



CHAPTER VII.—You meet Mrs. Dace at a house near the beach. She happens to mention to her that his friend, Bruce had a tip on the market and she gives him \$50 to place on the race. "The tip goes wrong and she loses her money, much to the mortification of Tom."

she inquired for me. In tones that sounded far away to my own ears I told her it was I who spoke. "I did not recognize your 'hello,' she went on briskly. "Your voice does not sound at all natural this morning. I am afraid you dissipated last night. Anyway, it is such a lovely morning that I have been thinking perhaps you might wish to call and take me to church and afterwards for a little stroll along the boulevard. I have thought of lots of things over night that I wish to tell you. And when we come back, if you care to give me still more of your time, we will take luncheon here in my apartment. Will you come?"

My head swam and I leaned against the wall for support. The day previous an invitation such as this would have brought me from a sick bed to her on crutches, but now I shuddered as though a toad had been dropped down my spine. That she whom I had adored, defended against the world, and given my heart, could be so vilely treacherous! And now with the sweetness of an angel she would lure me to her that she might resume her play of cat and mouse! Yes, Clara had been right. In stealth and cruelty she was all leopards. And she would even have the scene of the next act in the sanctuary of the blessed disciple of love and truth!

Softly, full of music as a bell, I heard her voice calling to me and asking why I did not reply to her, and driven to immediate action my mind suddenly changed. I would go and see her. I would look upon her once more and then coldly tell her that our relations must at once cease. I would go no further, would give her no satisfaction at all, but making my forgotten keys the excuse for responding to her call, would claim them and bid farewell to her forever. In that way I would end the whole miserable business. Commanding my voice by an effort I answered that I would come at once, and being up the receiver without waiting for her to address me further. I went to the mirror and looked into it. My lips were tense and colorless, my eyes blood-shot, and I seemed to have grown pounds thinner and years older overnight. Once more I bathed my face in cold water and set out for the Arcadia.

She opened the door at the first sound of the bell, and royally beautiful in her cool morning gown, stood smiling before me. At first she seemed about to approach me even closer, but as her eyes sought my face she drew back and her smile vanished as the sunbeams behind a driving cloud. "Hi!" she inquired, quick solicitude in her tones. I shook my head as I stepped within.

She closed the door behind me. "Oh, you men, you dissipate so," she said with an attempt at bantering. "But I am really surprised at you, Tom. I had thought your morals almost too immaculate. However, a walk in the outer air will do you good. We will omit the church if you don't care to go inside. I only used that as a subterfuge to get you to come, you know. Can you forgive such deceit in me?" I looked at her helplessly, marveling at her duplicity. The shadow of a frown came to her brow.

"Why don't you say something? You only stand there and stare at me so unpleasantly," she went on with a trace of impatience. Thoroughly sick at heart I addressed her as I changed my mind again into the determination to confront her with her heartlessness.

KNOWINGLY AND WILFULLY SWINDLERS

In Commerce Commission Charge Against Express Companies. Will Prosecute Them.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Charging that they have knowingly and wilfully swindled many thousands of shippers by the collection of double rates the Interstate Commerce Commission today instructed Federal district attorneys throughout the country to institute sweeping criminal prosecutions against practically every express company in the United States. Documentary evidence substantiating the charges have been put in the hands of these officials. It is alleged by the commission that at the present time nine express companies against which prosecutions will be brought have in treasuries no less than \$81,967,893, a large proportion of which they obtained through swindles intentionally perpetrated upon the public. It is the request of the commission that special grand juries be called to hear this evidence and that indictments be returned without delay against the guilty officials of the various companies. Separate prosecutions will be brought against the Adams, American, National, Globe, Great Northern, Southern, United States and Wells Fargo companies. The proceedings will be instituted at New York, Chicago, San Francisco and other cities where the violations have occurred. It is not the intention of the Interstate Commerce Commission to make a raid on the express companies, and bankrupt them, which it could do with the evidence in hand. Some of the most flagrant violations have been selected and the courts will be asked to impose fines heavy enough to teach them a salutary lesson. A number of counts will be brought against each company. The penalty provided under the Elkins law for charging a greater or less rate than that published is a fine of not less than \$1,000, nor greater than \$30,000 for each offense. The law also provides for the imprisonment of offending officials for a term not exceeding two years, or both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court. No fewer than ten thousand letters protesting against overcharges and double charges by the express companies are in the possession of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Two thousand formal complaints have been made. Of the gigantic sum in the treasuries of the companies, a large proportion of which according to the commission, was illegally wrested from the public, the American Express companies holds \$33,635,803; the Adams, \$24,133,486; the United States \$10,737,518; Wells Fargo, \$7,936,377; the Southern, \$3,902,853; the Northern, \$999,561; the Globe, \$386,856; the Western, \$31,787, and the National, \$5,350.

