

POOR DOCUMENT

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THE STAR ST. JOHN N. B., FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1908

SEVEN

NEW SPRING CLOTHING

FOR BOYS AND MEN

WE INVITE YOU TO SEE THE HANDSOME SHOWING NOW OFFERED AT OUR STORE

SUITS

In the new Grey and Brown Worsteds, Blue Serges and Standard Blacks, at the following low prices:

\$4.68, \$5.75, \$6.75, \$7.75, \$8.75, \$9.75, \$10.75, \$11.75, \$12.75 to \$16.75

SPRING OVERCOATS

In short and knee-length Coats, made of handsome Black and Grey Cheviots and Tan Coverts,

\$9.75, \$10.75, \$11.75, \$12.75, \$13.75.

Special value in Silk-faced Overcoats, \$11.75, \$12.75

SPRING RAINCOATS

This Coat is the popular favorite all the year round

\$6.75, \$8.75, \$9.75, \$10.75, \$11.75, \$12.75, \$13.75, \$14.75.

MEN'S PANTS 98c.

\$1.18, \$1.38, \$1.48, \$1.68, \$1.98,
\$2.18, \$2.48, \$2.98.

Our Goods are the Best Obtainable.

Our Prices the Lowest.

BOYS' SUITS

\$1.98, \$2.48, \$2.88,
\$3.18, \$3.38, \$3.68,
\$3.98, \$4.38, \$4.68.

BOYS' PANTS

48c, 58c, 68c, 88c,
98c, \$1.18.

We Give Valuable Free Gifts to Cash Buyers.

C. B. PIGEON,

Cor. Main and Bridge Streets,

St. John, N. B., North End

Playbills and Sentiment.

By CARL WILLIAMS

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The janitor's little girl murmured a word of thanks for the penny bestowed upon her and scampered back downstairs, while Elizabeth returned to the parlor with the mail the child had just brought in.

It was a comfortable little city apartment, and only the typewriter table in one corner betrayed the fact that it was a work as well as a play room.

Through an arch in an absurdly small dining room with the table laid for one proclaimed it to be the home of a bachelor girl, though Elizabeth Belmont's dainty femininity gave no suggestion of spinsterhood, either from choice or circumstance.

The coffee percolator steamed on the table unheeded while she ran through her letters—a check for a story, two manuscripts returned, a couple of personal letters, and a thin, flat package bearing a foreign stamp.

Elizabeth frowned over one letter, smiled over another, patted the cheek lovingly as she thrust it into the drawer of her tiny desk and ripped the covering from the package. Out fell a playbill, a glowing thing of red and blue letters on yellow paper, bearing the list of artists appearing at a Roman music hall.

One of the names was marked with an ink cross, and in defiance of postal regulations, Neil Stanwood had written on the margin, "Do you remember I saw her at the theatre the night before I sailed? It's a small world after all."

Elizabeth smiled at the reminiscence. Four other girls and herself had given Neil a going-away party the night before the latter sailed to study in Italy. They had wound up the evening at a vaudeville theatre where the little dancer of the glowing programme had appeared. Now Neil, in Rome had seen the same act and had remembered their last night together. Was she someplace?

It was several moments before Elizabeth opened the newspaper, the old home paper and "as good as a letter," so Jack Hardy had often declared. Not an item of news worth telling escaped publication in the Blairsville "Beacon," for even with detailed information as to newly painted fences, the editor found it difficult to fill his yawning columns.

The "Beacon" was Hardy's compromise with his conscience, for he had declared when Elizabeth had determined to leave Blairsville for the greater opportunities of the city that he would not write. He had not written, but after the first week the "Beacon" came regularly addressed in his strong, masculine handwriting, and Elizabeth always smiled a softly triumphant smile whenever the copy arrived.

There had been an "understanding."

with Jack Hardy until the stories she loved to write had so frequently found publication as to awaken in Elizabeth an ambition to get in personal touch with the editors.

