

A True Friend

By ALVAH JORDAN GARTH

(Copyright, 1919, by Western Newspaper Union.)

When Lucia Evans confessed to her father and mother that she was deeply in love with the man who had presented his claims for consideration to those parents, there was a disappointed expression in the face of Mrs. Evans and Lucia's father was silent.

"I fancied that it would be Noel Dayton, Lucia," spoke her mother. "Oh, dear, no!" dissented Lucia in her frank, impetuous way. "I have liked Noel as a friend and his sister Alice is my dearest chum, but I never thought of Noel that way."

"I have no objection to Mr. Parker," spoke her father slowly. "He seems to be a most estimable young man, but do not forget, dear, that you have known him for only a short time, while Noel and Alice were your childhood playmates. However, we have a full year to try out this new lover of yours."

"There never was an old one!" declared Lucia vehemently.

"Then it was not because Noel wished otherwise," observed Mrs. Evans. Allen Parker was manager of the wholesale house in which Mr. Evans was a partner. He had been in this service less than six months. He had come well recommended and had demonstrated his business efficiency and trustworthiness in the highest degree. There was nothing known of his antecedents, however, and Mr. and Mrs. Evans were not given to making new friends promiscuously. On the contrary, Noel Dayton had been brought up in the neighborhood, and naturally as to the parents he was their choice. Noel was also employed in a minor position by Evans & Co.

"Parker is a better man than I am," Noel told his sister, "but I had become deeply attached to Lucia and a fellow feels it, to have a newcomer brush him aside."

"You seem to have found ready consolation in the company of Ada Porter," intimated Alice mischievously.

"Oh, yes! I'm not exactly heart-broken, sis, but I want to be and intend to be sure that Allen Parker is all he pretends to be, square and true and worthy of the finest girl in the city—except your dear self."

"And Ada Porter!" hinted Alice gently.

Noel's gloomy face regained some of its natural sunshine as the weeks went on. Lucia was gracious, kindly, and quite sisterly whenever they met. Allen put himself out to be not only friendly, but useful to Noel. He took him in hand in a business way. He instilled some beneficial trade principles into his mind and Noel was quite proud when, through the instrumentality of Allen, he was advanced both in position and salary.

One morning Allen phoned him that he would be delayed with a client and Noel took command of the managerial office. He went through the mail, and, chancing to open a drawer in Allen's desk searching for some blank vouchers, his eyes became fixed upon a presentment that chained attention and suspicion.

There lay two one hundred dollar bank notes pinned to a card on which was written "Octavia Murrhead." An open sheet lay in full view. "At the Blue Garden," it read. "At precisely nine, Tuesday evening, bring the money." That was all, but it was enough to arouse Noel to a settled conviction that Allen Parker was deceiving Lucia, was proving himself unworthy of the pure, innocent girl who was betrothed to him. The Blue Garden was a rendezvous for the giddy and dissipated of both sexes. The familiarly worded note, the card, the money, all placed Allen under certain suspicion.

Noel jumped at a conclusion. He felt it a duty to follow down further the possible perfidy of Allen. There was but one thing to do, he decided—learn more details of Allen Parker's interest in this Octavia Murrhead and then warn Lucia. At nine o'clock that evening Noel, feeling somehow treacherous, but striving to believe he was acting as the champion of innocence, sat in a secluded corner of the rendezvous appointed. He saw a flashily dressed, bold-acting rugged woman dressed, bold-acting rugged woman meet Allen. Money passed between them and then the woman handed a folded paper to him. Noel started to leave the place so as to be able to continue the trail of Allen further. A crowd at the door delayed him. He was shushed as a hand was placed on his shoulder.

"Why, Noel!" spoke Allen. "What in the world brings you to a place like this?"

"I was wondering the same thing about you," stammered Noel in an embarrassed, yet challenging way.

If Allen suspected that he had been followed he did not say so. A thoughtful expression came into his face. Then he handed the paper he had received from the woman to Noel.

"Old fellow," he said kindly, "I have been working to buy that document for some time. It appears to be a note to which you, in your old days probably when not quite yourself, signed the name of your employer. That woman is the go-between of one of your old gambler friends. Take it, destroy it and—forget."