So conclusive does the commission believe its evidence to be that it has not even waited until the completion of its investigation before beginning criminal actions.

WILLIAMS' KIDNEY PILLS

Have you neglected your kidneys? Have you overworked your nervous system and caused trouble with your kidneys and bladder? Have you pains in loins, side, back, groins and bladder? Have you a flabby appearance of the face, especially under the eyes? Too frequent a desire to pass urine? If so, Williams' Kidney Pills will cure you at Druggist, Price 50c. Williams' M'fg. Co., Prop., Cleveland, O.

Notice to Mariners.

The following is taken from the current issue of Notice to Mariners, published weekly by the Lighthouse Board and Coast and Geodetic Survey:

North Carolina—Pamlico Sound, Cape Channel to Cape Hatteras lighthouse, Muddy Side Light—Change in characteristics to be made about March 9th, 1912. The color of this light will be changed from white to red, without other change.

Hatteras Inlet—Bar buoy, PS, reported adrift February 6th.

Pamlico Sound—Pungo river light, structure reported carried away and light temporarily discontinued January 29th.

Adams Creek—Adams Creek entrance buoy I, reported adrift February 6th.

Albermarle Sound—Reed lights reported extinguished February 1st.

Touch up the old furniture with China Lac and keep it new. Basnight Hdw Co.

Crisal to Eat Live Oysters.

Mobile, Ala., Feb. 23.—Because an oyster cannot let out a wall, cannot even wiggle when impaled on a fork and garnished with lemon juice, salt and pepper, John Craft, President of the state oyster commission, has announced that he will appeal to the humane society to prevent the eating of live oysters.

Mr. Craft himself is fond of oysters, but says he never eats them alive.

PROGRAM HAS BEEN ARRANGED

For the Convention of North Carolina Association of Elks to be Held Here Next Month.

The North Carolina Association of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will hold its convention at New Bern, North Carolina, March 13th, 14th and 15th. Every arrangement has been made to give the boys a big time and every Elk in the State is extended a cordial invitation to be the guest of New Bern Lodge No. 764 on this occasion.

The occasion will be the 10th anniversary of the New Bern Lodge and the event will be celebrated in a manner that will live long in the memory of those who attend. No stone shall be left unturned to make this the greatest event in the history of North Carolina Elksdom. The active co-operation of each individual member is needed in order to insure the success of this reunion. Every Elk in the State of North Carolina who can possibly do so, is asked to grace the occasion with his presence.

The program will be as follows: Wednesday evening, March 13th at 8 p. m., opening session by the association. Address of welcome by Mayor C. J. McCarthy, and Exalted Ruler William Dunn, Jr., of the New Bern Lodge. Responses by District Deputy Witherspoon, President Branham of the State Association, and Exalted Rulers of visiting Lodges. Ex-Lieut. Gov Francis D. Winston has been invited to be the orator of the evening. Luncheon will follow.

