

SYNOPSIS.

Howard Jeffries, banker's son, under the evil influence of Robert Underwood, a fellow-student at Yaie, leads a life of dissipation, marries the daughter of a gambler who died in prison, and is dis-owned by his father. He tries to get work and fails. A former college chum makes a business proposition to Howard which requires \$2,000 cash, and Howard which requires \$2,000 cash, and Howard is broke. Robert Underwood, who had been repulsed by Howard's wife, Annie, in his college days, and had once been engaged to Alfcia, Howard's stepmother, has apartments at the Astruris and is marently in prosperous circumstances. Howard recalls a \$50 loan to Underwood that remains unpaid, and decides to ask bim for the \$2,000 he needs.

CHAPTER III.

The handsome townhouse of How ard Jeffries, the well-known banker, on Riverside drive, was one of the most striking among the many imposing millionaire homes that line the city's splendid water front. Houses there were in the immediate proximity which were more showy and had cost more money, but none as completely satisfying from the art lover's standpoint. It was the home of a man who studied and loved the beautiful for its own sake and not because he wanted to astonish people with what miracles his money could work. Occupying a large plot on slightly elevated ground, the house commanded a fine view of the broad Hudson. Directly opposite, across the river, busy with steam and sailing craft, smiled the green slopes of New Jersey; in the purplish north frowned the jagged cliffs of the precipitous Palisades.

The elder Jeffries, aristocratic descendant of an old Knickerbocker family, was proud of his home and had spent large sums of money in beautifying it. Built in colonial style of pure white marble with long French windows and lofty columns supporting a flat, rounded roof, surrounded by broad lawns, wide-spreading shade trees and splashing fountains, it was a conspicuous landmark for miles. The interior was full of architectural beauty. The stately entrance hall, hung with ancestral portraits, was of noble proportions, and a superb staircase, decorated with statuary, led off to tastefully decorated reception rooms above. To-night the house was brilliantly illuminated and there was considerable activity at the front entrance, where a footman in smart livery stood opening the doors of the carriages as they drove up in quick succession.

Mrs. Jeffries' musicales were always largely attended because she knew the secret of making them interesting. Her husband's wealth and her fine house enabled her to entertain on a liberal scale, and she was a tactful and diplomatic hostess as well. She not only cultivated the right kind of people who were congenial to each other, but she always managed to have some guest of special distinction whom every one was eager to meet. Her own wide acquaintance among the prominent operatic artists and her husband's influential position in the world of finance made this policy an easy way of furthering her social ambitions. She would always invite some one whom she could present as the lion of the evening. One week it would be a tenor from the opera house, another time a famous violinist. In this way she managed to create a little artistic salon on the lines of the famous political salons in which the brilliant women of the eighteenth century molded public opinion in France. Alicia knew she was clever and as she stood admiring herself in front of a full length mirror while awaiting the arrival of her guests she congrat ulated herself that she had made a success of her life. She had won those things which most women hold dear -wealth and social position. She had forget her duty to Mr. Jeffries, but married a man she did not love, it she was foolish enough to encourage was true, but other women had done a dangerous intimacy. She thought that before her. If she had not she was strong enough to be able to brought her husband love she at least call a halt whenever she would be so was not a wife he need be ashamed disposed, but as is often the case she overestimated her powers. The in-timacy grew. Underwood became of. In her Paquin gown of gold cloth, with sweeping train and a jeweled tiara in her hair, she considered herbolder, claiming and obtaining special self handsome enough to grace any privileges. He soon realized that he man's home. It was indeed a beauty had the upper hand and he traded on which she saw in the mirror-the face it. Under her patronage he was inof a woman not yet 30, with the feavited everywhere. He practically lived on her friends. He borrowed their tures regular and refined. The eyes were large and dark and the mouth money and cheated them at cards. and nose delicately molded. The face His real character was soon known to seemed academically perfect, all but all, but no one dared expose him for the expression. She had a cold, calfear of offending the influential Mrs. culating look, and a cynic might have Jeffries. Realizing this, Underwood charged her with being heartless, of continued his depredations until he came a sort of social highwayman. stopping at nothing to gain her own ends. He had no legitimate source of in-To-night Alicia had every reason to come, but he took a suite of apartfeel jubilant. She had secured a so-cial lion that all New York would talk ments at the expensive Astruria and on credit furnished them so gorgeous ly that they became the talk of the about-no less a person than Dr. Bernstein, the celebrated psycholo-gist, the originator of the theory of town. The magazines and newspa-pers devoted columns to the magnifiscientific psychology. Everything seemed to go the way she wished; her cence of their furnishings and the art treasures they contained. Art dealmusicales were the talk of the town; ers all over the country offered him her husband had just presented her with the jeweled tiars which now graced her head; there seemed to be liberal commissions if he would dispose of expensive objets d'art to his friends. He entered in business relanothing in the world that she could tion with several firms and soon his rooms became a veritable bazaar for Yet she was not happy, and as she art curies of all kinds. Mrs. Jeffries' had permitted a man of Underwood's grazed at the face reflected before her triends paid exorbitant prices for character to use his home for his disting the glass she wondered if the world some of the stuff and Underwood homest practices. She was glad she