"All except what you have done for me!" breathed Noel Dayton, the tears of mingled shame and gratitude rushing to his eyes. "Oh, how I have misjudged you!"

FINALLY REACHED HIS POINT

Lawyer's Flowery Eloquence Turned Out to Be Prelude to Very Simple Request.

Norman Haggood, the new minister to Denmark, was talking about a "whitewashing" case.

"The case reminds me," he said, "of Pietro Libertini, a scion of sunny Italy, who was on trial for a murderous assault. His lawyer defended him in this manner:—

"Your honor," the lawyer began, "my client, Signor Pietro Libertini, comes from Italia la Bella, land of romance, art and immortal literature. He comes, your honor, from the sun-kissed home of the illustrious Michelangelo Buonarroti, of the divine Raphael and the undying Dante Alighieri. He comes from the olive-crowned birthplace of Tasso, Ariosto and the humorous Boccaccio. His home is Italia, prolific mother of art and science, progenitrix of Galvani and Galileo Galilei."

"After the lawyer had gone on in this strain for about an hour the judge began to get impatient.

"What has all this got to do with the case?" he finally asked.

"My poor words," said the lawyer, "are by way of preface. My client, from immortal Italia, home of the painter and the sculptor, humbly prays this court to apply to him the very lowest form of pictorial art. He prays, your honor, to be whitewashed."

BIRD APARTMENTS RENT FREE

Orchardists Seek to Encourage the Woodpecker to Settle in Their Midst, as it Were.

It may sound like a joke to speak of the manufacture of woodpecker nests, but there is actually a factory in Maine that takes many orders for such nests.

The birdhouses are constructed of pine blocks 15 inches long and from five to six inches in diameter. The back of the block is squared to permit of the patent adjustment being properly attached to the tree or placed where the house is to be located, a canopy or top piece to keep out the weather being made like a roof. A perfect nest is drilled by a reamer. Within three inches of the bottom a corkscrew indentation is made to the bird entrance, as the toes of the woodpecker are in pairs, two before and two behind, with sharp, strong claws, the whole structure of the foot making it adaptable for climbing.

The houses are sold to orchard owners, as the claim is made by the ornithologists that the woodpecker's feed consists chiefly of insects and their larvae, which the birds get by digging into the bark and wood of trees. The woodpecker's tongue is an important instrument in obtaining its feed, as it can be extended far beyond the bill, its tip being horny and furnished with a barbed filament.

Changes Planes in Mid-Air. The daring maneuver of jumping from one airplane to another while in full flight was recently accomplished by a lieutenant of aviation, and is pictured in Popular Mechanics Magazine. Climbing down to the undercarriage of the machine in which he had left the ground as a passenger, he reached the horizontal bar of the landing chassis. Hanging to this, and executing acrobatic evolutions, he awaited the approach of a second ship flying at a lower level. As it came beneath him, he released his hold and dropped onto its top plane, landing at a point near the middle of the right wing. While he had estimated the relative speeds of the two machines correctly and judged his distance without error, it still remained for him to obtain a firm hold, or possibly suffer the inconvenience of falling 5,000 feet.

It All Depends. The teacher was teaching his class in a mental arithmetic lesson. After "tables" had been repeated he commenced giving a series of mental sums, and presently asked an intelligent little Scot:

"How many marbles would you get if I gave 20 to be divided between you and Johnny McGregor?"

"After a moment's hesitation the youngster answered: "I canna tell, sir."

"How's that?" queried the teacher.

"Weel, sir," said he, "ye see, it's a' accordin' to how ye gie 'em when we're both here we'd hae ten each; but if ye gie 'em tae Johnny when I wasna present, I'd only get about five; while if ye gie 'em tae me tae share when Johnny wasna here, I'dinna ken whether he'd hae any at a'!"—Columbus (S. C.) State.

Women in British Industries. The vast extent to which British women replaced men in industry and commerce during the war is disclosed in a white paper just issued. It is estimated that the net increase in female workers employed outside their own homes was 1,200,000.