Thursday morning, March 14th at 10 a. m., business meeting of the State Association. Thursday evening, March 14th at 8 p. m., parade in which all Elk Lodges are invited to participate. A silver loving cup will be awarded to the lodge having the largest number in line and making the best showing. This cup is to be known as the New Bern 10th Anniversary Cup and is to be held by the Lodge winning it for the period of one year, and is to become the property of the lodge winning it three consecutive times.

Thursday evening, March 14th at 8 p. m. there will be a meeting of the New Bern Lodge at which there will be a class initiation of about twenty candidates. Senator F. M. Simmons will be the orator of the evening. Luncheon will follow.

Friday morning, March 15th at 8 a. m., the association will leave New Bern on the U. S. S. Elberta, U. S. T. B. Foote, and the house boat Comfort for a trip down the Neuse river through the new canal recently constructed by the Government. There will be an oyster roast on the banks of the canal.

The Grand Exalted Ruler and other Grand Lodge officers have been invited and there is every reason to believe that a number of them will be in attendance.

Bold Robbery Yesterday.

Yesterday morning Alberta Winfield, colored, entered Mrs. B. A. Irving's millinery establishment on Pollock St., and stated to the lady in charge that she wished to purchase a hat. During the time that the woman was looking over the display of headwear the clerk had occasion to step to the rear of the store, leaving behind her a hand bag containing considerable cash. Upon her return the prospective customer stated that she did not like any of the styles shown her but would return in a few days and again look over the stock. After her departure the young lady discovered that her hand bag was not in the place she had left it and upon examining the contents found that two \$5.00 notes were missing. The facts in the case were given to the police with the results that the thief was located and made to return the money to its rightful owner.

Pure, Beautiful Water.

The Pepsi Cola Company have installed a condensing plant of modern construction. It is made by the Sanitary Water Still Company of Jamaica, N. Y. and the distilled water is superior to any ever obtained in this city as will be explained.

The distilled water is aerated by water passed through a gauze screen into the live steam while condensing, so that no germs of any kind are possible in the water, and the water has an agreeable taste unknown to other methods. The capacity is 100 gallons daily and people can get water for five cents a gallon at the factory.

Professional politics seems to be the great American game.

If it's quality and satisfaction in a kitchen that you need, then Bucks Stoves and Ranges and nothing less are the cookers. Basnight Hdw Co.

COTTON MARKET PAST WEEK

Weather Conditions a Factor. Foreign Buying Continues.

New York, Feb. 24.—Cotton has advanced owing partly to bad weather at the South and a belief that crop preparations are some two to three weeks late over a large section of the cotton belt. The destruction of about 100,000 bales at Houston and Bombay had some effect for a time. The persistent trade demand from European and domestic mills, however, has counter-balanced to a very large extent even the danger of a colossal coal strike in Great Britain, involving some 800,000 men. For the time being about the only effect is to cut down the spot sales in Liverpool some 7,000 or 8,000 bales a day and to cause some restriction of trading in futures on this side. The dry goods market is gradually improving. Prices are firm for all classes of goods and in some cases have advanced. Exports of raw cotton reach a very high total.

It is a remarkable fact that this year European mills have in some cases bought cotton as far ahead as 1920 in the fear that something may happen to the next crop that would send prices back to the dreaded 15 cents level. In recent years big crops and small crops have alternated with a regularity that excites comment.

The fact that there have been swings in the crop in recent years of 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 makes the weather news and news about crops preparations at this time of special interest. Some Georgia reports are to the effect that the season is remarkably backward and similar reports come from other parts of the belt. It goes without saying that if the start is actually much delayed and really had it will, as usual, be exaggerated for speculative effect. On the other hand, the visible supply of American cotton is the largest ever known and with prices at their present level it is not believed that any serious or wide-spread attempt will be made to cut down the acreage materially. The recent decline, too, of \$3 a bale, within a couple of days, has rather chilled the ardor for bullish speculation. If the great coal strike in England cannot be averted, that, too, will act as a serious damper but cotton has some strong friends who believe it will ultimately go to 12 cents. Big spot houses have been buying. So have Waldorf Astoria speculators, sick of the short side.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

DIED.

