

# The Women's Candidate

BYRON WILLIAMS

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He went over and peered through the grimy glass.

"This handbox is on the river bank," he said, "and—yes, there's a boat down there. If we could get these bars loose—"

"Try the leg of this chair," suggested the girl.

"These village lockups are easy to get into—and not—very—hard—working—to get out of," as the rattling casing let go its hold upon the bar.

"Hurry," urged Miss Arney. "They'll be back before we can get out."

"No fear," replied the mayor. "They'll slip under the bed. Go to the door."

In a twinkling the mayor was safely out of sight. The girl opened the door.

"Oh, hello, Jackie," she cried, in a relieved voice. "Come in."

"Bess, we're in a terrible pickle," sobbed Miss Vining. "That horrid man took Mabel Arney to Lakeville this morning and got her arrested. The sheriff insists she must be in the hotel and I've promised to bring the entire crowd out on the veranda for inspection. Mabel is frightened almost to death. Bess," dramatically, "we've got to dress her so the officer won't know her. Have you a switch of that flaxen hair of yours? I've got Mae Andrews' puffs. They'll match yours. We'll cover Mabel's black tresses until she looks like an albino. Here she is now," as the rustle of skirts proclaimed a new arrival.

The mayor lay on his back, facing the mattress.

"Where's that white princess of yours?" demanded Jackie. "She wore brown today. We'll have to take some tucks in it," going to the closet and helping herself.

"Here, Mabe, get into this, and live."

"Oh, no, here!" protested Bess Winters, snatching the dress from Miss Vining's hands.

The judge looked at Bess blankly. "Why not?"

"Be—because!" shrilled Bess. "I'm afraid. Slip into your room, that's a dear, and I'll bring the switch in at once."

"Oh, who's afraid?" gurgled Mabel, reaching for the gown.

"Step into the closet," implored Miss Winters. "Somebody might come."

"Bess, you're an awful coward," anathematized the judge, sternly.

The man under the bed heard the most door close and waited. There didn't seem to be anything else to do.

Presently Miss Arney reappeared. With hysterical laughter the changing of blackhaired Mabel into a ravishing blonde proceeded rapidly.

"There!" exclaimed Miss Vining triumphantly, "the sheriff will never know her in the world. Come on."

Mayor Bedight heard the door close. Rolling from under the bed, he locked the door and sat down to await developments. Half an hour later somebody knocked at the door. The mayor waited.

"Walter!" whispered an excited voice.

"If you will permit the liberty, may I say that you are a very pretty jailbird?"

"Prisoners should never be facetious with their keepers," she replied, making a face at him in the sunlight.

"Here, gol darn ye, where ye goin'?" I'm looking for you!"

It was the voice of the game warden, howling excitedly from the bank. For answer, Bedight shaped his hands like a horn and, in mock earnestness, called back:

"I'm on my honeymoon! 'Everybody's doin' it now.'"

It was dark when a farmer's wagon stopped a block from Squirrel Inn. The mayor and Miss Arney strolled leisurely to the veranda of the hotel.

"He's perfectly lovely!" confided Mabel to Jackie, blushing rosy.

"Him?" responded Judge Vining, with a queer little feeling under her corsage. "I'm glad to hear it. The sheriff is waiting for him in the office."

CHAPTER VI. In the office, smoking one of Mine Host's best cigars, his dignity outraged, sat the sheriff, waiting.

Mayor Bedight walked up the hotel stairs, oblivious to his pending fate. Suddenly a door opened and a head appeared, a blonde head, a pliant head, a head to catch the fancy of an artist.

"Shh!" said the owner of the pretty profile.

"I'll slip under the bed. Go to the door."

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"Shh!" said the owner of the pretty profile.

"Hurry!" commanded the girl, holding open the door of her room.

His Honor, the Mayor, hesitated for a moment—and then, throwing conventionality to the winds, bolted through. The girl turned the key in the lock and faced him accusingly.

"Well of all the blundering bouncers! Do you know the sheriff has been hanging around here all afternoon waiting to arrest you?"

The mayor looked brazenly at the girl.

"I expected as much," he said, carelessly.

what to avoid losing it," blushing. "Now I hope you are satisfied—and you may go. The sheriff has disappeared for the night. You can safely occupy your apartment."

"You're a good sport," said the mayor, patting the girl tenderly on the cheek—and passed out.

### CHAPTER VII.

"There is the mound," advised Harriet Brooks on Wednesday morning, pointing to a rounded heap of earth just beyond the shade of a bur-oak a half mile inland from Sylvan Lake on Glen Isle.

Mayor Bedight took off his coat ruefully. Being prisoner to a prematurely gray-haired young lady with a clear, rosy complexion and a sweet, winsome manner was not so bad—but to be told to dig like a terrier in the rough soil was a horse of another color. But the mayor was game.

Grasping a spade, he set to work diligently. It was a warm morning and the perspiration began to ooze from his heated body.

"Come and sit in the shade a while," invited the girl, thoughtfully. "We have all day to ourselves—and the skeletons will not run away."

Bedight obeyed gratefully, throwing himself at the woman's feet in the cool shadows of the oak.

"I'm awfully interested in ancient and medieval things," she explained, smiling down at him over her book. "Once when I was in Iowa I met a man who was engaged in collecting curios—and he found a real mound-builder skeleton along the Cedar river while I was there. What if this should turn out to be something like that?" hopefully.

"Pardon me," said the mayor, boldly, "but a nice girl like yourself should not be so interested in dead ones—especially when the woods are full of live ones."

The girl's face flushed, the red against her white hair making her very attractive in the eyes of the man on the sand.

"The dead ones," she said slowly, "never stay out late nights, never tyrannize, never take everything for granted, never get a grouse, never—"

The mayor interrupted her, his face serious as he said:

"There were Darby and Joan."

