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• DELMAR'S VACATION •  
• By Gearge Elmer Cobb •  
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"A leave of absence for a month," spoke the manager of Morgan & Co., "and your salary check for the full month in advance."

"But I never asked for a vacation," explained Lionel Delmar.

"That's why!" smiled the manager. "The firm considers that a man who has worked without a rest for five years needs and deserves a vacation."

"I'm sure I am grateful—yes, and glad," observed Delmar, warming up to the subject as he saw untrammelled freedom and variety ahead of him. "By the way, I'm going to bury myself with gun and rod up in the wilds of Wisconsin. I'll send you some deer. How would that do?"

"Famous!"

"And the cashier, who has been almost as good a friend to me as yourself, a hamper of rare brook trout, eh?"

"He'll appreciate it."

Quite jolly Delmar felt over it all as the idea of a vast, pleasurable change began to grow on him. Time was when he could not have afforded the jaunt. But he now felt that it was coming to him and he had \$200 saved up. Saturday was only two days ahead and he spent half of the evening looking over sportsmen's catalogues and selecting a list for his hunting and camping outfit.

Then he went out and purchased a basket of fruit and some bakery trifles and proceeded to a near, but much less pretentious, building than the one in which he roomed.

"I mustn't forget poor Dalby's widow and little Ned," he soliloquized. "I'll slip a tenner into the lad's hand so they won't suffer while I'm away."

It was not the first time Delmar had shown little helpful attentions to the Dalbys. John Dalby had worked

by his side for years and they had been good friends. Since his death a year previous Delmar had more than once eased the poverty of the patient, plodding widow, who went out as a day seamstress, but earned barely enough to provide for herself and her little son, Ned, aged 8. The latter was an invalid and his illness and needs were a great drawback to his faithful mother.

Just as Delmar was about to enter the street doorway of the old tene-



A Young Lady Came Out

ment where the Dalbys lived a young lady came out. He stepped aside politely to give her room and she flashed a pleased courteous look upon him. He stood staring after her, for her grace and beauty were a revelation to him. She entered an automobile, the chauffeur started up the machine and Delmar stood like