

The Day That I Forget

The rose leaves of December, the frosts of June shall frae;
The day that you remember, the day that I forget—Swinburne

By MARIE BLIZARD

READ THIS FIRST:

In Hollywood following an ingenious maneuver on the part of his young wife, Janet, Joel Paynter, second-rate Broadway actor, begins work under a short term contract. Meanwhile Janet makes a point of cultivating the right people, joins a tennis club and meets Vernon Chester, an important director. Chester asks her to play tennis and have lunch with him. Chester likes Janet and learns inadvertently that she and Joel have been reading a best-seller about to be screened by Chester.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY:

CHAPTER 15

JOEL WAS beginning to get anxious. His contract was up and the studio officials hadn't said anything about picking up the option. Meanwhile he was still working on the picture "Husband Hunter" with Tania Jarrett.

Janet was anxious, too, but she would not let Joel know that. She had been anxious ever since the day that Vernon Chester had been to their home nearly three weeks before. She hadn't told Joel about it. She hadn't even told him that she had lunched with the director at the tennis club.

There was no more tennis with Chester. He was working now, assembling his cast and working on the script for the ambitious picture and Janet had no way of knowing what had been in his mind after he had left the house that day.

She could only hope that he would not hold it against Joel that she had been overly ambitious for him. She vowed that she would never do that again.

Yet with the vow fresh in her mind, she called Laura Crowell and asked her to lunch with her. Laura was the private secretary of Max Browne, a powerful agent. Laura always knew what was going on and Janet had her little way of drawing it out.

"Do you think Joel should have an agent?" Janet asked Laura.

Laura thought it over before she answered, "Yes and no, Jan. If he were big enough to have a worth while agent, his agent could do a lot for him, but Joel hasn't distinguished himself"—Janet felt her ears burn but she held her tongue.

It wouldn't have done any good to point out to Laura that in six months a young actor wasn't likely to get much of a chance—"but when he does, I probably could get Max interested in him. Of course, today, Max can't afford to handle anything but the big stars. He has so many of them!"

Right then and there Janet decided that some day Max Browne would want Joel.

She didn't know how soon it was to come.

The very day after that lunched, Joel telephoned her from the studio. "Come down at once, darling," he said. "Something pretty important has come up and I want you to be here."

The excitement in Joel's voice was a happy excitement. Janet dressed very carefully in the little black thin wool suit that

Joel's tailor had made for her, made certain that her blouse was crisp and fresh, her shoes and gloves immaculate and got in her little car.

"Mrs. Paynter," she said to the gateman and after a few moments swung the car up to the portals of the executive building. She was there at the moment Joel had asked her to be.

Joel was waiting for her in the corridor. His hair looked mussier than usual and his dark eyes burned feverishly. That half shy grin of his broke all over his face when he saw her.

"Blakely has sent for me, Jan," he whispered, "and ten minutes ago Chester's secretary came down to me on the set and told me that Chester wants to see me immediately after my interview with Blakely!"

Chester had sent for him. Did that mean . . .

Janet was very calm, "Joel, why did Blakely send for you? And should I be here?"

"There's only one reason. He's going to pick up my option and I want you to be there. I'm not going to let him put anything over on me."

"Wait a minute, darling," she said slowly. "What makes you so sure he is going to renew your contract?"

"Because Chester wants to see me immediately after. The directors around here, my little innocent, don't call for actors to say goodby to them."

They were walking down the corridor toward Blakely's office.

Janet halted, "Joel, what did you mean about not letting them put anything over on you?"

"Well, if they've got something big for me to do and think they can get away with offering me a measly little three hundred a week they'll . . ."

"You'll take it, Joel! Three hundred a week is a lot of money and we're living very well. I'm glad you asked me to come with you."

An hour later Janet, sitting so small, so self-effacingly in the big leather chair of goodly distance away from Mr. Blakely's desk, saw the lines of stubbornness settle around Joel's mouth.