The number of females employed in industrial concerns and government establishments in April, 1918, were: Munitions, 701,000; other government work in industry, 774,000. The number of females employed as permanent work people in agriculture in July, 1914, was 80,000; in 1918 the number was 113,000.

Encouragement. He (dejectedly)—Is this final? Is there no hope for me? She—Oh, my, yes! There are lots of girls not so particular as I am.

The Highbinder

By VICTOR REDCLIFFE

(Copyright, 1919, by Western Newspaper Union.)

We all liked Ly Hong Chang and father was particularly attached to him. He was so recently from his native land that his speech was obscure and imperfect, but he was bright, quick, eager to learn, and every week in our service saw him with a clearer understanding and more and more accustomed to our ways.

We always kept several servants, but when Ly, as we familiarly called him, was given a position under our chauffeur and duly domesticated in a room in the garage, the cook and housemaid affected great dread of "the heathen" who might at any time decide to murder us all in our beds! The mild, smiling ways of the new comer soon dispelled any such fanciful forebodings, however. He was tireless as to his work, pleasant, accommodating and neat as a pin at all times. We had reason to cherish and value Ly. But for his vigilance, force and self-sacrifice, father might have never seen home and family again. In a hotel fire he had been panned in by flames on the highest floor of the blazing building, had fallen, choked and insensible, in a tortuously winding corridor and Ly, who was an extra watchman of the caravansary at the time, had lifted him on his stout shoulders and had brought him to safety at the cost of numerous burns on face and hands. We all stared when, a few days later, father returned home accompanied by the uncouth Ly. We were aroused to varied emotions when we learned of the great deed which had saved us a kind and indulgent parent.

Ly never referred to his home and friends in his native land, if he had any. He would solemnly detail his hard experiences in seeking work after he had landed in this country. It seemed quite strange that in no case did these recitals show that he had sought aid or companionship from those of his own race. He never went away from the place after coming with us, and he had fixed up the garage room assigned to him in unique and elaborate fashion. Bit by bit Ly accumulated odd-shaped shells, crockery, some miniature Chinese gods, bells, cymbals and draperies, and every morning he burned joss sticks before a small-curtained shrine.

So far as Ly was concerned affairs seemed to move on smoothly, and in a few weeks he had become a settled feature of the domestic economy. I was quite curious for a spell of about a week when Ly's service seemed to be in considerable demand by my father. They were together, shut in the library, as if in secret consultation. During the same period I knew that my father was greatly troubled about his business. My mother called me to her one day with a grave, anxious face.

"Celia," she said, "I have something serious to tell you."

"It is about father?" I inquired with intuitive dread.

"Yes, dear. His business is in a position where the lack of ready capital may lead to disaster. If it so culminates your marriage with Gerald, must be postponed until we have retrieved ourselves financially."

A month later my father began to brighten up into his old self. It was not until long after this that I knew why. It was then that a mystery surrounding Ly came to light. He had fled from his native land with jewels that had been in his family for centuries. A member of another branch of the family had sought to rob him. Ly was satisfied that this man, Tao Chin, would follow him to the ends of the world to despoil him. Tao Chin was a member of the highbinders, who had branches in every country. Ly had learned that Tao Chin had come to America—hence his hermitlike methods.

What Ly had done was to loan my father his jewels to hypothecate until he could realize from his business. Three months later my father redeemed and restored them, practically saved from bankruptcy by the humble, but loyal Ly.

One day a ragged skeleton of a Chinaman fainted away from sheer hunger and weakness just outside our place. He was carried into the garage, but none too welcome by his fellow countryman. Ly fed him and nursed him for a day, but with the sullen suspiciousness of the next evening he gave him some of his own apparel and sent him on his way.

It was perhaps an hour later when our chauffeur imparted to father that a terrible tragedy had occurred half a mile down the lane that ran behind our place. Two Chinamen had been found gasping their last breath. They had literally hacked each other to death.

Later we knew who these victims were. One was Tao Chin, the other was the outcast Ly had befriended. The former had doubtless discovered Ly, had mistaken for him the other Chinaman in his clothes, and attacked him. Each had drawn a knife. The result cleared Ly from the crowning dread of his life.

