

The Manager Of the B. & A.

By VAUGHAN KESTER

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CHAPTER XVI.

THE hot days dragged on. Dan and his father moved down to the shops. Two cots were placed in the pattern room, where they slept and where Roger Oakley spent most of his time reading his Bible or in brooding over the situation. Their meals were brought to them from the hotel. It was not that Dan suspected the men of any sinister intentions, but he felt it was just as well that they should understand the utter futility of any lawlessness, and, besides, his father was much happier in the solitude of the empty shops than he could have been elsewhere in Antioch. All day long he followed McClintock about, helping with such odd jobs as were necessary to keep the machinery in perfect order. He was completely crushed and broken in spirit. He had aged ten.

At the office Dan saw only Holt and McClintock. Sick of Kerr's presence and exasperated at his evident sympathy for the strikers—a sympathy he was at no pains to conceal—he had laid him off, a step that was tantamount to dismissal. Miss Walton was absent on her vacation, which he extended from week to week. It was maddening to him to have her around with nothing to do, for he and Holt found it difficult to keep decently busy themselves now the shops had closed.

Holloway, the vice president of the road, visited Antioch just once during the early days of the strike. He approved—being of an approving disposition—of all Oakley had done and then went back home to Chicago, after telling him not to yield a single point in the fight.

"We've got to starve 'em into submission," said this genial soul. "There's nothing like an empty stomach to sap a man's courage, especially when he's got a household of hungry, squalling brats. I don't know but what you'd better arrange to get in foreigners. Americans are too independent."

But Oakley was opposed to this. "The men will be glad enough to accept the new scale of wages a little later, and the lesson won't be wasted on them."

"Yes, I know, but the question is, do we want 'em? I wish Cornish was here. I think he'd advise some radical move. He's all right."

Oakley, however, was devoutly thankful that the general was in England, where he hoped he would stay. He had no wish to see the men ruined. A wholesome lesson would suffice. He was much relieved when the time arrived to escort Holloway to his train. All this while the Herald continued its attacks, but Dan no longer minded them. Nothing Ryder could say could augment his unpopularity. It had reached its finality. He never guessed that, indirectly at least, Constance Emory was responsible for by far the greater part of Ryder's present bitterness. She objected to his partisanship of the men, and this only served to increase his verbal intemperance; but, in spite of the antagonism of their views, they remained friends. Constance was willing to endure much from Ryder that she would have resented from any one else. She liked him, and she was sorry for him; he seemed unhappy, and she imagined he suffered as she herself suffered and from the same cause. There was still another motive for her forbearance which, perhaps, she did not realize. The strike and Oakley had become a mania with the editor, and from him she was able to learn what Dan was doing.

The unpopularity of his son was a source of infinite grief to Roger Oakley, the more so as he took the burden of it on his own shoulders. He brooded over it until presently he decided that he would have a talk with Ryder and explain matters to him and ask him to discontinue his abuse of Dan. There was a streak in the old convict's mind which was hardly sane, for no man spends the best years of his life in prison and comes out as clear headed as he goes in.

As he pattered about the shops with McClintock he meditated on his project. He was sure if he could show Ryder where he was wrong and unfair he would hasten to make amends. It never occurred to him that Ryder had merely followed in the wake of public opinion, giving it definite expression.

One evening—and he chose the hour when he knew Antioch would be at supper and the streets deserted—he stole from the shops without telling Dan where he was going, as he had a shrewd idea that he would put a veto on his scheme did he know of it.

With all his courage his pace slackened as he approached the Herald office. He possessed unbounded respect for print and still greater respect for the man who spoke in print.

The door stood open, and he looked in over the top of his steel bedpost spectacles. The office was dark and shadowy, but from an inner room, where the presses stood, a light shone. While he hesitated the half grown boy who was Griff's chief assistant came from the office. Roger Oakley placed a hand on his shoulder.

"Is Mr. Ryder in, sonny?" he asked. "Yes, he's in the back room, where you see the light."

"Thank you." He found Ryder busy making up by the light of a single dingy lamp, for the Herald went to press in the morning. Griff gave a start of surprise when he saw who his visitor was. Then he said sharply, "Well, sir, what can I do for

you?"

It was the first time the old convict and the editor had met, and Roger Oakley, peering over his spectacles, studied Ryder's face in his usual slow fashion. At last he said, "I hope I am not intruding, Mr. Ryder, for I'd like to speak with you."

"Then be quick about it," snapped Griff. "Don't you see I'm busy?"

With the utmost deliberation the old convict took from his pocket a large red and yellow bandanna handkerchief. Then he removed his hat and wiped his face and neck with elaborate thoroughness. When he finally spoke he dropped his voice to an impressive whisper. "I don't think you understand Dannie, Mr. Ryder, or the reasons for the trouble down at the shops."

"Don't! Well, I'll be charmed to hear your explanation." And he put down the rule with which he had been measuring one of the printed columns on the table before him.