Blakely had just told them that he was going to renew Joel's contract for two years at five hundred for the next six months and seven-fifty for the next year.

Janet watched the danger signals in Joel's face. Joel, she knew, had sensed that the producer was not offering Joel that money unless there was something afoot for him that was worth while to the studio. And Chester had sent for her. Janet put two and two together. She prayed that Joel would not spoil the thing that she saw they had to do.

Joel opened his mouth. He said, "Seven-fifty a week . . ."

Very gently and very firmly, Janet said, "Joel" . . . and turned

to Mr. Blakely who looked as though he was only then aware of her presence. "Mr. Blakely, if you please, Joel and I have talked this over. Your option is only for six months more. Now, we thought"—she spoke very softly—"that if you were to pick it up at the same price, three hundred a week for the next six months we both could see in that event what turns up. You wouldn't want Joel to tie himself to a contract if he is not likely to show himself worth it, would you?"

The astonished Mr. Blakely forgot himself and lighted his cigar. Joel appeared to be paralyzed by what she was saying.

"And I'm sure that if, at the end of that time, Joel has proved himself a good person for you, you'd want to offer him the right salary. It's because we trust you that we are willing to sign again for three hundred a week."

Blakely thought: Women! This one picked him and she knew it. She said, "Shall we each think about it over night?"

Think about it over night, reflected Blakely, and have her discover that Chester was giving the part of Jan to her husband? Not if he knew it!

"I'm afraid not, Mrs. Paynter," he said, picking up the legal form. "I think you kids are foolish; but if those are your terms we'll settle for a renewal at the same price and a three-year option at the conclusion."

He had added two years to the option period, Janet noted satisfactorily.

Joel picked up the pen as though he were in an unhappy trance.

His feeling of unhappiness was not mitigated even when he heard that Chester had cast him for the role of Jan in "The Dance Was Long."

"But don't you see?" Janet said eagerly. "Blakely was trying to do the very thing you didn't want him to put over on you! He wanted you to sign now for five hundred and next year for seven-fifty. This way, you'll come out much better because, Joel Paynter, you're going to give that role everything you've got! It's not the lead, but it is a beautiful character part and if you can't steal the show from Truman"—Truman was the star—"I'm going back east and forget I ever knew you. Then just watch that studio gobble you up and wrap you cozily in a nice contract before any other studio gets you."

"Janet, my little love," he said admiringly, "you surprise me! I never knew you had brains. I married you for your beauty."

"Oh, darling," she said rubbing her nose against his tweed over his heart, "that's the nicest thing you've ever said to me. About my beauty, I mean. And it's true that I have no brains—I was only reading your mind. It was really your idea but you had forgotten it."

(To Be Continued)

Three Cage Games Face The Bulldog Basket Ball Teams During The Week

Henderson high school basketball teams face three foes this week, two of them being engaged on the home court. The teams will take on Epsom here Tuesday and Bethel Hill here Thursday, journeying to Roxboro Friday night.

Tuesday's games with Epsom are expected to be packed with thrills from start to finish as the Bulldogs battle to avenge a double loss to Epsom some weeks ago.

The local girls fell victims to the visitors by a 22 to 16 score, while the Epsom boys polished off the locals 21 to 16, both games being packed

with the stuff that makes fans forget their dignity.

The Bethel Hill contest will mark the first meeting of the schools on the court this season, and both of these tilts are expected to be well worth watching.

In a meeting here several weeks ago, the Henderson girls trimmed Roxboro 10 to 7, while the boys dropped their encounter to the Person county lads by an 18-15 count.

Coaches Miller and Temple expect their teams to come through the games in fine style, and will polish off their attacks with drills today.

AYCOCK WILL MEET STEM TEAMS HERE

Games Scheduled for Henderson High Gym at 7:30 P. M. Wednesday

Aycock will be at home to Stem high school basketball teams here Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Henderson high school gymnasium.