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guessed how unhappy she was. She new that by her own indiscretion she was in danger of losing all she had won, her position in society, her place in the affections of her husband,

everything. When she married Mr. Jeffries it was with deliberate calculation. She did not love him, but, being ambitious, she did not hesitate to deceive him. He was rich, he could give her that prominent position in society for which she yearned. The fact that she was already engaged to a man for whom she did care did not deter her for a moment from her set purpose. She had met Robert Underwood years

before. He was then a college boy, tall, handsome, clever. She fell in love with him and they became engaged. As she grew more sophisticatad she saw the folly of their youthful infatuation. Underwood was without fortune, his future uncertain. While in this uncertain state of mind she met Mr. Jeffries, then a widower, at a reception. The banker was attracted to her and being a business man he did things quickly. He proposed and was accepted, all in the brief time of-five minutes. Robert Underwood and the romance of her girlhood were sacrificed without question when it came to reaching a prompt decision. She wrote Underwood a brief letter of farewell, telling him that the action she had taken was really for the best interests of them both. Underwood made no reply and for months did not attempt to go near her. Then he met her in public. There was a reconciliation. He exerted the old spell-on the married woman. Cold and indifferent to her husband. Alicia found it amusing to have her old lover paying her court and the danger of discovery only



pocketed the money, forgetting to ac | had ended it now, before it was the late. There might have been a scancount to the owners for the sums they brought. The dealers demanded restitution or a settlement and Underwood, dreading exposure, had to hustle kind. around to raise enough money to make up the deficiency in order to avoid prosecution. In this way he brush her cheek. She turned quickly lived from day to day borrowing from

Peter to settle with Paul, and on one or two occasions he had not been ashamed to borrow from Mrs. Jeffries Alicia lent the money more because

she feared ridicule than from any real desire to oblige Underwood. She had long since become disgusted with him. The man's real character was now plainly revealed to her. He was an adventurer, little better than a common crook. She congratulated herself on her narrow escape. Suppose she had married him-the horror of

herself.

it! Yet the next instant she was filled with consternation. She had allowed him to become so intimate that it was difficult to break off with him all at once. She realized that with a man of that character the inevitable must come. There would be a disgraceful scandal. She would be mixed up in it, her husband's eyes would be opened to her folly, it might ruin her entire life. She must end it now-once for all. She had already given him to understand that their intimacy must cease. Now he must stop his visits to her house and desist from trapping her friends into his many schemes. She had written him that morning forbidding him to come to the house this evening. She was done with him forever.

