

THEY NEVER KNEW

TOM SIMS NEA FICTION 1926 NEA SERVICE

BEGIN HERE TODAY
JIMPSON WEED, who was called "JIMP" for short, fell in to a well and lost his job. Honest, he did.
 Then he fell in love with **PEARL HANDLE**, who was the daughter of **MR. HANDLE** and his wife, **MRS. HANDLE**.
 And, oh yes, we almost forgot; before JIMP fell in love with Pearl, he made a **MILLION DOLLARS**.
 Outside of this you haven't missed much. You missed where **PEARL'S** father shot at Jimp a few times, hitting him once. And you missed reading about **DETECTIVE GUMSHOE'S** famous pipe.
PEARL showed up missing and **HER FATHER** thought she had eloped with JIMP because she had.
 The **STORY** has been dragging a **LITTLE**. But it begins to get **BETTER** now. You are just in time. Aren't you very **LUCKY**?

NOW GO AHEAD
CHAPTER IV
 The road ran along. Jimp and his bride did the same.
 Only they were in an automobile. The road, instead of being in an automobile, was in a hurry.
 "What a funny road! It never loitered by the roadside. Just so far

as the eye could see the road was running along.
 "What an ambitious road! Never content with running in one direction, it ran in both directions.
 Jimp looked up the road. Yes, it ran that way. He looked down the road. Yes, it ran that way also.
 Puzzled, he stopped the car at a roadhouse. A big sign out front read, "Chicken Dinner."
 The sign was much larger than that, but space prohibits its exact reproduction.
 The highway department puts danger signs at bad curves and narrow bridges, warning tourists to be careful. The highway department should put danger signs before some roadhouses.
 The signs at curves and narrow bridges tell the tourists to drive slow, or slowly, according to the extent of their education.
 The danger signs before some roadhouses should tell tourists to drive fast, or faster, according to the extent of their finances.
 But, as was said, Jimp topped at this roadhouse to inquire about the road. "Which way does this road run?" he asked.
 "Doesn't run at all. Stays right here," replied the fellow.
 "I know it goes to the next town," said our Jimp, speaking slowly with his mouth opening and closing.
 "Perhaps it does," said the fellow.
 "And," continued our Jimp in English, "it also goes to the last town we passed."
 "Perhaps," said the fellow. "It's always going to one town or the other. I've been right here on it 40 years. It hasn't left yet."
 "Buy me a chicken dinner," said Pearl, because she was Jimp's wife now and almost all wives eat at times.
 "I'll be glad to," smiled our Jimp, because they had just been married a few hours. "Will one be enough?"
 "Oh," laughed Pearl, "I am positive one chicken dinner will be a great sufficiency for me." Yet, she appeared flustered.
 "Why do you appear so flustered?" asked her fond husband.
 "I do not appear flustered."
 "You do so. I noticed it myself. Even if I hadn't, I would have read it in the third paragraph above this one."
 Looking back over the paragraph mentioned our Pearl realized she really had appeared flustered.
 "Jimp," said the lovely girl, "I must tell you something."
 "Please do."
 "I have tried to tell you several times, Jimp. I just couldn't. I should have told you before we left Omeo, my Ohio; it's so terrible. I know you'll hate me."
 "Nothing could make me hate you, darling," said our Jimp, patting his brand new wife on her plump shoulder.

only rented it.
 Well, our Jimp was a man who knew right from wrong. He realized it really must have been valuable chicken. So he left.
 He bundled his beautiful wife into the car and sped away.
 They were going to Atlantic City on their honeymoon. At least, Jimp thought they were.
 Pearl knew better. She knew they were going to Atlantic City, New York, Alaska, Cuba and many other places. She hadn't told her young husband, no, yet.
 The wedding itself had been plain. In fact, it was plain because they were married in a plane.
 That was Jimp's idea. He realized most young couples were up in the air anyway. Why not be married in a plane? So they were.
 Now, after coming down to earth and buying an auto, Omeo, Ohio, seemed far away because it was.
 The road suddenly became rough. Great holes appeared in the paving as Jimp and Pearl bounced along. They knew by that that a town was near.
 Soon they pulled up before a big hotel, registered and were shown to their rooms.
 "Geel!" exclaimed Jimp. "I'm tired out." He threw himself across the bed. Pearl powdered her nose. A knock was heard at the door.
 "Come inside," said Jimp, thinking it was the boy with the ice water.
 His surprise was stupendous when he saw his mistake. It wasn't ice water. It was another kind of a chaser.
 This other kind of a chaser was Detective Gum, himself. He entered and Pearl's father followed.
 "I got you now," screamed the angry parent, drawing his pistol and aiming at his daughter's husband.

How Does Forsyth Do It?
 Charlotte News.
 Forsyth county is going to get along another year on the prevailing tax rate and that tax rate is 55 cents on the \$100 of property.
 Mecklenburg has had a rate of nearly \$1 on the \$100 of property and its commissioners are studying now how to avoid raising it up to nearly \$1.05.
 In other words we are taxing here at a rate nearly twice the rate levied in Forsyth county and Forsyth is not proportionately richer than Mecklenburg.

