

I've seen the fellow somewhere, but can't for the life of me remember where or how.

HEP. Sir! Do you doubt the authenticity of an introduction from the Press?

B. o'L. No! No! Don't look at me like that! Hepatica! You must help me! Surely the very heart hasn't been squeezed out of you in the Press? Take this long haired lion back to his lair, or Maple Leaf is lost to me forever.

(MAPLE LEAF and PTARMIGAN appear at back of stage and see BOB O'LINK on his knees to HEPATICA.)

HEP. Well, I'll do it—on one condition.

B. o'L. Anything! Anything!

HEP. You are on the Carnival committee, eh?

B. o'L. Yes! Yes!

HEP. Well, you will tell me all about the row between ———

(As HEPATICA and BOB O'LINK whisper together MAPLE LEAF and PTARMIGAN retire.)

HEP. All right! I'll take Ptarmigan away directly.

B. o'L. Ptarmigan! Impossible!

HEP. Young man! you forget yourself! There's nothing impossible—to the New Woman.

B. o'L. Pray, forgive me. The New Woman!

Do you smoke? Where's your bicycle?

HEP. A bicycle in the snow—stupid! I've put it on skates and turned it into an ice-boat. Want to come for a sail to hunt ptarmigan—rare birds?

B. o'L. That villain, Ptarmigan! However did he get out?

HEP. I hypnotized the guards and sent Wis-ka-tjan in to change clothes with him.

B. o'L. You must be a very, very accomplished person.

HEP. Oh no! Its quite simple. Would you like to be mesmerized?

B. o'L. No violence! (He picks up large key which she dropped while making mesmeric motions.)

HEP. Thanks. That's my latch-key.

B. o'L. Why did you do it? Were you so disloyal to Canada as to set her foe free?

HEP. I didn't set him free, I brought him here. He's safe enough, he won't leave Maple Leaf.

B. o'L. No, curse him!

HEP. I told him the only way to see her and be welcomed into Canadian society was to don his swallow tail and meet me at my Club ———

B. o'L. With a club?

HEP. At my Club, I said. I promised to bring him here and introduce him as Purple Martin, the artist. I told him he was sure of a grand reception.

B. o'L. But can he paint?