Hardy had frowned upon the suggestion of removal to New York. He could not leave Blairsville because his own and his mother's incomes were derived from the lumber business which his father had left, and Hardy knew that to go to the city meant beginning all over again the fight for a competence.

There had been heated words over Elizabeth's determination to leave, and she had been given her choice of a career or marriage. She had elected in favor of the career. She had prospered in the great city. She had told herself over and over again that she had done the only absorbing thing, and yet—

Today there was an inclosure with the "Beacon," a playbill, announcing in flamboyant language a week's engagement at the opera house of the Rice & Bennett Empire Stock Company.

Elizabeth smiled as she read the familiar repertoire. The Rice & Bennett company was almost an institution in Blairsville. Twice a year they played for a week in the town hall, and every one who could afford it attended all their performances. It was the one real dramatic treat of the season, for the few other attractions that made Blairsville were traveling magicians, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" companies and an occasional "medicine show." The Rice & Bennett company was to Blairsville what grand opera is to the cities.

Last year she and Jack had attended the spring performances together, but in the fall she was gone. How time had flown! The Rice & Bennett company would open their spring engagement the following week, and Jack had sent her a hanger. An odd lump came in her throat as she returned to the table and her neglected coffee.

When she started to tidy up after the meal she thumb-tacked the Italian poster to the wall of her tiny private hall. The wall was bare and the yellow poster with its foreign lettering gave a smart touch to the hall, like hotel labels on a steamer trunk or suit case.

Elizabeth sat down to the typewriter, but presently there came an impatient ring at the hall door. Tony, the rufous-faced Italian who supplied the tenants of the house with ice, displayed two rows of gleaming teeth as he explosively announced "Ice!" Elizabeth held open the door for him while he lifted the cake from the dumbwaiter and placed it in her refrigerator.

But the smile faded from Tony's face as he turned to leave. With an inarticulate cry he sprang at the poster, fingering it lovingly and scanning

every word of the beloved Italian.

"It is from the home," he explained, blushing when the first shock of surprise had passed. "It is to there that I take—a what you call—sweetheart? Ah! To the Salone Margherita, me an' my Marie. Marie she cannot leave—a da pop-da fard! I come—a to America to make-a mon. It is ver' lonely, signora. Scusa-a mi!"

He shuffled haltingly from the apartment, his jovial face drawn with homesickness and thoughts of the distant Marie.

Elizabeth went back to her work. On the door the Rice & Bennett playbill still lay neglected, but now it caught her attention and she picked it up, to read, even as Tony had done with the other, every word of the familiar announcement.

She wondered if Jack would be going. If so, who would be in her place? Mrs.

Hardy did not care for the theatre and it was not fair to expect Jack to go alone. She smiled at her jealous thoughts and sat down resolutely before her typewriter, but she found that the thread of the story which had started so well was lost. She could not force her mind to concentrate upon the adventures of an imaginary heroine. Her attention persistently wandered to the playbill on the floor.

She could see the opera house without even shutting her eyes. The roller skating craze had somewhat revived its original glories. The common woods on chairs were in place now only when some theatrical performance was given. Probably there were "Rules and Regulations" tacked up on the walls with "Beacon Job Print" in large type beneath the phrase, "By order of the management." She could hear the ragged strains of the three-piece orchestra.

Then she gazed about the cozy little flat. It would be very different in Blairsville, and she knew that in sending that message she had virtually announced her surrender, but she hummed a blithe little song as she put on her hat and prepared to take the telegram to the office. When she came to the narrow hall she stopped and took down the Italian poster; and, with the one from home, placed it in the drawer of her desk.

"You've carried your messages," she whispered to them as she smoothed the folds, "but I want to keep you—for remembrance and warning. To Tony and me you meant home, I'm more fortunate than Tony, for I'm going home—to Jack."

and she knew that Will Taber and Ren Blake would hustle importantly through the stage entrance. They were always the "and others" on the programmes, the army in "Under Two Flags" and "A Celebrated Case," the miners in "The Danites," etc. It was all so vivid that she seemed really to be there. With a choking laugh at her new emotions she ripped the story from her typewriter and slipped in a fresh sheet.

