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200,000 War Marriages. Sir Bernard Mallet, registrar general, addressing the Royal Statistical Society recently, said that in England and Wales 200,000 people had married between August, 1914, and June, 1917, while in Hungary, the only other belligerent country for which complete figures were available, the figure was 100,000. By the end of June, 1918, the Kingdom would have lost by the deaths of 500,000 potential males over 16 years of age, and some unexplained reason was remarkable for the low male over female births, not compared with continental Europe, and also with the other parts of the Kingdom. A decline in the number of suicides was an interesting feature of the war period.

SWAMP-ROOT AIDS WEAK KIDNEYS

The symptoms of kidney and bladder troubles are often very distressing and the system in a run-down condition. The kidneys seem to suffer most, as almost every victim complains of lame back and urinary troubles which should not be neglected, as these danger signals often lead to more dangerous kidney troubles.

Dr. Kilmor's Swamp-Root, which, so many people say, soon heals and strengthens the kidneys, is a splendid kidney, liver and bladder medicine, and being an herbal compound, has a gentle healing effect on the kidneys, which is almost immediately noticed in most cases by those who use it.

A trial will convince anyone who may be in need of it. Better get a bottle from your nearest drug store and start treatment at once.

However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmor & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Adv.

Easy Money. Secretary Lansing at a luncheon talked about the German corruption funds.

"Germany gave over 10,000,000 marks to Bolo," he said. "She gave over 5,000,000 to Lenoir. She handed to Count Bernstorff for his various propaganda at least 100,000,000."

"This proves to us that there are lots of easy marks in Germany."—Detroit Free Press.

Soothe Itching Scapals. On retiring gently rub spots of dandruff and itching with Cuticura Ointment. Next morning shampoo with Cuticura Soap and hot water. For free samples address, "Cuticura, Dept. X, Boston." At druggists and by mail, Soap 25, Ointment 25 and 50.—Adv.

Fools are not the only ones who get a quick divorce from their money during the holidays.

A torpid liver prevents proper food assimilation. Tone up your liver with Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills. They act gently. Adv.

Many a man's thirst has separated him from his last quarter.

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The Son of Tarzan

By EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

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CHAPTER IX.—Continued.

At the same instant the flaps of the tent opened silently and a tall white man stood in the aperture. Neither Meriem or Malblin saw him. The latter's back was toward him, while his body hid the stranger from Meriem's eye.

He crossed the tent quickly, stepping over Jonsen's body. The first intimation Malblin had was a heavy hand upon his shoulder.

He wheeled, to face an utter stranger, a tall, black haired, gray eyed stranger, clad in khaki and pith helmet. Malblin reached for his gun again, but another hand had been quicker than his, and he saw the weapon tossed to the ground at the side of the tent—out of reach.

"What is the meaning of this?" The stranger addressed his question to Meriem in a tongue she did not understand. She shook her head and spoke in Arabic. Instantly the man changed his question to that language.

"These men are taking me away from Korak," panted the girl. "This one would have harmed me. The other, who he has just killed, tried to stop him. They were both very bad men, but this one is the worse. If my Korak were here he would kill him. I suppose you are like them, so you will not kill him."

The stranger smiled. "He deserves killing," he said. "There is no doubt of that. Once I should have killed him, but now not. I will see, though, that he does not bother you any more."

He was holding Malblin in a grasp the giant Swede could not break, though he struggled to do so, and he was holding him as easily as Malblin might have held a little child, yet Malblin was a huge man, mightily thiefed. The Swede began to rage and curse. He struck at his captor, only to be twisted about and held at arm's length. Then he shouted to his boys to come and kill the stranger.

In response a dozen strange blacks entered the tent. They, too, were powerful, clean limbed men, not at all like the mangy crew that followed the Swedes.

"We have had enough foolishness," said the stranger to Malblin. "You deserve death, but I am not the law. I know now who you are. I have heard of you before. You and your friend bear a most unsavory reputation. We do not want you in our country. I shall let you go this time, but should you ever return I shall take the law into my own hands. Now, get out, and next time you see me remember who I am," and he spoke a name in the Swede's ear—a name that more effectively subdued the scoundrel than many beatings. Then he gave him a push that carried him bodily through the tent doorway, to sprawl upon the turf beyond.