Yesterday afternoon at her home on Short Cedar street, Mrs. Bettie Johnson, wife of Mr. J. C. Johnson. The deceased has been in failing health for some time and her death was not unexpected. She was survived by her husband and one son. The hour of the funeral will be announced later.

WAVE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Strikes New Bern. Yesterday's Session of Police Court A Record Breaker. Offenders Warned.

Hi! Also hark! A wave of rigid enforcement of the city ordinances in particular and the law in general has struck New Bern and if you are not familiar with the requirements of both, you should read up on them at once and be sure that you are not arrested and haled before the Mayor as a violator of the law.

Shortly before 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon a long line of violators of the city ordinance could be seen wending their way toward the City Hall. When the court was called to order the room was filled with these same violators. Among the crimes charged against the offenders were: leaving obstructions on the sidewalks and streets, riding bicycles without bells and lights, vagrancy, and a few others. Owing to the fact that these laws have not been rigidly enforced in the past, the Mayor dismissed each of the cases with a warning to the offenders.

All the hack drivers were summoned to be on hand as they were warned not to leave their horses standing alone, not to use their vehicles as drays and particularly against soliciting for immoral purposes.

Now that the public has been warned against these offenses, the next offense will mean a fine and cost. So, speaking figuratively, its up to the people to be good and see that they do not violate any of the city ordinances.

POLICE CAPTURE BOX OF WHISKEY

At Home of Mack Hudson, Near Cedar Grove Cemetery. Owner Leaves For Parts Unknown.

Police officers Doughty, Bryan and McDaniel yesterday confiscated a box containing a large number of half pint bottles of whiskey they found at the home of Mack Hudson, colored, near Cedar Grove cemetery. The officers had had suspicions for some time that Hudson was selling whiskey and they finally determined to search his home. This they did with the above result.

Search was made for Hudson but he had evidently got wind of the raid on his stock of goods and had left for parts unknown. The whiskey was carried to the city hall and placed in the official depository along with several hundred half-pints and pints which have been confiscated in the past. The police are on the lookout for the owner of a whiskey and if he returns to the city it is more than probable he will fall into their grip.

NOTICE.

To the Democratic voters of Jones county—I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Treasurer, subject to the votes of the Democratic primary of the county.

GEO. W. WHITE,
Pollocksville, N. C.

\$100 In Gold.

Believing that the soils of eastern North Carolina are the best corn producing lands in America and desiring to prove the truth, the land and industrial department of the Norfolk Southern railroad announces that it will pay \$100 in gold for the largest yield of corn that can be grown on one acre. This amount will be divided into three prizes, \$50 for the largest yield; \$30 for the next largest, and \$20 for the next. The contest is open to everybody, the only condition being that the crop must be grown in Norfolk Southern railway territory.

Universal Food Choppers, in four sizes. Basnight Hdw Co.

BRIDGETON ITEMS.

Bridgeton, Feb. 26th.—We have been having some very rough weather for the past few days, but are glad to see some more pretty weather.

Mr. John Curtis has moved his family from Oriental to our town.

Mr. Baker Potter, of Vandemere, was in our town this week.

Mr. D. H. Fleming's little daughter Esther, has been very low for the last week with pneumonia, but we are glad to say she is much better.

There has been a revival service going on for the last ten days at the Methodist church, there has been very much interest manifested. Elder J. E. Underwood, of Goldboro, and Bro. Humble, of Stonewall, was here assisting brother Wright in the meeting. Bro. Underwood preached some very deep sermons which was enjoyed by all very much. We were sorry to see Bro. Underwood leave last Friday, but brother Humble after going home last week, came back Monday and assisted in the meeting. Bro. Humble leaves for his home today, but brother Wright will keep the meeting going on until Sunday. We have had a great meeting, there has been nine added to the church, and there are others to join Sunday, if the church has been greatly revived and the whole community has been made better by the meeting.