This will be the second meeting of the teams this season. The Aycock boys won in the last meeting, while the girls were losing.

Coach Carruth expects his charges to come through with a victory Wednesday.

Good games are promised.

60 Counties Now Cooperating With Forest Fire Work

Daily Dispatch Bureau, Raleigh, Feb. 8.—Two more counties, Swain and Cherokee, have signed cooperative agreements for forest fire protection with the Department of Conservation and Development, bringing the total number of counties providing for this cooperation to 60, the largest number ever to cooperate with the State in this work at the same time, W. C. McCormick, assistant State forester, announced today.

The number of counties providing cooperative funds for forest fire protection increased from 30 in 1933 to double the number this year. Area receiving warden supervision for the prevention and suppression of forest fires has more than doubled during the last three years.

In 1933 a total of 5,804,343 acres was under protection, but the area had increased more than one hundred percent to more than 14,000,000 acres in 1937. This area includes 430,000 acres in private association land where protection is intensified by means of supplemental funds furnished by individual landowners.

According to Mr. McCormick, approximately two-thirds of the forest lands requiring fire protection are now receiving such service. There are some 20,300,000 acres of forest lands in the state.

In addition to the tremendous increase in scope of forest fire protective work over the last few years, Mr. McCormick pointed out that the general efficiency of the field service has been improved. Hundreds of miles of fire lines have been constructed, equipment has been expanded and improved, new lookout towers have been erected, and the wardens have been more thoroughly trained.

Although part of last year present one of the severest forest fire hazards in the history of the State the damage was held down to a comparatively small figure.

W. G. Booker, former assistant farm agent in Beaufort county, has been appointed farm products agent to work with North Carolina farm agents in helping farmers with their marketing problems.

Booker's resignation as assistant farm agent became effective February 1, at which time he went into the employ of the Tennessee Coal, Iron, and Railroad Company.

After spending about two weeks in Birmingham, where the company's main offices are located, Booker will return to this State to assume his new duties.

His work will consist mostly of helping farmers with the marketing of their crops and livestock, said John W. Goodman, assistant director of the State College extension service.

Taylorsville, Feb. 8.—There are 316 miles of rural electric lines under construction in Alexander county, with 146 farm families already connected for service to those lines now completed, reports County Agent J. F. Brown. More than 300 farm homes will have access to electric light and power when all the lines are completed, he says. Schools on the proper wiring of the homes and the use of electrical appliances are being held in all communities by D. E. Jones of State College and 135 farmers attended such meetings held last week at Payne's store, Mt. Olive, and Hiddenite, Brown says.

ALEXANDER COUNTY GIVEN ELECTRICITY

You're Telling Me!

By WILLIAM RITT
Central Press Writer

Business appears to be booming—even for poets. A weather prophet now predicts an early spring.

Scientists now say that we are in for two more years of stormy weather, cold winters and hot summers. By the way—how is that rocket ship, somebody was inventing coming along anyway?

The house of representatives in Washington was in darkness when electric service failed. Now congressmen know exactly how the general public feels.

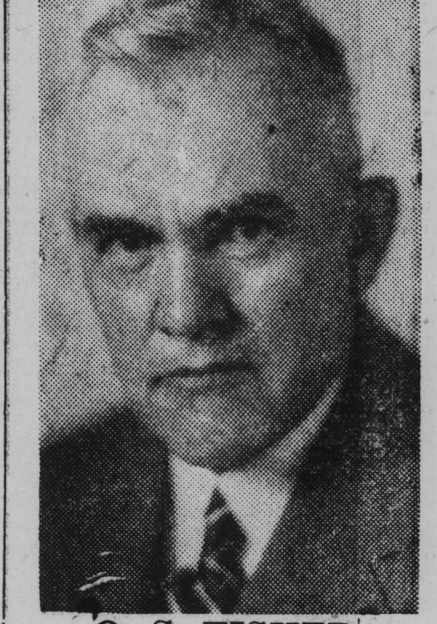
One angle you must admit about those Russian treason trials in which prisoners always admit their guilt is that they certainly make life easier for the juries.