At my wedding a blazing jewel on my bridal veil from the collection owned by Ly, testified to his honest affection for the family who had given him a home.

Ball bearings lessen the labor of using large shears that have been invented.

HONDURAN CITY OF MYSTERY

No Scholar Has Been Able to Decipher the Picture-Writings Left in Copan.

Copan is a city of mystery. The people who once thronged its streets and bowed at its altars are long since gone, leaving no record of their existence save the hoary stones of their city. These stones, built into pyramids, walls and monuments, bear their story carved in the Maya characters. But no descendants have survived to interpret the stories, and no scholar has arisen wise enough to read the picture-writings of Copan.

Ruins of this oldest city of the Maya Indians may still be seen by those sufficiently persistent and enthusiastic to seek them out. A little Indian village in western Honduras, and the river on which it lies keep the name of Copan alive today. To visit the ruins of the great Copan you must seek out this village by train and then go a long journey on horseback. Just beyond the village lies the old Maya metropolis.

The only inhabitants of Copan today are queer figures of the Maya gods, that peer out of unexpected hiding places like the creatures of a bad dream. Wonderfully carved many of them are, grotesque in attitude and expression, according to the artists' conception of the beings of the other world.

When Copan flourished, how it fell, and what became of its last people, no one knows. The city is as desolate as only a deserted city can be, oppressive and sad even in the bright sunlight of a tropical midday.—"Niksah" in Indianapolis Star.

FIRST TO WEAR FINGER RING

Legend Makes Prometheus the Pioneer of Custom That May Now Be Called Universal.

The first finger ring is supposed to have been worn by Prometheus, who stole fire from heaven that man might warm himself and cook his food. This act so incensed Jupiter that the king of gods condemned him to be chained upon a rock where vultures could constantly feast upon him. The sentence was carried out, but Prometheus was released. Then Jupiter ordered that Prometheus wear a link of chain about his finger as a reminder of the punishment. A fragment of the rock to which he had been chained was set in the ring, so that he might still be regarded as being bound to the rock.

The custom of wearing an engagement or wedding ring upon the third finger is due to an ancient belief that a nerve or vein directly connected this finger with the heart, according to a writer in the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Macrobius said: "Because of this nerve the newly betrothed places the ring on this finger of his beloved, as though it were a representation of the heart." And just to show that the practice is a very old one, Macrobius admitted having obtained the facts from an Egyptian priest, thus linking the belief with the dim reaches of the past.

Junior Resembles His Papa. His friends said it was excusable because it was his first boy. He exhibited the photograph at the bank where he was employed.

"Isn't he a wonder?" the young father would say, passing it through the window.

"You bet he is—really good looking and intelligent; yes, he does resemble his father." And papa would beam and act as though he had not noticed the flattering smile. All day the same thing was repeated as friends entered the bank.

He was "real tickled" with himself when he went home that night and handed the package of photographs to his wife. As she opened it the much flattered papa told her how his friends had admired "Junior," and did she think the little fellow looked as much like him as people had said?

Mrs. Bank Teller took one look at the contents of the package.

"Why, dearie, the photographer has made a mistake; he gave you the wrong pictures."—Kansas City Star.

Clock Tower of Jerusalem. Since the occupation of the holy city of Jerusalem by the British it is gradually becoming more westernized. For the first time in its history its streets are properly cleaned and it has been given a fire brigade service and now an efficient water-supply. Hitherto its inhabitants depended upon a few wells and water collected in overhead cisterns. The telephone, too, has been introduced.

Its most striking improvement—though it is one that was carried out just prior to the war—was the erection of a fine clock tower at the Jaffa gate. It is built of white stone obtained from Solomon's quarries, of which the temple was constructed. The clock, which was supplied by a London watchmaker, shows both European and Arabic time. Opposite the tower a drinking fountain has been erected, and the roadway which leads through the old walls into the city at this point has been entirely rebuilt.