"Now," he said, turning toward Meriem, "who has the key to this thing about your neck?"

The girl pointed to Jonsen's body. "He carried it always," she said.

The stranger searched the clothing on the corpse until he came upon the key. A moment more Meriem was free.

"Will you let me go back to my Korak?" she asked.

"I will see that you are returned to your people," the stranger replied. "Who are they, and where is their village?"

He had been eyeing her strange, barbaric garb wonderingly. From her speech she was evidently an Arab girl, but he had never before seen one thus clothed.

"Who are your people? Who is Korak?" he asked again.

"Korak! Why, Korak is an ape. I have no other people. Korak and I live in the jungle alone since Aht went to be king of the apes." She had always thus pronounced Akut's name, for so it had sounded to her when first she came with Korak and the ape.

A questioning expression entered the stranger's eyes. He looked at the girl closely.

"So Korak is an ape?" he said. "And what, pray, are you?"

"I am Meriem. I also am an ape." "M'm," was the stranger's only oral comment upon this startling announcement. But what he thought might have been partially interpreted through the pitying light that entered his eyes. He approached the girl and started to lay his hand upon her forehead. She drew back with a savage little growl. A smile touched his lips.

"You need not fear me," he said. "I shall not harm you. I only wish to discover if you have fever—if you are entirely well. If you are we will set forth in search of Korak."

BWANA RESCUES MERIEM AND TAKES HER HOME TO HIS WIFE, WHO ADOPTS THE GIRL—SHE LONGS FOR KORAK

Synopsis.—A scientific expedition of the African coast rescues a human derelict, Alexis Paulvitch. He brings aboard an ape, intelligent and friendly, and reaches London. Jack, son of Lord Greystoke, the original Tarzan, has inherited a love of wild life and steals from home to see the ape, now a drawing card in a music hall. The ape makes friends with him and refuses to leave Jack despite his trainer. Tarzan appears and is joyfully recognized by the ape, for Tarzan had been king of his tribe. Tarzan agrees to buy Akut, the ape, and send him back to Africa. Jack and Akut become great friends. Paulvitch is killed when he attempts murder. A thief tries to kill Jack, but is killed by Akut. They flee together to the jungle and take up life. Jack rescues an Arabian girl and takes her into the forest. He is wounded and Meriem is stolen. The bad Swedes buy her from Korak, the black. Malblin kills Jonsen fighting for the girl.

many years ago, and Korak came and took me from my father, who was beating me. Since then I have lived in the trees with Korak and Aht."

"Where in the jungle lives Korak?" asked the stranger.

Meriem pointed with a sweep of her hand that took in, generously, half the continent of Africa.

"Could you find your way back to him?"

"I do not know," she replied, "but he will find his way to me."

"Then I have a plan," said the stranger. "I live but a few marches from here. I shall take you home, where my wife will look after you and care for you until we can find Korak or Korak finds us. If he could find you here, he can find you at my village. Is it not so?"

Meriem thought that it was so, but she did not like the idea of not starting immediately back to meet Korak. On the other hand, the man had no intention of permitting this poor, innocent child to wander further amid the dangers of the jungle. Whence she had come or what she had undergone he could not guess, but that her Korak and their life among the apes was but a fragment of a disordered mind he could not doubt.

He knew the jungle well, and he knew that men had lived alone and naked among the savage beasts for years, but a frail and slender girl! No, it was not possible.

Together they went outside. Malblin's boys were striking camp in preparation for a hasty departure. The stranger's blacks were conversing with them. Malblin stood at a distance, angry and glowering.

The stranger approached one of his own men.

"Find out where they got this girl," he commanded.

The negro thus addressed questioned one of Malblin's followers. Presently he returned to his master.

"They bought her from old Kovondo," he said. "That is all that this fellow will tell me. He pretends that he knows nothing more, and I think that he does not. These two white men were very bad men. They did many things that their boys knew not the meanings of. It would be well, Bwana, to kill the other."

"I wish that I might, but a new law is come into this part of the jungle. It is not as it was in the old day, Muviri," replied the master.

The stranger remained until Malblin and his safari had disappeared into the jungle toward the north. Meriem, trustful now, stood at his side, Goeka clutched in one slim, brown hand.