Mr. J. C. Ballard was summoned home on account of the serious illness of his father, Mr. J. J. Ballard from Memphis, Tenn., he once was a New Bern boy, but has been away for the past 10 years, he arrived home last night, and his many friends were glad to see him.

Mr. A. M. Tingle, who has been doing a grocery business here in our town for several years, has gone out of the grocery business and has put in a stock of hardware. We wish him much success in his new business.

Mr. J. C. Brooks, who has been up to Raleigh this winter attending King's Business College, came home Wednesday night to spend a week. We were glad to see him.

Mrs. John Hancock and children, of Brown Sound, is in our town visiting relatives.

Mrs. Mamie Cantel, of New Bern, was in our town yesterday visiting relatives.

Mrs. Mary Ojms, of New Bern, was in our town yesterday visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Dinkins Hancock, of Brown Sound, is in town visiting relatives.

House Democrats complained on the Money Trust investigation.

REPORTER.

CAN THIS REPORT BE TRUE?

As To Such Living Conditions Among Southern Cotton Mill Families.

Washington, Feb. 24.—As sordid and tragic a tale of the poverty of labor as ever told in a government publication was unfolded in the report on the standard of living among Southern cotton mill workers made public by the Bureau of Labor. Government investigators selected 21 typical Southern cotton mill families and studied their incomes and expenditures in detail for the year 1908. In almost every case these conditions were found: The father and two or three of the older children at work in the mill, yet the total annual income of the family breadwinners is often less than \$1,000 a year. The account of the company store runs steadily above the family income. At the end of the year a debt, which is met by an appeal to a loan shark. To meet the added demand of interest and principal of the debt another child is sent to work, and soon until the trapped family has sent all its children into the maw of the mill. Then the report records shocking statistics of disease and death decimating the stunted, weakened population.

"In other industries," says the report, "father may feel that he can never hope for anything more for himself, but he can at least plan and struggle for a better life for his children. Here the mill demands the children as well as the fathers.

The so called normal family—father with wife and children, dependent upon him for support—is not found among the 21 typical families studied. Large families are the rule, the average of those studied being 8.5 members, including boarders. The average number of wage-earners was 3.8.

"Corn bread, biscuit, pork and coffee form a large part of the diet of all families. Pork means fat pork, salted, contains very little lean. Nowhere was any expenditure noted for alcoholic liquors.

"Over 91 per cent. of all operatives live in company-owned houses. It is a common occurrence to find the mother and the small children, evidently insufficiently warmed, huddled about a small fire in one of the rooms.

Measles, malarial fever, typhoid, pneumonia, skin diseases and tuberculosis are prevalent. That the people are not healthy is shown by the fact that every family studied was obliged either to employ a doctor or buy medicines. The people prescribe for their own ills and are burdened with patent medicines and cure-alls.

From their pitiful incomes the mill workers pay surprisingly large sums to burial associations, being willing to undergo the greatest sacrifices in food and clothing to save themselves the disgrace of burial in the potter's field. Almost every family could spare from its pinching necessities its mites for church or charity. One wretched poor family gave nearly ten per cent. of its income. The report shows that the prisoners in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta are better fed than the majority of cotton mill families.

Call us up and let us serve you value received. Basnight Hdw Co.

The March American Magazine

The March American Magazine contains the first authentic report published in this country of certain highly important discoveries in a London laboratory as to the relative strength, both mental and physical, of the younger children of a family as compared with the older children. After examining thousands of cases the evidence seems to be that the first two children in a family are not in the majority of cases as strong mentally and physically as those that come later. The point for American readers of course is that economic pressure, which increases the cost of living, reduces the size of families and weakens the mental and physical strength of a nation.