Without being asked Roger Oakley seated himself in a chair by the door. He placed his hat and handkerchief on a corner of the table and took off his spectacles, which he put into their case. Ryder watched him with curious interest.

"I knew we could settle this, Mr. Ryder," said he, with friendly simplicity. "You've been unfair to my son. That was because you did not understand. When you do I am certain you will do what you can to make right the wrong you have done him."

A vicious, sinister smile wreathed Ryder's lips. He nodded. "Go on."

"Dannie's done nothing to you to make you wish to hurt him, for you are hurting him. He doesn't admit it, but I know."

"I hope so," said Ryder tersely. "I should hate to think my energy had been entirely wasted."

A look of pained surprise crossed Roger Oakley's face. He was quite shocked at the un-Christian feeling Griff was displaying. "No, you don't mean that!" he made haste to say. "You can't mean it."

"Can't I?" cynically.

Roger Oakley stole a glance from under his thick, bushy eyebrows at the editor. He wondered if an apt quotation from the Scriptures would be of any assistance. The moral logic with which he had intended to overwhelm



Ryder staggered back.

him had somehow gone astray. He presented the singular spectacle of a man who was in the wrong and who knew he was in the wrong and was yet determined to persist in it.

"There's something I'll tell you that I haven't told any one else," he glanced again at Ryder to see the effect of the proposed confidence, and again the latter nodded for him to go on.

"I am going away. I haven't told my son yet, but I've got it all planned, and when I am gone you won't have any reason to hate Dannie, will you?"

"That's an admirable idea, Mr. Oakley, and if Dannie, as you call him, has half your good sense he'll follow your example."

"No; he can't leave. He must stay, he's the manager of the road," with evident pride. "He's got to stay, but I'll go. Won't that do just as well?" a little anxiously, for he could not fathom the look on Ryder's dark face. Ryder only gave him a smile in answer, and he continued hurriedly:

"You see, the trouble's been about me and my working in the shops. If I hadn't come here there'd have been no strike. As for Dannie, he's made a man of himself. You don't know and I don't know how hard he's worked and how faithful he's been. What I've done mustn't reflect on him. It all happened when he was a little boy—so high," extending his hand.

"Mr. Oakley," said Ryder coldly and insultingly, "I propose, if I can, to make this town too hot to hold your son, and I am grateful to you for the unconscious compliment you have paid me by this visit."

"Dannie don't know I came," quickly.

(To Be Continued.)

OFF BROADWAY

HORSES MUST BE HITCHED TO GENERAL COUNCIL ACTS.

Board of Public Works Asks for Regulation to Preserve Paved Streets.

Off Broadway vehicles will have to be hitched if the general council acts in accordance with the recommendation of the board of public works. Especially where the street is double tracked the presence of vehicles protruding from the curb half way to the track is a nuisance in the eyes of the board.

The streets are damaged by horses standing and pawing, and are kept in bad condition by them.

Another object is the danger. Should a horse become frightened at a street car or automobile, or should a horse suddenly back into a passing vehicle, crowding between it and the car track, a runaway might ensue and a dozen rigs be involved, with possibilities of loss of life and great damage to property.

The board yesterday made recommendation to the general council to enact an ordinance prohibiting, or regulating, the standing of vehicles on the streets.

MET ROOSEVELT BOYS.

Dr. Overton Brooks Writes of a Call From Them.

A most interesting letter has been received by Mrs. J. G. Brooks from her son, Dr. Overton Brooks, who with Dr. Robert Smith is practicing medicine in Chicago. In the letter was a clipping from the Chicago Times describing a day's visit Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., and his cousin, George Roosevelt, made in Chicago, where they were the guests of Drs. Brooks and Smith. The two young Roosevelts were on their way to the west on a hunting trip, for Theodore, Jr., in many ways has shown himself to be a "chip off the old block." However, Dr. Brooks writes that he is wholly unaffected and quite modest. Dr. Overton Brooks was a cadet-mate of George Roosevelt's at the government naval academy at Annapolis. Dr. Smith had met the Roosevelts before. So naturally they got together. Theodore wanted to take in the ball game but finally acquiesced in the majority opinion that an automobile ride be taken over the city. Afterward a luncheon was enjoyed in a downtown cafe. The visitors were in Chicago last Saturday.

ROOSEVELT OUT AGAINST ODELL. Informs Friends Parsons Must Be Kept at Head of Committee.

New York, Aug. 23.—President Roosevelt has informed his friends in this city unofficially that he desires the re-election of Herbert Parsons as president of the Republican county committee, and the defeat of the opposition headed by B. B. Odell, Jr., chairman of the state committee, Lemuel E. Quigg and Senator Platt. Furthermore, the president has told his friends that, inasmuch as he chose Mr. Parsons for the presidency of the committee and thereby brought about his election, he would regard the defeat of Mr. Parsons as an indirect blow at himself. For this reason, and also because of his personal friendship for Mr. Parsons, he is taking the keenest interest in the primary campaign in which the Republican political leaders in this state who are hostile to him are banded together to bring about Mr. Parsons' defeat.