They talked together, the man wondering at the faltering Arabic of the girl, but attributing it finally to her defective mentality. Could he have known that years had elapsed since she had used it until she was taken by the Swedes, he would not have wondered that she had half forgotten it.

There was yet another reason why the language of the sheik had thus readily eluded her, but of that reason she herself could not have guessed the truth any better than could the man.

He tried to persuade her to return with him to his "village," as he called it, or "dour" in Arabic, but she was insistent upon searching immediately for Korak. As a last resort he determined to take her with him by force rather than sacrifice her life to the insane hallucination which haunted her. But, being a wise man, he determined to humor her first and then attempt to lead her as he would have her go.

So when they took up their march it was in the direction of the south, though his own ranch lay almost due east.

By degrees he turned the direction of their way more and more eastward, and greatly was he pleased to note that the girl failed to discover that any change was being made.

Little by little she became more trusting. At first she had had but her intuition to guide her belief that this big Tarmangani meant her no harm, but as the days passed and she saw

that his kindness and consideration never faltered she came to compare him with her Korak and to be very fond of him, but never did her loyalty to her ape man flag.

On the fifth day they came suddenly upon a great plain, and from the edge of the forest the girl saw in the distance fenced fields and many buildings. At the sight she drew back in astonishment.

"Where are we?" she asked, pointing.

"We could not find Korak," replied the man, "and as our way led near my dour I have brought you here to wait and rest with my wife until my men can find your ape or he finds you. It is better thus, little one. You will be safer with us and you will be happier."

Meriem laughed. "The jungle," she said, "is my father and my mother. I do not fear the jungle. I love it. I should rather die than leave it forever. But your dour is close beside the jungle. You have been good to me. I will do as you wish and remain here for awhile to wait the coming of my Korak."

"Good!" said the man, and he led the way down toward the flower-covered bungalow behind which lay the barns and outhouse of a well-ordered African farm.

Meriem walked on toward the bungalow, upon the porch of which a woman, dressed in white, waved a welcome to her returning lord. There was more fear in the girl's eyes now than there had been in the presence of strange men or savage beasts. She hesitated, turning an appealing glance toward the man.

"That is my wife," he said. "She will be glad to welcome you."

The woman came down the path to meet them. The man kissed her and, turning toward Meriem, introduced them, speaking in the Arab tongue the girl understood.

"This is Meriem, my dear," he said, and told the story of the jungle wait so far as he knew it.

Meriem saw that the woman was beautiful. She saw that sweetness and goodness were stamped indelibly upon her countenance. She no longer feared her, and when her brief story had been narrated and the woman came and put her arms about her and kissed her and called her "poor little darling" something snapped in Meriem's heart.

She buried her face on the bosom of this new friend, in whose voice was the mother tone that Meriem had not heard for so many years that she had forgotten its very existence. She buried her face on the kindly bosom and wept as she had not wept before in all her life—tears of relief and joy that she could not fathom.

And so came Meriem, the savage little Mangani, out of her beloved jungle into the midst of a home of culture and refinement. Already "Bwana" and "my dear," as she first heard them called and continued to call them, were as father and mother to her.

Once her savage fears were allayed she went to the opposite extreme of trustfulness and love. Now she was willing to wait here until they found Korak or Korak found her. She did not give up that thought. Korak, her Korak, was always first.

And out in the jungle, far away, Korak, covered with wounds, stiff with clotted blood, burning with rage and sorrow, as soon as sufficient strength returned swung back upon the trail of the great baboons. He did not find them where he had last seen them nor in any of their usual haunts, but he sought them along the well-marked spoor that had left behind them, and at last he overtook them.

So Korak persuades his baboon friends to help him hunt Meriem. They raid the black village, but find no trace of her.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Argentina Cattle. The Argentina cattle industry is capable of much expansion in time of war stimulation. In the northern end of the pampas are boundless fields of grass where the cattle feed the year round. Sweet water there is in abundance, and windmills dotted over the plains keep the animals plentifully supplied. There are no better beef cattle in the world than those from Argentina, the breed being the excellent result of mixing fine Spanish blooded strains with the hardy native stock. Breeding very easily could raise the total of production materially.

Muscle of the Soul. We do not get perfect character in our sleep. It comes to us as muscle comes, through doing things. It is the muscle of the soul.—Henry Drummond.

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