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CHAPTER THIRTY-FOUR

THE OVERWHELMING realization of how terribly much Susan meant to him made Bill Potter more eager than ever to settle the business deal with Alicia Carter, so that he could get out of her life and put her out of his. He was thinking about this the next day in his office when Ken Randolph came in.

Bill eyed him and frowned.

"I think it's about time," he said. "When it comes to making a decision, you run neck and neck with the Carter woman."

"Maybe so," said Ken. "But she's so uncertain of herself she makes me uneasy." He paused and grimaced a bit shamefacedly. "Besides, Bill, most of the money in my family is controlled by my wife, and the Carter woman."

"But you told me you had several thousand you wanted to invest," Bill cut in.

"I know, but Mrs. Randolph pretty dubious about my investing it in Alicia Carter's property."

"Why did you tell her anything about it?"

"I always discuss matters like that with her."

"I see. Well, what's the verdict?" "It's no."

"I was afraid of that," said Bill warily. "I'm also afraid Alicia's verdict will be the same. Would you be willing to help me buy up some other property?"

"Perhaps," said Ken. "Any amount?"

"Yes. The old Johnson farm."

"That dump?" Ken exclaimed. "It's been deserted for years and run-down all all get-out."

"Well, I don't think it's deserted any longer!"

"What do you mean?"

Bill told about seeing the men unloading a motor boat. "But don't say anything about it around Susan if you see her," he added. "She doesn't know I passed the name last night. She thought I was working at the office."

"Ah, I see! Snarking off to see Alicia!"

"She telephoned me," said Bill. "So I made a quick trip." "It must have been a quick trip—it was after one o'clock when you passed the Johnson farm."

"Never mind that part of it," said Bill. "The thing to discuss is the farm itself. We could build a good road leading from the highway, and build some nice houses out that way. The only thing is getting in touch with the Johnsons. They're scattered all over the face of the earth."

"Maybe it's some of them you saw last night," said Ken.

"By Jove, that's right!" said Bill.

"Come on, let's drive out and have a look. Got time to spare?"

"Yes," said Ken. "Besides, I'd like nothing better than to see some cottages going up along the plans I've got in mind."

The two men hurried out together, and presently they were speeding off in Bill's roadster.

Meanwhile Adam North was also thinking about the Johnson farm. As a matter of fact, he thought about it frequently. In spite of himself he kept investigating the farm, the pantry woman's nephew, and the motor boat. He kept thinking that in some manner they were all connected. Maybe it was only of him, but that's the way it was. Anyway, he was far from calm and happy. If anyone had asked him to explain exactly how he felt, he would have said, "I feel as though I were in the exact center of a cyclone, turned of clouds and wind whirling around and over and over." That would explain the matter perfectly. He was certainly in something of a mental muddle, what with making love to Susan Potter on the stage, wondering if he was actually falling in love with Brenda Leigh in reality, and being constantly niggled and worried about the troublesome things that were happening at the factory almost daily.

He sat at his desk and tried to concentrate on the business at hand, but it was difficult, for he kept remembering a blaze in the engine house which had increased in vehemence when a fire-extin-

(To Be Continued)

REQUIREMENTS OF DAILY BASIC DIET

By LOGAN CLENDENING, M.D.

THE WAR has taught us a good deal about foods. Note, I do not say it has taught us a great deal about the science of dietetics.

Dr. Clendening will answer questions of general interest only, and then only through his column.

but about foods. For the average North American I suppose the most poignant lesson is the number of foods he finds he can do without. And indeed the possibilities of substitution constitute one of the most important things we have learned.

Others are the possibilities of dehydration and concentrated rations. In connection with the latter several curious problems have been worked out. A chocolate bar has been designed to serve as an emergency measure. The size of the bar was determined by the size of the regulation shirt pocket.

In the experimental stage it was found necessary to design a bar that would not melt in the tropics—would remain solid at 120° F. During the trials of various bars submitted, members of the testing committee objected to certain bars because they did not taste very palatable. They were surprised to learn that a delectable bar was not desired since this was designed as an emergency ration—if the bar was too good, the soldier would eat it before he was actually in extremis.

Rules Not Rigid

I believe the most important result of war rationing has been to teach that the rules of dietetics are not necessarily as rigid as the new style nutritionists have laid down. "Rules were made for slaves," is a good rule for you to observe at the dinner table, and "What's one man's meat is another man's poison" is one of the soundest of dietary advices.

For instance, Professor George R. Cowgill, of Yale, very properly lays down the well-known figures that a basic diet must furnish (a) energy, (b) protein, (c) minerals and (d) vitamins, and that the energy is derived from protein, carbohydrate and fat, each yielding respectively 4, 4, and 9 calories per gram, and that the average man of 70 kilograms (154 pounds) weight requires on the average 3,000 calories a day.

Then he goes on to say very sensibly that just how he distributes this energy intake among crew doing any given work.

D.D.S.: Is taking iron as beneficial as liver for a low red blood cell count? Are both necessary?

Can liver extract be taken with the same result as shots? Can a person take too many liver shots?

What is meant by hypochromic anemia?

Answer: Iron is valuable in one form of anemia, liver in another. Hypochromic anemia is the term in which the hemoglobin, the iron-containing coloring matter of the blood, is proportionately to the number of cells lower than it should be. In pernicious anemia the hemoglobin is proportionately higher than normal. Iron is indicated in hypochromic anemia; liver in pernicious anemia. In some cases both are indicated. Liver is absorbed just about as well by mouth as hypochromically. I have never heard of liver extract doing any harm.

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