These thoughts were responsible for the frown on the beautiful Mrs. Jeffries' beleweled brow that particular Saturday evening. Alicia gave a sigh and was drawing on her long kid gloves before the glass, when suddenly a maid entered and tendered her mistress a note. Alicia knew the handwriting only too well. She tore the letter open and read:

Dear Mrs. Jeffries: I received your letter telling me that my presence at your house to-night would be distasteful to house to-night would be distanteful to you. As you can imagine, it was a great shock. Don't you understand the harm this will do me? Everybody will notice my absence. They will jump to the con-clusion that there has been a rupturs, and my credit will suffer immediately with your friends. I cannot afford to let this happen now. My affairs are in such condition that it will be fatal to me. I need your support and friendship more than ever. I have noticed for some time

dal, and that she must avoid at any cost. Mr. Jeffries, she felt certain, would not tolerate a scandal of any All at once she felt something

> It was her husband who had entered the room quietly. "Oh, Howard," she exclaimed, peev

ishly; "how you frightened me! You shouldn't startle me like that." A tall, distinguished-looking man with white mustache and pointed

beard stood admiring her in silence. His erect figure, admirably set off in a well-cut dress coat suggested the oldier. "What are you doing alone here,

dcar?" he said. "I hear carriages out side. Our guests are arriving." "Just thinking, that's all," she re-

plied, evasively. He noticed her preoccupied look and, with some concern, he demanded: "There's nothing to worry you, 1 there?"

"Oh, no-nothing like that," she said, hastily.

He looked at her closely and she averted her eyes. Mr. Jeffries often wondered if he had made a mistake. He felt that this woman to whom he had given his name did not love him. but his vanity as much as his pride prevented him from acknowledging it, even to himself. After all, what did he care? She was a companion, she graced his home and looked after his creature comforts. Perhaps no reasonable man should expect anything more. Carelessly, he asked: "Whom do you expect to-night?"

"Oh, the usual crowd," replied Alicia, languidly. "Dr. Bernstein is coming-you know he's quite the rage just now. He has to do with psychology and all that sort of thing."

"So, he's your lion to-night, is he?" smiled the banker. Then he went on: "By the by, I met Brewster at the club to-night. He promised to drop in.'

Now it was Alicia's turn to smile. It was not everybody who could boast of having such a distinguished lawyer as Judge Brewster on their calling lists. To-night would certainly be a success-two lions instead of one. For the moment she forgot her worry. "I am delighted that the judge is coming," she exclaimed, her face beaming. "Every one is talking about him since his brilliant speech for the defense in that murder case."

The banker noted his wife's beautiful hair and the white transparency of her skin. His gaze lingered on the graceful lines of her neck and bosom, glittering with precious stones. An exquisite aroma exuding from her person reached where he stood. His eyes grew more ardent and, passing his arm affectionately around her slender waist, he asked:

"How does my little girl like her tiara?

"It's very nice. Don't you see I'm wearing it to-night?" she replied almost impatiently and drawing herself away.

Before Mr. Jeffries had time to reply there was a commotion at the other end of the reception room, where rich tapestries screened off the main entrance hall. The butler drew the curtains aside.

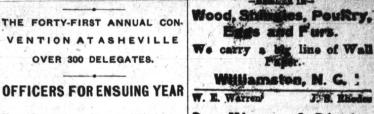
"Mr. and Mrs. Cortwright," he announced loudly. Alicia went forward, followed by

her husband, to greet her guests. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

DANGER IN LICKING STAMPS

Practice Has Been Known to Cause Acute Inflammation of the Tongue.

Do the people who jeer at the cauous ones who refuse to lick a post-



K.OFP.GRANDLODGE J. B. Speller

Next Convention Goes to Wilmington -Officers to Lend Aid in Prepara

tion for Celebration for Founding of

Order, Fift ieth Anniversary.

Asheville .--- The forty-first annual convention of the North Carolina grand louge, Knights of Pythias, opened here with a grand lodge session, over 300 delegates being in attendance.

Grand Chancellor A. E. McCausland, of Charlotte, called the session to or der, Judge Thomas A. Jones, of this city, delivered the address of welcome, the response thereto being made by Maj. J. G. Baird, of Charlotte.