"John Hardy, Blairsville.

"Please get seats for all next week. I am coming home tomorrow."

"Elizabeth."

The King's speech about the cozy little flat. It would be very different in Blairsville, and she knew that in sending that message she had virtually announced her surrender, but she hummed a blithe little song as she put on her hat and prepared to take the telegram to the office. When she came to the narrow hall she stopped and took down the Italian poster; and, with the one from home, placed it in the drawer of her desk.

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OPPOSITION COMES FROM UNITED STATES

In Regard to the Settlement of Disputes by Treaty

OTTAWA, April 9.—There is no foundation for the Washington report that Canada stands in the way of a settlement by treaty of disputes between Canada and the United States in regard to the international water rights, and particularly those of Niagara Falls.

The opposition to the treaty comes from the United States senate. It was expected negotiations would result in a treaty to perpetuate the arrangement reached by the international waterways commission.

A recent New Jersey decision indicates that the control of the waters belongs to the various states of the union, and the United States in support of this view wants each question, such as the St. John River, to goods in transit and all other matters, dealt with separately by independent commission by the Hague tribunal. This is not in line with the understanding reached by Mr. Bryce with the Canadian authorities and President Roosevelt.

MURRAY, Ky., April 9.—Soldiers today arrested eight alleged "night riders" in this county. They were placed in jail.

PRESS CRITICISM OF KING EDWARD STIRS HIGH POLITICAL CIRCLES

LONDON, April 9.—Quite a stir was caused in the highest political and social circles by a half-valued attack on the King in the Times today, which follows similar comments made last Saturday. Not since Queen Victoria's mid-life has such an outspoken attitude towards the sovereign been adopted by the responsible press. One immediate result of this feeling is the King's decision to curtail his holiday leave.

The King will leave Biarritz next Wednesday, in order to hold a private council meeting in London on Thursday.

The Times says in substance as follows: "It may be a picturesque tribute to the Anglo-French entente that the King and Prime Minister are so much at home in France as to be able to transact their most important constitutional business there, but the precedent is not one to be followed. Nothing of the kind should happen again. Only the plea that the King is unwell, which, happily, he is not, would excuse the repetition. As matters stand, a week has been unnecessarily lost at a critical period of the session."

"Moreover, further personal conversations between the Prime Minister and the sovereign during this most critical period are impossible."

The Times added that the whole ministerial programme for the session had been upset.

LONDON, April 10.—The King's absence during the cabinet crisis has provoked much comment and criticism, as well as suspicion, that there may be some underlying reason connected with his majesty's health that a semi-official explanation was issued last night to the effect that his visit to Biarritz was undertaken as a holiday in conformity with the strong opinion of his majesty's medical advisers, owing to repeated attacks of influenza, to which the King has been subject during the spring for a number of years past.

Mr. Asquith, the new premier, spent the night in Paris and has kept secret the composition of his new cabinet. For the time being, speculation on the cabinet practically has ceased.

The Daily News makes the highly interesting announcement that John Morley, while retaining the office of secretary for India, will accept a peerage, his reason being declining health and a throat affection that makes the strain of the work in the House of Commons too great. He was faced with the alternative of resigning or retaining office in the atmosphere of the House of Lords.

The Unionist leaders are actively stumping the country with a view to influencing the by-elections which will result from the cabinet reconstruction.

The Unionist morning papers are rejoicing over the pronouncement of Lord Curzon in favor of fiscal reform. Lord Curzon hitherto was considered to have free trade sympathies, but in an address last night at Basingstoke he said that he saw no reason why the tariff should not be employed to strengthen the imperial tie, and he believed that Mr. Balfour's fiscal platform was one upon which all sections of the Unionist party could unite.

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