are informed by Mr. Joseph McGillivray, a mining engineer of long experience, and amounts to 8,000 inches, natural flow, and which would give Mr. Treadgold and associates the sole right to divert and sell 13,000 inches of water.

Now a miner requires with which to sluice his dirt 50 inches of water, which is the amount considered necessary to make a sluice head, and

should the Treadgold company at the rate which we understand, is the contemplated charge (25 cents per miner's inch per hour) it would cost that miner \$12.50 per hour or \$300 per day of 14 hours, which is the length of the working day here during the summer season. Now this grant of 5,000 inches from the Klondike river and the natural flow of Rock creek, amounting to 8,000 inches, making a total of water at Treadgold's command of 13,000 inches, or 260 sluice heads of 50 inches per sluice head, costing the miner in this country \$78,000 per day, or \$10,140,000 per year of 130 sluicing days, which is the length of the sluicing season here, would mean this: That the holder of the same would practically own the country, all the hill claim owners would have to come to him for water or allow their claim to remain un-operated for lack of same, and Mr. Treadgold and his associates would be receiving all the profits that would accrue from the thousands of hill claims situated on the immense and huge gravel deposits with which this country abounds.

He, Mr. Treadgold, is further allowed this concession: That the property of the grantee shall be exempt from representation. This the Dawson Board of Trade considers would enable the owners of non-working claims to evade the representation law by their turning over into the name of the Treadgold Company their properties.

For an instance of how this would work, we will suppose that 5,000 hill claim owners not working their properties and not wishing to expend on their properties the \$200 per year necessary by law in order to hold their claims in his name, thereby exempting them from representation, the government would lose the fees charged in lieu of representation and the country would lose the expenditure of that amount for labor in representation of said claims, amounting in all to \$1,000,000, of which amount Mr. Treadgold will say would receive \$750,000 and the claim owners would save \$250,000 and the government and the country would be done out of the expenditure of the \$1,000,000, not to speak of the fees for affidavits of representation and renewal, amounting to \$17 per claim per year, or a total of \$85,000 per year for the 5,000 claims.

But on the other hand if the government will only listen to our plea,

cancel or disallow this infamous Treadgold grant and themselves supply the water to the miners of this territory at a figure that will enable the government to get the cost of the installation of the necessary plant for supplying said water out of about eight years, it would we know give the miners cheap water and enable them to recover the precious gravel from the immense low grade gravel deposits that we have in this country and would mean a greatly increased population and prosperity for this country and would cause and bring about an immense trade with and throughout Canada.

And now in conclusion I might say that this letter being hastily written, as we thought it necessary to act quickly in the matter, does not permit us to go into details of the matter as much as we would like. (These details will come later, a copy of which will be sent you), but I think sufficient has been said to show you the iniquities of this concession and to point out to you the firm and positive objections that the Board of Trade and the people of this territory have to said concession, and which objections will be exemplified in the petition about to be prepared and sent to Ottawa, and that the granting of this concession would be prejudicial and greatly detrimental to the best interests of this country and we ask you for your sincere and earnest co-operation and assistance in helping us to prevent this measure from becoming law. Yours truly,

DAWSON BOARD OF TRADE.

PELTIION.

To the Honorable the House of Commons in Parliament Assembled.

The petition of the undersigned residents of the Yukon Territory humbly sheweth:

1. That by order in council of April the 21st, 1902, certain privileges are granted to Malcolm Orr Ewing, A. N. C. Treadgold and Walter Warwick, in connection with the proposed establishment by them of a system of water supply for washing out gold-bearing gravel in the district therein described, including the Klondike river, Bonanza, Bear, and Hunker creeks and their tributaries.

2. That the benefits conferred upon the grantees are of incalculable value and involve an enormous exploitation of the public resources of this territory for the benefit of a few favored concessionaires.

3. That in the opinion of your petitioners the accumulation of extraordinary powers in the hands of a single corporation such as is effected by the above order in council, will lead to the paralysis of the independent commercial and industrial life of the community and will prove in the highest degree oppressive and injurious to the public welfare, since the grantees are thereby enabled to crush out competition and to reduce to a position of practical servitude the individual miners in the extensive

district affected which includes the richest portion of the Klondike.

4. That the need of this territory is not the creation of monopolies but their prevention, and the encouragement of the individual miners by securing equal privileges and opportunities to all as far as the law and the administration can provide them.

5. That for the promotion and development of the mining industry of the Yukon a cheap, abundant and effective water supply, furnished at a minimum of cost by the government at the earliest possible moment, is absolutely essential.

Your petitioners therefore pray—

(1) That the order in council of April 21st, 1902, may be cancelled completely, and that no special privileges shall hereafter be granted within this territory with respect to wood, mining, water or any other class of rights affecting the general public, but that all persons shall be restricted in such matters to the rights conferred upon every member of the community by the mining regulations.

(2) That the supply and distribution of water for general mining purposes within this territory shall not be controlled by any private person or corporation, but either that it shall be undertaken by the Dominion government as a public work, or that power shall be given to the commissioner of the Yukon Territory in council to construct such a system and to raise the necessary funds by bonds guaranteed by the Dominion.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

Bigg—Yes, sir. Sad case. Man who built this house of mine just got it finished, when he died. Wigg—Well, it might have been worse. He might have had to live in it. Brooklyn Life.

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