The officers chosen for the ensuing year are: Alf S. Barnard, Asheville, supreme representative, filling unexpired term of T. S. Franklin; J. L. Scott, Graham, supreme representative for long term; C. C. McLean, Greensboro, grand chancellor; Walker Taylor, Wilmington, grand vice chancellor; Rev. R. B. Owens, Rocky Mount, grand prelate; Henry Powell, Henderson, grand master at arms; W. T. Hollowell, grand keeper of records and seal; John C. Mills, Ruth erfordton, grand master of exchequer; Sr A. Robinson, Gastonia, grand in ner guard; C. H. Honess, Asheville, grand outer guard; Thomas H. Webb Duke, re-elected member of board of trustees.

Invitations to hold the annual convention were received from Wilmington, Raleigh, Fayetteville and Golds. boro. The invitation from Wilmington was accepted. The supreme represen tative and grand lodge officers were empowered to lend their aid in the preparation for the celebration of the founding of the order, February 19, 1914, being the fiftieth anniversary.

The "Dokies" had their big parade. The parade, a torchlight affair, started from the Battery Park at 8 o'clock and passed over the principal streets, Thousands of people viewed the parade from the streets. There was plenty of "fresh meat" in line and ridiculous placards told the throngs that they were about to cross the hot parade there was a D. O. K. K. cere monial and then a hanquet.

Lutheran Conference at Hickory Assembled in fourth annual session for the mutual benefit of teachers, the normal school for Sunday school workers of the North Carolina Conference of the Evangelical Lutheran Synods of Tennessee and North Carolina will convene at Lenoir college, Hickory, July 24, continuing through the 27th.

Cotton Mill Destroyed by Fire. Rockingham .- The Avalon mills at Mayodan, Rockingham county, were totally destroyed by fire of unknown origin, entailing a loss of \$250,000. The fire started in the machinery room, and as the village is without fire fighting apparatus, the flames met no resistance.

Catawba For Central Highway. Newton.-Catawba county is now efinitely and officially committe the central highway. Attorney W. C. Feimster, one of the committee on the highway, has received from three of the county commissioners, including Chairman S. L. Rhyne, assurances that they will redily vote for the appropriation of \$50 a mile, as provided for by the highway act. The other two commissioners will doubtless make the proposition unanimous as soon as the opportunity presents itself. Two of the commissioners, who have written Mr. Feimster in response to his letter of inquiry, ex-

the location of the route through New-

Monroe .--- The County Bankers' asso-

ciation will hold its annual conven-

tion at Wrightsville Beach on the

What Christian Endeavors Want.

deavor union, of which Rev. Dr. R.

E. Steele of Spencer is president, is

making strong efforts to double the

number of societies in the state and

win an increase medal to be given at

the great international convention in

Atlantic City July 6 to 13. A large

number of delegates from North Caro-

lina will attend the convention. The

state president is on the program for

two addresses and will preside at a

part of the session. Dr. Steele is

One Township Will Spend \$10,000.

Asheville .--- Mr. E. C. Chambers.

president of the Buncombe County

telephone message from Mr. F. M.

Riddle at Mars, Hill, saying that the

people of Mars Hill township had de-

cided to expend \$10,000 towards the

construction of the proposed central

highway. No. particulars, however,

were received as to how the decision

was reached or how the money was to be raised, by bond issue or private

subscription. The news, neverthe

Good Roads association, received

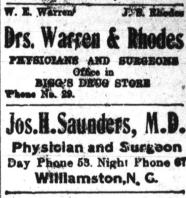
transportation agent.

less, was gratifying.

Spencer.-The State Christian En-

ton and Hickory.

