



**BETTY PRICE** dabbed a spot of rouge on each cheek, touched the places lightly for a natural effect, then dipped in the perfume bottle and rubbed the back of her small ears.

Tilting back the blurred mirror, she surveyed herself critically. The effect seemed entirely satisfactory. Betty sighed ecstatically. "I look like a million dollars," she breathed. "I—I can almost convince myself that I am a great lady tonight."

Carefully her silver-slipped feet descended the narrow stairs. She must get away as quickly as possible. What would the unromantic Mr. and Mrs. James Barstow say if they saw the Cinderella of their kitchen arrayed in garments like these? Betty chuckled at the thought. They would think she had gone crazy if they found out that she had spent a whole month's salary to rent the things she was wearing, and to buy a ticket for the opera. "But they never will find out," she told herself, as she carefully closed the back door behind her.

At the corner, she waited for a cab. On the way down, she heard the voice of Christmas everywhere. She saw its symbols in shop windows; in arches of green and red



Her prince was standing in the doorway, his evening clothes replaced by clean blue overalls.

strung across the streets. She told herself it must be the Christmas feeling in the air that made her do this daring thing. It was utterly ridiculous to dress up like a great lady, but one had to be different at Christmas. And life had been pretty dull for Betty since she had to accept the work she was doing.

The story of the opera took her back to a medieval world. In a few moments she was completely lost in its atmosphere, so much so that she failed to notice that the man seated at her right was sending admiring glances in her direction. When the curtain went up, he leaned over and spoke.

"I love this," he said simply.

"I do, too," Betty answered, with a little catch in her voice. It seemed incredible that he was speaking to her. He was really acting as if she belonged. By the time the curtain went up again they were calling each other Prince and Princess; taking the names of the two leading characters on the stage.

As the great drama moved to its close Betty tried to hurry away. She didn't want her Prince to find out what an impostor she was. But he had taken hold of her arm "Couldn't we go and have some coffee?" he suggested. "I know I'm a stranger to you, but—but, it's Christmas—and—"

"I should say 'no,'" Betty told herself. "I should even tell him the truth about myself." Instead, she accompanied him to the coffee shop across the street. She couldn't deny herself this one hour of happiness. After it was over, well—Betty would not let her thoughts go further.

She almost forgot that she was playing a part as they sat together. They seemed to have so much in common. He had read widely—the type of books she liked; he took an interest in so many things she liked; seemed to be as romantic and visionary as herself. But he spoke no word to indicate that he wanted to see her again.

Gloom enveloped the world for Betty next morning. As if to add to her humiliation and misery, a clogged-up drain was sending oozy brown water back into the sink. Her feet dragged across the floor as she answered the plumber's knock.

Then the world spun dizzily around her for a moment. A rush of joy, of wonder, lifted her heart. Her Prince was standing in the doorway, his evening clothes replaced by clean blue overalls, his good-looking face wrinkled in bewilderment.

"I—I thought you were—" he stammered.

"And I—I thought you were—" Betty gasped in answer.

When explanations were over, a make-believe Prince and Princess were wondering if Christmas wasn't the very nicest time for a wedding ceremony.

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## This Week IN WASHINGTON

Washington, Nov. 29—International affairs are pressing upon the attention of Washington from a dozen different directions, and raising numerous questions which are likely to engage Congress in discussions which may be prolonged and acrimonious.

First is the situation in Germany, created by the recall of the American Ambassador, Hugh Wilson. Following the President's public declaration that he was shocked and horrified at the brutality of the Hitler Government toward the Jews, the summoning of Ambassador Wilson home "for report and consultation" is the sort of diplomatic

move which has often in the past presaged war.

Through Ambassador Kennedy in London the Government is taking an active hand in the effort to find suitable new homes to which the Jews whom Hitler is driving out of Germany and Mussolini is threatening to expel from Italy can be removed by international action.

That there is grave apprehension in Administration circles of efforts by Germany and Italy to establish colonies for their nationals in South America, and thereby gain political influence which would be in contravention of the American Monroe Doctrine has been indicated by many straws in the wind lately.

Point was given to it by the President's declaration that the whole Western Hemisphere, from Hudson's Bay to Cape Horn, has identical interests and that all of the nations of America, North and South, must stand together.

Will Fight If Necessary  
When he coupled this with a declaration that this country must give first attention to our

national defenses, especially in the matter of fighting aircraft, it was taken in many quarters as serving notice on the dictatorships that the United States will fight, if necessary, to keep them out of South America.

Possible friction with Cuba seems to have been removed by the official visit to this country of Colonel Fulgencio Batista, the actual dictator of Cuba. The importance of Cuba in the international situation is that it would furnish an ideal airplane and submarine base for a foreign enemy if it were not tied closely to the United States.

As for the rest of the Latin-American nations, the Pan-American Conference about to be held in Lima, Peru, is expected to reassure all of the nations to the south of us of the good intentions of the United States toward them.

The Prime Minister of Canada, visiting the President, is understood to have renewed the assurance that Canada will make common cause with the United States in any situation which

threatens the interests of any part of the Americas.

**Trade Agreement Important**  
An extremely important step, calculated to remove any possible friction between the United States and the British Empire and to further strengthen the friendship between the English-speaking nations was the signing in Washington of the reciprocal trade agreement between this country, Great Britain and Canada.

This was the nineteenth such trade agreement negotiated by Secretary Hull with various nations. It takes effect on January 1. Under it Great Britain abolishes all tariff duties on American wheat, lard, canned grapefruit, cotton, corn, and some other farm products, while we make tariff concessions on textiles, metals and manufactured goods of several kinds.

Canada reduces duties on American fruits and vegetables, fishery products, paper products, and various kinds of manufactured goods, while the United States agrees to continue on the free list

all Canadian products which now enter duty free.

This closer tying together of the English-speaking democracies is part of a broad program for a united front against aggressions by the authoritarian dictatorships of Europe. It is the hope if not the expectation, of the Administration, that all of the conditions which point to international complications will create a public sentiment strong enough to induce Congress to authorize the expenditure of hundreds of millions, perhaps billions, of fresh funds for building up the Army, Navy and Air Force to what military men consider essential.

**Appoints Landon**  
The President is not unmindful of the fact that 57 Republican members of Congress voted last year against his billion-dollar naval program. He is anxious not to have national defense become a party question.

That is taken here as the reason why he appointed the nominal head of the Republican Party, Ex-Gov. Alf M. Landon, as a member of the United States

delegation to the Lima Pan-American Conference. Much stress is being laid upon Gov. Landon's declaration, in accepting the appointment, that partisanship ends at the boundaries of the nation.

The defense program already under way includes, besides the building of the largest navy America has ever had, orders to large manufacturers for essential war supplies, so that they can get immediately into mass production of weapons, gas masks and other essentials if the situation gets critical.

**Ancestor of Us All**  
The newly elected Congressman was trying to make an impression on a seasoned Senator. "Any prominent men in your family?" he inquired.

"Yes," said the Senator, "one of my ancestors was an admiral, and at one time was in command of the combined fleets of the world."

"What was his name?" asked the Congressman.  
"Noah," complacently remarked the Senator.



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