There are many other important articles in the March American. For example, Stewart Edward White's story of a lion hunt; Julian Levitt's investigation of American prisons, in which he reveals the practice of unheard-of brutalities; Ida M. Tarbell's paper on "The Business of Being a Woman"; La Follette's Autobiography, and Hugh S. Fullerton's amusing, and yet informing, article on "Eating."

Splendid fiction is furnished by Edna Ferber, James Oppenheim, C. S. Raymond, Edith Ronald, Merrilee and H. G. Wells.

Sedentary habits, lack of outdoor exercise, insufficient mastication of food, constipation, a torpid liver, worry and anxiety are the most common causes of stomach troubles. Correct your habits and take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will soon be well again. For sale by all dealers.

House Democrats complained on the Money Trust investigation.

INVENTORY OF STATE FOREST

Talk of Municipal Ownership Water and Gas. Plea for Pardon.

Raleigh, N. C. Feb. 23.—State Geologist Joseph Hyde Pratt reports to the State Board of Geological survey that the work of inventorying the North Carolina forests from the Tennessee line eastward has progressed as far as Rowan and Guilford counties and that the entire Piedmont section will be completed during the coming summer. The board determined to push the promotion of the western section of the Central highway and the Blue Ridge highway as calculated to be especially beneficial to the state. The state geologist was directed to prepare and issue as early as possible a complete public road map of the state, showing the improved highways, those in process of improvement under systematic approved methods and those improvements projected. The board determined to give the greatest possible encouragement to the furtherance of the movement for draining swamp and soggy lands in all parts of the state. There are now fifty-six draining districts under way either fully organized and with the drainage work in operation or fully assured of immediate operation.

There is much talk of the necessity of the city taking over the water plant and operating it as a municipal property. The same is true of the gas plant unless there is some effective way of cutting the charges from present high scales. Now gas for cooking, heating and lighting all cost \$2 per 1,000 feet with a 25 per cent. reduction for payment of bills before the 10th of the month. It is estimated that the volume of gas used here fully warrants a price of \$1 per 1,000 feet instead of the present net cost of \$1.50.

Coroner Seapark committed F. W. Goss, of Durham, to Wake jail in default of \$1,000 bond as an important witness in the investigation of the death of the three young men from Henson in the Wilson apartments here three weeks ago. Officers found that Goss was fixing to leave for Buffalo, N. Y., to study automobiles and demanded bond for appearance at later hearings which he was unable to give. The jury will resume its sessions next Monday to complete the inquest. There are no new developments as to foul play.

There is an amendment for the charter of the Hilderbrand-Crater Company. Greenboro that changes the name to the Greenboro News Company. This is the company that publishes the Greenboro Daily News and in which W. A. Hilderbrand and E. B. Jeffries are the principal stockholders. The charter shows that they own 149 shares each, and that there is only one other share outstanding, that being held by Mr. McKnight, of Greenboro.

W. W. Barber, of North Wilkesboro made a plea with Governor Kitchin for a pardon or commutation of sentence for D. O. Absher, a young white man of Wilkes county, who is serving a seven-years' sentence for manslaughter in that he killed a man named Brown in 1904. After the killing and before he was sentenced Absher was married to a worthy young woman, and there are two children. The plea is that there has already been sufficient punishment, he having served since 1910. The trial judge and others recommend that the Governor extend executive clemency.

Should Enforce This One Too.

Now that the city ordinances are being enforced so rigidly it would be an excellent idea for the following contained in section 93, chapter 4 of the city ordinance to be put into effect. The railroad officials and the public in general have been caused much inconvenience by the laxity of the enforcement of this law:

"The assembling of persons on any sidewalk in the city, or on the platforms and passways about the railroad depots and boat landings, so as to obstruct the free passage of persons and freight along the same, is forbidden, and every person violating this section shall be fined two dollars for each and every offense."

Senator Reed declared he would start a movement in the senate to investigate the election of Senator du Pont.

Styleplus

Is the name of the Best Young Men's Clothes made in America. Who is going to sell them in New Bern? Only the Best store in town can buy them.