Vary Your Garden. Remember that plant diseases and insects thrive where they have become established. Therefore, gardeners this year should take care not to place the individual crops where the same crops grew last year. Varying the arrangement of the garden reduces the danger from disease and insects. The same vegetables in the same place each year exhaust certain food elements, and reduced yields are sure to result.

TOO FEW USE THEIR BRAINS

Result Truthfully May Be Said to Be the Greatest Waste in the World.

The recent invention which renders wireless transmission independent of atmospheric conditions and the discovery by which seven messages can be sent simultaneously over a telephone wire are striking instances of latent possibilities long unsuspected.

For thousands of years we did not even suspect the existence of electricity, and, being ignorant, derived no advantage from it.

If we had never heard music, we would say it was merely the dream of a simpleton to expect the most beautiful harmony of sounds from a combination of wood, intestines of a dead cat and hairs from the tail of a horse. But the violin, plus the man who knows how, accomplishes the wonderful result.

Active talent is the source of both quantity and quality of production, and that does not lie in capital but in men, and it usually is latent.

Every man has power and courage, but not all of them know it. David had it, and knew it, and licked Goliath.

Foch was not plucked from the "four hundred."

And Lincoln came from a log cabin.

Not only once in a while, but very often, nature takes a particularly "raw" bit of material and shows up what is in it. It is a suggestion for us to do likewise with ourselves.

The greatest waste in the world is the unused brains.

TAKING HIM DOWN A PEG

Visitor's Comment on the Intelligence of His Host Verged on the Caustic.

Two old men, one a bachelor and the other a widower of many years' standing, have lived on small adjoining farms in the southern part of Washington county for many years. Not long ago one of them inherited a small amount of money and he immediately put it to use by building a new shack on his land.

When the house was completed he asked his old friend and neighbor to come over to spend the night. After supper they sat by the fire and smoked and talked, and finally, when conversation began to lag, the visitor turned to his host and said:

"You say this home is all done and paid for?"

"Yes," was the short reply.

"And you planned it all yourself and hired the carpenters and everything?" the guest insisted.

"Why, yes, of course, I did. What's the matter with you?"

"Oh, nuthin' much," yawned the visitor. "Only if I was smart enough to buy a house and build it and then'd ast folks to come to see it, I'll be dum'd if I wouldn't know when it was time to say something about going to bed."—Indianapolis News.

The soldiers are said to be tired of welcome home parades. Anyway they make the home crowd feel lots better.

Mention was made last week of the arrest by the deputy sheriff of one S. H. Pill. The arrest having been made at 11, Pill was charged with having drawn a check for \$9.55, payable to George Newcom, for the purchase of an inner tube. Not having a check of his own banking house, Pill had used a Crawford County State bank check, but had neglected to place the name of his bank upon the same. When arrested it seems he was able to satisfy the deputy sheriff of his innocence, but the deputy thought Pill should pay the cost, as being unable to tell the amount of the costs the deputy arranged that Pill should send the same upon his arrival at Ft. Dodge, and upon being notified of the amount. In due course of time the check was made good, but the deputy sheriff received a letter from Pill in which he said he had consulted his attorney and was advised that inasmuch as the sheriff had released him, he could not collect the costs, and that he (the sheriff) should look to Newcom for the costs. And there the matter ends—the costs amounting to about \$8.00.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. K. Meyers were at Sioux City last week in attendance at the state Sunday school convention. On Sunday last they made a report on the convention proceedings at the Baptist church using the usual preaching hour in the absence of the pastor at another city. Mr. Meyers also made a report before the M. E. school.

Miss Mildred Lundell left for Newman's Grove, Neb., Wednesday to spend a couple of weeks visiting acquaintances.

Mrs. E. H. Sandstrom and daughter, Doris, and Miss Abbie Lundell were visitors at Omaha Wednesday.

The Mission Sunday school and friends left in autos Friday morning for Lake View to spend their annual outing. The day and weather proved

ideal for the fine time at the lake. Bathing proved the greatest enjoyment to all going into the water and especially to the children who decided it the best time they ever spent at the lake.

E. E. Clauson spent Saturday afternoon at Boyer, where he conducted the sale of the household goods belonging to Frank Priests, who is leaving for Chicago with his family to locate.