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D.C. COAN

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 Mr. Coan, who worked at the Public Market on East Trade street and who is well known and well liked by thousands of Charlotte people, tells the HERB JUICE MAN of the excellent benefits derived from use of HERB JUICE, and urges all suffering of stomach trouble and constipation to give it a trial. "The greater part of my life I have been troubled with constipation and indigestion. Like many other people I took harsh pills and purgatives, but it seemed like I got worse instead of better. Nothing I took would cure me of indigestion or regulate my bowels. It just seemed that my food would not digest. I was constipated all the time and the result was, I had no energy or appetite and what little I did force myself to eat caused me intense suffering afterward. Gas pains would form and almost suffocate me at times. My breath would come in gasps. This condition made me extremely nervous and at times it was almost impossible for me to get any rest or sleep at night. I started taking HERB JUICE for my troubles, after I had heard so much about it, and it was very gratifying as well as surprising how quickly this medicine improved my conditions. It has done for me what I thought was impossible."
 For sale by all druggists and dealers in patent medicines everywhere.

The assessables in this county next year are expected to reach to \$170,000,000 and, while we do not have the assessables for Forsyth county at our command, we doubt if they amount to a figure as large as these applying to Mecklenburg county.
 It might be interesting and informing for the county commissioners to write over to Winston-Salem, or better still, take a ride over there, in order to ascertain how they manage to keep the rate down in Forsyth so much lower than the commissioners of this county can keep it down here.
 They could ask some pertinent questions in the event they should make such a trip.
 For instance, it might be inquired on what basis property is assessed in that county, for one thing.
 Then they might ask what proportion of the assessables for the entire county are on the tax books.
 It would be interesting also to find out how Forsyth county is building its new court house, whether with bonds, by sale of some property or taking the amount necessary out of the current fund.
 Several questions like these would throw materially informing light on the situation as regards the comparative taxation methods in the two counties, the foremost in the State and the two wealthiest.

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down I will do the cooking. No matter what I cook it'll reduce your weight."
 "Do you think so?" smiled the wife through tear-dimmed eyes.
 "Yes, I believe so. And, if that doesn't work, I know another way. We'll quit paying our grocery bill. The grocer will stop selling us groceries. In that way we both will reduce."
 Thus the cloud was lifted. The young people were happy once more.
 "Where is that chicken dinner?" laughed Pearl.
 Arm in arm our Jimp and our Pearl entered the dining room. The place was furnished in antiques.
 The clock in the corner had stood there with its hands before its face for hundreds of years. The chairs had sat around with their arms at their sides for hundreds of years. But the most antiquated antique was the chicken.
 Our Jimp and our Pearl wrestled with the aged rooster until two of the three were exhausted, the fowl alone retaining its former pep and elasticity.
 One could imagine a ghostly crow as our Jimp and our Pearl arose from the table defeated. The chicken dinner had won every round.
 "Well," said Jimp weakly, "we'll take this here chicken dinner with us and try it again tonight."
 "Sorry," said the fellow. "It can't be done."
 "Anyway," said our Jimp, "we'll try it."
 "I mean," said the fellow, "you can't take that dinner away."
 "I can," said Jimp. "It's mine. I bought it."
 "No," said the fellow. "You didn't buy that chicken dinner."
 "Why didn't I buy that chicken dinner?" asked Jimp. "I paid you five dollars for the two of us."
 "True," said the fellow. "You paid me five dollars. Do you think I could sell chicken like that for five dollars? You didn't buy that chicken. You

One leap and Jimp was across the room. He placed his finger over the hole in the barrel of the pistol so the bullet couldn't come out.
 "Remove your finger so I can shoot," screamed the foiled parent.
 "I refuse," cried Jimp. And he had refused just in time. Because now this great novel is continued until Wednesday.
 (To Be Continued)

What we want to get some information about has to do with some sensible way to avoid this dilemma and the commissioners ought to strive earnestly to that end.
 It is not at all that we are blaming the commissioners of this county for raising the taxes.
 They are under compulsion to do what the people want done about these things.

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 Kings Mountain to Charlotte—7:30, 9:30, 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 8:30. Direct connection made in Kings Mountain for Spartanburg and Greenville in the morning—One hour layover in afternoons.
 Bessemer City to Charlotte—7:45, 9:45, 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 8:45.
 Gastonia to Charlotte, leaves every hour by the hour, from 7 A. M. to 8 P. M. Connection made there for Rock Hill, S. C.; Spartanburg, Greenville, Cramerton, Lincolnton and Cherryville, York and Clover, S. C.
 Gastonia to Shelby—On the odd hours, making connections for Rutherfordton, Hendersonville, Asheville and Statesville
 Gastonia to Cherryville—8:30, 12:10, 4:10, 8:10.
 Cherryville to Gastonia—7:15, 10, 2, 6 P. M.
 Charlotte to Rock Hill—8, 10:30, 4:15.
 Rock Hill to Charlotte—10:30, 1:30, 4:15.
 Buss leaves Spartanburg 6:15 P. M. Connections at Kings Mountain, Charlotte.
 Telephones:
 Charlotte 2671, Gastonia 1051, Shelby 450 Shelby to Rutherfordton—8 A. M. and 1 P. M. Rutherfordton to Shelby—9:40 A. M. & 2:15 P. M.
 Shelby to Asheville—10:00 A. M. 12, 2, 4, 6 P. M. Asheville to Shelby—8, 9 & 11 A. M. & 2, 4, P. M.
 Shelby—7:20 A. M., 10 A. M., 1 P. M., 4:30 P. M.
 Lincolnton—8:30 A. M., 11 A. M., 3:00 P. M. 6:30 P. M.
 Schedules Subject to Change.

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