

Lord Lockington

A clever Mystery Story
which will begin next week

By FLORENCE WARDEN

Author of "The House on The Marsh," etc.

An unusually clever mystery story is not often found in these days when talent in writing has reached so high an average. Yet the editor of the CANADIAN COURIER believes that he has discovered one.

Edna Bellamy, an attractive girl, skilled in music, is engaged as private musician to Lord Lockington. The housekeeper who engages her describes Lord Lockington as a recluse who is never seen by any member of his household, and who will never be seen by the girl who is engaged to play to him.

The girl arrives at Lockington Hall and begins as peculiar an engagement as was ever undertaken by any artist. She plays and sings for a man whom she neither sees nor hears, but at the same time she is conscious of the fact that she is being closely observed. Her unusual experience is rendered more unusual by other mysteries which make Lockington Hall the curiosity of the countryside. She becomes the target for talk and gossip, as well as one of the central figures in a maze of events which have an unusual and dramatic finish.

Florence Warden is famous for her well-told tales, but this is undoubtedly the most thrilling as well as the cleverest of all her stories. The CANADIAN COURIER is lucky to have secured the exclusive Canadian rights for such a remarkable romance.

This new serial story will commence in next week's issue. Don't miss the opening chapter.

Canadian Courier,
TORONTO.

Dobie directors have reluctantly come to the conclusion that the Dobie lower levels are not worth any further effort until the formation of the north Tisdale country generally is more clearly determined.

This is being done by one company, a next-door neighbour of the Dobie, which, according to all reports, is securing most gratifying results, while the Dobie across the line is putting up its shutters. Such are the fortunes of mining. All that the Dobie had left was \$50,000 in its treasury, but Messrs. McGibbon and Armstrong, although under no legal or moral obligation to do so, have dumped into the Dobie treasury fourteen other claims which they owned in Tisdale township. Of the Dobie shares issued, Messrs. McGibbon and Armstrong are reputed to own 160,000. The public at large has 60,000 shares, so that while McGibbon and Armstrong are giving themselves a large part of the present, they are also making things considerably better for the minority of Dobie stockholders than has been the lot of shareholders in practically every other mining corporation with an unfortunate history.

Protecting Canadian Credit.

SOMETHING should be done to protect Canadian credit abroad. Too many boomsters are now in London unloading real estate upon the British investor. Usually these boomsters travel with letters from the Hon. Mr. Somebody, Sir John Someperson, or some other prominent Canadian who lends his name to a doubtful proposition for a share in the profits made by London sales.

The following despatch from London, by the special correspondent of the Montreal Star, indicates the dangers which Canada must eliminate:

London, March 20.—The Earl of Erroll's pointed criticism on the methods of some of the Canadian mining speculators and the consequent deterrent effect upon British exploration in the Canadian mining areas has revived the proposals for an authoritative Canadian bureau here to which intending British investors could apply for information.

It is suggested that the newly formed Canadian section be a part of the London Chamber of Commerce, which could create such a bureau in conjunction with the Canadian Mining Association under the auspices of the Dominion and Provincial Governments in order to scare wild cat ventures from the English market. J. H. Plummer, interviewed to-day, doubted the feasibility of any such artificial method of protecting the British investor. He said: "It certainly is regrettable that Canadian wild cat schemes cross the Atlantic, but the public will always be attracted by the promise of big returns, and can and must guard themselves against unscrupulous misrepresentations."

The Buying of Town Lots.

THIS is the season when the vendor of town lots gets really busy. During the weeks that are approaching many sensible Canadians are sure to be beguiled by smoothly worded advertisements into investing money in town lots which will never be of much use except for the growing of potatoes. Population considered, Canada has probably more town lots than any other nation in the world. The Canadian town that hasn't anywhere from five to fifty thousand vacant town lots awaiting the home-builder is a dead town. This is especially true of the West and partially true of the East. There has been much money made out of town lots. There will be much made in the future. But this profit will come to those only who know what they are buying. The man who buys town lots from a map, without independent advice, is almost though not quite as foolish as the man who buys from an advertisement inserted by some company that he has never heard of before. Not that all advertisements are misleading, but so many of them are that the chances are against the purchaser. Real estate in Canada is an excellent purchase if it is revenue producing. There is none better. The town lot which is to become valuable some years hence and which will produce nothing but taxes in the meantime is not an investment, it is a "gamble."

Journalistic Manners and Morals.

(From Toronto Saturday Night.)

"OF slight importance" is the caption of an editorial paragraph in Collier's issue of March 9, the same being a covert attack upon the CANADIAN COURIER. The first indictment against the COURIER is that the name contains the same number of letters of a sort that are as near as may be to those which spell Collier. The next is that the COURIER copied the design of a special heading made for Collier's. Another charge is that the COURIER adopted the sub-title "National Weekly," and finally, that the COURIER is owned by the secretary of a railway.

I carry no particular brief for the COURIER, its editor, or its proprietor; but at the same time it strikes me as peculiar that a journalistic carpet-bagger, sailing under false colours as does Collier's here in Canada, should have the effrontery to find fault with a Canadian printed and Canadian owned journal adopting the title "National Weekly." Collier's is owned and printed in the city of New York. Its money, if it makes any, goes into the Collier pot; if it loses, it is taken from the Collier pile. This "National Weekly" is Canadian to the extent of what advertising it can get in the Canadian field, and two pages of light-waisted editorial comment, dealing with semi-Canadian topics, injected into the American edition.

As for the name COURIER, to which Collier's takes exception because it begins with a "C" and ends with an "ier," it might be well to remind the New York publishers that the title was in common use among journalistic enterprises generations before the "Old Cap. Collier" dime novel series made name and wealth for the old head of the Collier house. If the name COURIER is to be condemned on any grounds, it should be lack of originality. So much for placing new wine in old bottles.

As for the charge that the COURIER is owned by the secretary of a railway, it might be replied to by asking, why not? If Mr. William Moore, whom I believe is the proprietor, or at least the chief proprietor of the COURIER, wishes to expend some of his surplus wealth, accumulated in great Canadian railway enterprises, in the publication of a Canadian journal, are there any reasons, ethical or moral, why he should be restrained; other than the fact that Mr. Moore's paper comes in competition with the American owned, American managed, and American printed Collier's? It strikes me that Mr. Moore's capital might be expended far less advantageously.

And lastly, it seems to me that the less Collier's says regarding its pose (under the circumstances which I have outlined) as operating the only and original "National Weekly" for Canadian consumption, the better.

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