

The Million Dollar Mystery

By HAROLD MAC GRATH

Illustrated from Scenes in the Photo Drama of the Same Name by the Thanhouser Film Company

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CHAPTER VIII.

The Wiles of a Woman. After the affair of the auto bandits...

One afternoon he paid Florence a visit. Of course he told her nothing...

out what he had been seeking and no longer needed to watch the coming...

"No. Money should not matter when your heart is involved."



A Little Melodrama Arranged for the Benefit of Florence.

"Indeed!" ironically. "He wasn't vigilant all these years in which he did elude us..."

the first corner: as was heart-breaking. Norton, so far as he had learned...

The trick was simple. The countess had news; trust her for that. She exhibited a cabgram, dated at Gibraltar...

"He says there has been some cruel mistake," said Jones. "I see him with the countess in his arms..."

BIG MILITARY BILL PASSED BY HOUSE

\$101,000,000 ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL PASSED HAS FEW CHANGES.

AVIATION WAS DEFEATED

Artillery Appropriation Is Greatly Increased—Some Funds For All Branches.

Washington.—After two days of debate on the general staff of the national defense the house passed without a roll call the army appropriation bill, carrying \$101,000,000.

CONGRESSMAN HAY PLEASUED WITH ARMY

GENERAL DEBATE ON \$101,000,000 ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL IS COMPLETED.

GARDNER WANTS INCREASE

Insists That the Country Is Helplessly Unable to Put Up Fight of Any Consequence.

Washington.—After an all-day discussion of national defense the house completed general debate on the \$101,000,000 army appropriation bill...

FIGHTING IN WEST GROWING FIERCER

HEAVY ENGAGEMENTS IN THE ARGONNE, AROUND VERDUN AND ALSACE.

WATCH EVERY GERMAN MOVE

Russian and German Troops in Poland Placed so Either May Flank Other if Vienna Is Crossed.

London.—Although official descriptions of fighting in the west are brief, there is evidence that it is growing fiercer at many points. The Germans are showing renewed activity in the neighborhood of Ypres and heavy bombardments of the Allies left wing are almost incessant.



Norton Put His Arms Around Her.

hours. When he took the stopper out and poured forth a cup it looked oddly black, discolored. It is quite probable that had there been no series of "accidents" he would have drunk a cup—and died in mortal agony.

To be sure, Jones had no real authority to say what Florence should or should not do with her heart. Still, from all points of view, it was better to keep the affair under the rose till there came a more propitious hour in which to make the disclosure.

Love, in the midst of all these alarms! Sharp, desperate rogues on one side, millions on the other, and yet love could enter the scene serenely, like an actor who had missed his cue and came on too soon.

"You might try it," he said. "They have accepted your friendship; whether with ulterior purpose remains to be learned. She has been to your apartments two or three times to tea and always got home safely."

"I suppose I could. But if I failed?" "You're too damnably clever to fall in your own particular work. Something has got to be done to keep those two apart. I've often thought of raiding the house boldly and carrying off the whole family, Susan and all. But a wholesale affair like that would be too risky. Think it over, Olga; we have gone too far to back down now. There's always Russia; and while I'm the boss over here they never cease to watch me. They'll make me answer for a failure like this."

"I'm not considered quite the proper thing, Miss Florence, to call a young man by his first name unless you are engaged to marry him, or grew up with him from childhood."

"That I refuse to do," quietly. "I am at least mistress of my heart; and no one shall dictate to me whom I shall or shall not marry. I love Mr. Norton and he loves me, knowing that I may not be an heiress after all. And some day I shall marry him."

ROCKINGHAM county has 13,329 school children between the ages of 6 and 20 and 56.9 per cent of them attend school.

State Senator John S. Eldred of Stanley County, has made glad the congregation of the Raleigh Lutheran Church since his arrival there on the Legislature, by giving to the church \$100 with which to buy a reading desk.

FOREIGN TRADE IMPROVEMENT.

Sales of Foodstuffs, Clothing, etc., Have Been Unusually Large.

Washington.—Marked improvement in the foreign trade of the United States is reflected in latest reports to the department of commerce, and official summary of which, says in part:

Sumner Practices Ostrich. Annapolis, Md.—The summer practice of the midshipmen will be through the Panama canal, and up the Pacific coast to San Francisco, according to announcement.

WILL KEEP UP FIGHT.

Ship Purchase Bill May Prolog Session of Congress, Says Leaders.

Washington.—Republican Senators determined at conference to fight the government ship purchase bill with all resources at their command, continuing the opposition until March 4 if necessary or even in an extra session, should one be called.

Senator Townsend then moved to take up the volunteer officers retirement bill, and the war claims bill. Both motions were defeated.

OBREGON FOLLOWS CARRANZA.

Tells Gutierrez He Will Stick to His Former Leader.

Washington.—General Alvaro Obregon has spurned overtures from General Eulalio Gutierrez to join an independent movement against both Carranza and the Villa-Zapata coalition, and will remain loyal to Carranza, according to an announcement by the Carranza agency here.

Washington.—Senate Democrats in caucus reached final agreement on the ship-purchase bill and adopted a resolution making it a party measure. Three Democrats voted against it, but later it was passed unanimously.

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