9th and 10th of August.



s, Poukry,

Hugh B. York, M. D. Microscopy Electrotherapy Specialties. X-Ray Diagnosis Office Over Merchants and Farmers National Bank. OFFICE HOURS:-- 8 to 10 A. M.; 7 to 9 P M. Phone No. 68. Night Phone No. 68 A. R. Dunning. J. C. Smith Dunning & Smith Attorneys-at-Law. WILLIAMSTON, - - N. Q. ROBERSONVILLE, N. O. DR. J. A. WHITE. DENTIST Office Main St. Phone 93 B rrous A.Critcher. Wheeler Martin MARTIN & CRITCHER. Attorneys at Law, WILLIAMSTON, - - N.O Phone 23 OCURED AND DEFENDED, Send model wing or public, for expert search and free report . IN ALL COUNTRIES. Patent and Infringement Practice Exclusively. Wirke or come to us at 23 Minth Street, orp. United States Patent Office

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She at Least Was Not a Wife He Need Be Ashamed Of.

gave the intrigue additional zest and that your manner to me has changed. Charm. She did not lead Underwood Perhaps you have believed some of the stories my onemies have circulated about forget her duty to Mr. Jeffries, but what I once was to you and let me come to your reception to-night. There's a rea on why I must be seen in your house

Yours devoted1 ROBERT UNDERWOOD

Alicia's face flushed with anger. Turning to the maid, she said: "There's no answer."

The girl was about to close the door when her mistress suddenly recalled her.

"Wait a minute," she said: "I'll write a line."

Taking from her dainty escritoire sheet of perfumed notepaper, she wrote hurriedly as follows:

"If you dare to come near my house to-night I will have you put out by the ervants.

Quickly folding the note, crushed it into an envelope, sealed it, handed it to the girl, and said:

"Give that to the messenger.

The servant disappeared and Alicia resumed her work of drawing on her gloves in front of her mirror. How dare he write her such a letter? Was her house to be made the headquarters for his swindling schemes? Did he want to cheat more of her friends? The more she thought of all he had done, the angrier she became. Her eyes flashed and her bosom heaved with indignation. She wondered what her husband, the soul of honor, would say if he suspected that she or?

Philistine .- "No wonder. You must remember that the lady ain't through washing herself yet."-Judge.

age stamp as "cranks" know that there is a defined disease known as "the postage stamp tongue?"

This is an acute inflammation of the tongue, directly traced to the germs to be found on the gummed side of stamp or envelope.

Other and more serious diseases have been caused by this habit that is so universal and seems so harmless. One throat specialist in a hospital declares that many chronic affections of the throat are found among persons who have as their livelihood the addressing and stamping of envelopes. Bad skin diseases have ben known to follow this habit, and it has even caused pulmonary troubles.

It is after all but a habit, and a bad one. It takes no more time and is quite as easy to moisten the stamp with a damp sponge or rag.

Where many letters must be stamped and sealed there are good patent inventions by which the sponge is kept moist.

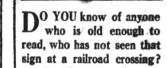
Hanging on the Wall.

"The way pictures are hung makes such a lot of difference in the appearance of a room," said an interior decorator a few days ago. "That fact is thrust upon me nearly every day, [go into some parlors where the pictures are hung so high that all perspective is lost, and the ceiling seems to be hopelessly high. Other folks hang theirs so low that it hurts your to look at them, in addition to straining your eyes, spolling the beauty of the room and taking from the value of the picture.

"All pictures should not be hung on the same level, as they so often are, yet all should be as nearly on the level with the eyes as possible. square and oblong pictures are alter-nated irregularly with round and oval ones the best possible effect is gained."

Art Lover (standing before "The Bath")-"Did you ever see such col-

OR MONEY REFUIDED. LOOK OUT press a preference for the Moores-FOR THE ville route and all will contend for



CARS"

If everyone has seen it at some time or other, then why decan't the railroad let the sign rot away? Why does the railroad company continue to keep those signs at every crossing?

Maybe you think, Mr. Merchant, "Most everybody knows my store, I don't have to advertise."

Your store and your goods need more advertising than the rail-roads need do to warn people to "Look Out for the Care."

Nothing is ever completed in the advertising world.

The Department Stores are a very good example—they are continually advertising—and they are continually doing a good business.

if it pays to run a few ads 'round t Christmas time, it cer tainly will pay you to run ad-vertisements about all the time.

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Accounting for It.