G. A. Norellus and C. A. Dolk made an auto trip to Climbing Hill Tuesday on business.

Dr. J. O. Nyström and two daughters, of Omaha, came up Thursday evening to join the Sunday school outing at the lake. They remained over Sunday visiting friends and enjoying country life.

L. F. Gronau made a trip to Lincoln, Neb., the latter part of the week to inspect a ranch which is being offered for sale.

Reports are that August Shultz is gradually failing and that very little hope is being had for his recovery considering his advanced age and the complicated nature of his ailment.

The Dolk & Clauson land agency resold the Wright 200 acre farm four miles from Kirton last week at \$325 per acre. Other land deals in the neighborhood of Kirton last week were the Anderson Linden 80 acre farm three miles northeast of town for \$425 per acre, Oscar Olson, a neighbor, being the purchaser. J. G. Anderson sold his fine 80 acre farm three and a half miles northeast of Kirton to Charles Danielson, who paid \$450 an acre for the same. Edwin Johnson purchased the Ward 40 acre tract in the same neighborhood of Kirton for \$550 per acre. Mr. Olson purchased this forty a month ago at \$300.

Mrs. P. C. Lawrence and children, of Houston, Tex., visited with relatives at Kirton and Boyer the past week.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Russell Linman on Friday morning, a fine baby girl. The happy parents are elated over the acquisition to their home and the little miss will never want for care, love and devotion from her worthy papa and mamma.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Buller west of Kirton, the stork paid another visit Friday and entrusted to them for care, love and protection a bouncing boy. The happy parents are proudly receiving the congratulations of their friends.

Dr. W. A. Garner transacted business in Omaha Thursday.

At the meeting called at the hall on Thursday evening for the purpose of ascertaining what could be done toward the erection of a monument in commemoration of the boys who laid down their lives in the war service, committees were appointed to solicit

so much better. "I simply will not have mother cooking in this heat," declared Susan.

"What'll be in the sweet tooth of the sweet tooth?" asked the mother, resting at the table and the five young ones.

"I'll have apple pie tonight," Susan declared.

"Oh, nuthin' much," yawned the visitor. "Only if I was smart enough to buy a house and build it and then'd ast folks to come to see it, I'll be dum'd if I wouldn't know when it was time to say something about going to bed."—Indianapolis News.

Finally father summed up the situation.

"Mother," he said, "I'm going to shock your pride and add several years to your life, so no more cooking this up!" Susan prepared the dessert.

Mother was a little, but she became more and more overcame that.

"What's the trick?" she asked.

"I'll tell you," she replied.

SCHUMACHER SELF-FEEDER The Self-fed Hog Is the Best-Paying Hog. The most successful hog raisers have discontinued the old fashioned wasteful method of feeding for the more economical and labor saving SCHUMACHER FEEDING PLAN which consists of giving hogs free access to SCHUMACHER FEED, corn and tankage in self-feeders. Tests have proven that SCHUMACHER FEED saves corn and makes more pounds of pork at less cost. Call at our store and ask for free booklet "BIG PIGS AND HOW TO RAISE 'EM," which tells all about the more profitable and better method of feeding hogs. The Northwestern Seed Co. Denison, Iowa (16-F)

Zu-Zu Snap and ginger, ginger and snap—ZU ZU Ginger Snaps. Give them to boys and girls with apple sauce or other stewed fruit. How different they make everything taste. Alone, they're a feast in themselves. NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

Ford THE UNIVERSAL CAR. We are experienced and know how to give service to the owners of Ford cars. We have the same methods, machinery and skill that they have in the Ford Factory, and we use the same Parts made by the Ford Motor Company. Ford owners are doubly guaranteed by us as to the reliability of our service on Ford cars. Don't try to do it yourself, bring your car here. Incidentally we are getting a few Ford cars and are able to make fairly good deliveries. Touring Car, \$525; Runabout, \$500; One Ton Truck Chassis, \$550; Coupe, \$650; Sedan, \$775. These prices f. o. b. Detroit. LINCOLN HIGHWAY GARAGE Geo. Newcom Proprietor DENISON, IOWA