That looks like an olive branch that Herr Hitler is again holding out to the world. But France and Russia, which countries get the closest look, think Adolf must have cut it off a cactus.

A campaign is launched to cut the number of football players on a team from 11 to six. Another improvement would be to cut spectators from a quart to a half pint.

Never judge anything by its size. February is the smallest of the months, yet George Washington and Abraham Lincoln managed to get born in it.

To Discuss Crops



O. S. FISHER.

Goldsboro, Feb. 8.—The work of crop improvement associations in the United States and Canada will be outlined here Tuesday morning by O. S. Fisher, extension agronomist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington.

Fisher will speak around 10:45 or 11 o'clock at the third annual conference and seed exposition of the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association. Members of the association and farmers from over the State will be present, said W. H. Darst, director of crop improvement work at State College.

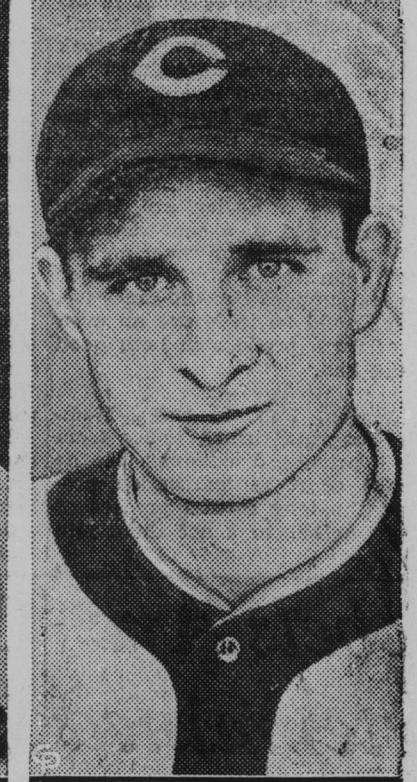
FIGURES IN BIG TRADE BETWEEN BROWNS, INDIANS



Oral Hildebrand



Joe Vosmik



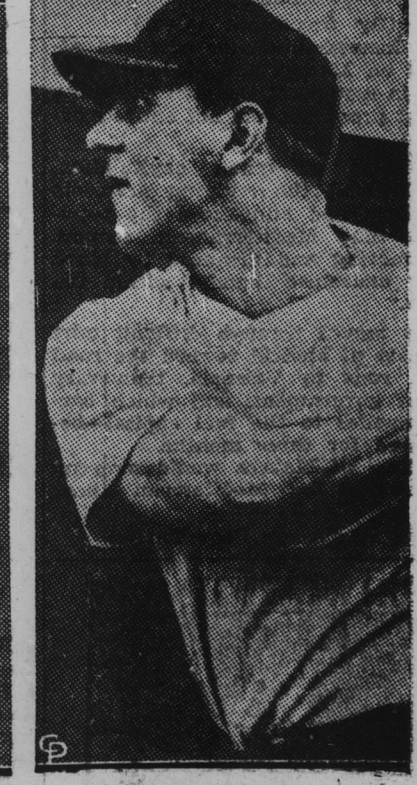
Bill Knickerbocker



Lynn Lary



Ivy Paul Andrews



Julius Solters

In one of the biggest major league trades in years, the Cleveland Indians and the St. Louis Browns exchanged three players, a pitcher, outfielder and infielder. The Browns sent Lynn Lary, pitcher, Ivy Paul Andrews, pitcher, and Julius Solters, infielder, to the Tribe for Bill Knickerbocker, infielder, Oral Hildebrand, pitcher, and Joe Vosmik, outfielder. It is believed Vosmik will later go to Chicago as the first Sox have been in the market for him.



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