Beggar Worth \$20,000.

New York, August 23.—Patrick Trainor, 72 years old, dressed in an old red flannel undershirt, ragged trousers and worn out shoes walked into the Fifth street station-house early today and said he was hungry. Sergeant Sullivan and two or three policemen chipped in and bought him a meal and their sympathies went out to him so heartily as he devoured the food that they uttered "poor fellow" several times. Something in the man's action aroused Sullivan's suspicions and Trainor was made a prisoner. When he was searched \$227 and a tabulated list of property he owned valued at \$20,000 were found in his pocket. In Yorkville court, later, Trainor's niece said her uncle is worth more than \$20,000, but that he lived alone, having the idea that everybody was trying to steal his money. At her request he was committed to Bellevue hospital to be examined as to his sanity.

Clodfelter in Ninth Indiana. Marion P. Clodfelter was nominated for congress yesterday by the Democrats of the Ninth Indiana district.

Third Regiment Off. The Third regiment, Kentucky national guards, will go into camp at Camp Harris this morning.

CROP CONDITIONS.

Caldwell County—The outlook for corn was never better. Tobacco looks well and in clean condition. Oats are nearly a failure, owing to the May and June drouth. Meadows very short. To get a stand of clover is a thing of the past. Farmers are becoming discouraged and some talk of not sowing again. Alfalfa is being sowed by quite a chance of farmers, and some with very good results. Fruit scarce. Gardens were never better. Labor scarce. Railroads and mines paying better prices than farmers can pay.

Christian County—We have had a fine season for the growth of crops. Wheat was hardly a good average. Never saw corn looking better at this season. Tobacco about two weeks late, but growing rapidly now. Much fallowing has been done for wheat. Stock of all kinds doing well.

Crittenden County—All corn has been well worked, and is now having plenty of rain, and the early planted is practically made. Wheat yield is very light, but quality is good, all grading No. 2. Tobacco has been well worked and the late rains have made wonderful improvement in its condition, most of it ready for topping. Stock peas are excellent. Sorghum fine. Gardens never better. Tomatoes, beans, cabbage, cucumbers, melons, potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables, are as fine as can be. Apples are falling off prematurely. Grapes ripening in good condition.

Hickman County—All growing crops in the best condition and prospects of an abundant yield were never better. Wheat suffered considerable damage from Hessian fly; also from rains while in shock. Much was threshed in bad condition, which lowers the per cent. considerably. Tobacco is a small crop in this part of the county. What there is, is in small patches and looks well.

McCracken County—July was highly favorable throughout as a farming month, with the exception of tobacco, for which there was too much rain, causing considerable complaint of frechening. If the weather continues seasonable for the next two weeks, and there is not an early frost I think the corn crop will be a record-breaker. Early corn, possibly 20 per cent. of the crop, is practically assured. Fifty per cent. of the remainder will make a fair yield without any more rain. The remainder of the crop is late, but almost the entire crop has been well cultivated. Far better than usual, and this would help it very greatly in withstanding an August drouth. Wheat threshing is completed; the yield is good, about 15 bushels per acre; the quality strictly No. 2, and was saved in fine condition. While threshing was considerably retarded by rain, I doubt if there was ten bushels of damaged wheat in the county. Pastures are good and stock of all kinds in good condition. Grapes are rotting badly, and apples and peaches are a very short crop. Gardens did not fully recover from the drouth of May and June.

HYPNOTISM.

Heber McGrath, the well known Danville barber, spent last week in Hustonville, and while there assisted Mr. Gilcock, of that city. Thursday morning a well dressed young man, looking the image of robust health, got into McGrath's chair and called for a hair trim. The moment the steel shears were put to his head he dropped forward apparently a corpse. Heber was terribly excited and threw up his hands in horror. Other people in the shop were also frightened and a general commotion ensued until the proprietor of the shop, who had shaved the young man upon numerous occasions, announced that there was nothing the matter with him, that the touch of steel to his flesh had a hypnotic effect and put him into a deep slumber. He awakened after a few minutes and made a similar statement himself, but Heber wouldn't finish the job until a couple of men agreed to hold the customer in the chair.

He related a hair-breadth escape which he experienced as a bare-foot boy. His family lived near the Cincinnati Southern, and one day just after he had shed his shoes in the springtime he started to walk across the railroad, having forgotten that the touch of the steel ties to his feet would paralyze him. The moment his foot struck the tie he dropped to the road absolutely helpless. A tramp rescued him as a fast express was approaching. The gentleman is one of the best citizens in Hustonville and has many relatives among the most highly respected people of Danville.—Boyle County Herald.

Carminer—is the stuff you planted coming up all right? Subbubs—Yes, thanks to you, old chap, for letting your hens and chickens run 'round loose.

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