"But these are the days of divorce courts," she answered, "and—genuses—"

"I am old-fashioned," he parried. "I like to dream of home with the woman in it."

"I fear it is going to rain," evaded Miss Brooks, looking anxiously at the cloud-filled west. "Do you mind digging a bit, Mr. Bedight?"

"As the wife said to her husband when she wanted a seal-skin," he taunted, returning to the mound.

She came and stood over him as he worked.

His spade struck something—and her excitement grew.

"Oh, I do hope it's a mound builder!" she cried excitedly.

The mayor grinned and kept digging. A clap of thunder pealed in the distance. As she turned apprehensively, the digger's spade pried up a long, rosy object.

"Here is your mound builder," he said soberly, raising the object upon his spade.

She gasped.

The man smiled.

"Oh!" from the woman.

"I am afraid," he breathed, softly. "It is exactly what it looks like—the tail of a cow!"

As she stood frowning at him, great drops of rain began to fall. He looked about hurriedly for shelter under a tree.

"Come on," he cried, starting for the boat upon the beach. "We'll have to camp out."

She followed him blindly.

He pulled the dory high and dry and tipped it keel up.

"Crawl under," he said as the rain began to fall in torrents.

"Why, Mr. Bedight, I can't do that!"

The man took her gently by the arm.

"You have no other choice—and besides, I'm not a cannibal!"

She stooped and sat down upon the sand under the shelter. He followed, sitting close to her, of necessity. The fury of the storm broke. The day became as dusk, lighted only by the

divid flashes of anger that tore across the sky. He felt the woman tremble.

"I—I'm afraid," almost sobbing. The mayor put his arm about her gently, soothing her as only a careful man may soothe a nervous woman. Unconsciously she drew toward him.

Alice Mason.



### Conservation Commission of Louisiana.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for Grego Antiech, Grego Antiech & Co., Frank Adolph & Co., etc.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for E. C. Joulhan Canning Co., Maurice Johnson, Albert Johnson & Co., etc.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for John Marovich, Mateo Mukaberich, Anton V. Petrovich, etc.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for Augustin Pelagalli, Jr., (Mrs.) Anne Poluta, Yoko Porabillo, etc.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for Edward Reussen, Alphonse Ricouard, Peter Rosich, etc.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for B. Vukovich, R. Vukovich, John Vela, etc.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for Burbrig, John, Burbrig, John, Blasovich, D., etc.

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for Lucas, Frank, Jr., Lucas, Frank, Jr., Lucas, F. M., Sr., etc.

### Conservation Commission of Louisiana.

The following leases of Oyster Bottoms having failed to comply with Act 189 of 1910, relative to the payment of rental, the same are hereby advertised as set forth in Section 8 of said Act, viz:

Table listing land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for Parum, Mateo, Parlovich, Mortice, etc.

### Conservation Commission of Louisiana.

The following leases, expiring by limitation, have been cancelled on the books of the Conservation Commission of Louisiana. They are subject to release by making formal application to the Commission.

Table listing cancelled land leases with columns for No., Name, Acreage, and Location. Includes entries for Burbrig, John, Burbrig, John, Blasovich, D., etc.

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### Charter of the Pointe a la Hache Oak River Canal and Development Company.

February, 13, 1913. United States of America, State of Louisiana, Parish of St. Bernard.

Be it known, that on this thirteenth day of the month of February, in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and thirteen (1913).

Before me, William F. Roy, a Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified in and for the Parish of St. Bernard, therein residing, and in the presence of the witnesses hereinafter named and undersigned, personally came and appeared the several parties whose names are hereunto subscribed who severally declared, that availing themselves of the provisions of the laws of the State of Louisiana, relative to corporations, they have covenanted and agreed by these presents, do covenant and agree and bind themselves, as well as all such other persons as may become associated with them, to form and constitute a corporation and body politic in law, for the objects and purposes and under the articles and stipulations hereinafter set forth, viz:

ARTICLE I. The name and title of this corporation shall be the Pointe a la Hache Oak River Canal and Development Company and by that name it shall have and enjoy corporate existence and succession for a period of Twenty-five (25) years from date hereof, with full power in the prosecution of and for the purposes of its business as hereinafter set forth; to sue and be sued; to acquire property both real and personal by purchase, lease or otherwise and the same to alienate, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or otherwise dispose of; to appoint or elect such directors, officers, managers or other agents or employees as its business may require; to make and use a corporate seal and the same to alter at pleasure; and in general to do all things necessary and proper, permitted by law to corporations of this character.

ARTICLE II. The domicile of this corporation shall be at Pointe a la Hache, in the Parish of Plaquemines, State of Louisiana, and all citations and other legal processes shall be served upon the president, or in his absence upon the vice president, or in the absence of both upon the secretary-treasurer.

ARTICLE III. The objects and purposes for which this corporation is organized, and the business carried on by it are declared to be; the digging of canals, drainage ditches and other water courses for its own use and that of others, and for this purpose to purchase, lease and otherwise acquire real estate, dredges, boats, machinery and other apparatus for the building, operating and maintaining of the said canals, ditches and water courses; with full authority to charge tolls and rent for the use of said canals, ditches, water courses and their banks, for drainage, navigation and other purposes. To acquire, erect and operate ice and canning factories. To construct and erect electrical plants for the manufacture and sale of electricity for lighting, power and other purposes.

ARTICLE IV. The capital stock of this corporation is hereby fixed at Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) divided into and represented by Two Hundred and Fifty Shares of the par value of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) each, which shall be paid for in cash, or may be issued in payment of or for rights or property actually received by this corporation. This corporation shall be a going concern as soon as Seventy-five Hundred Dollars (\$7500.00) of the Capital Stock shall have been subscribed for.

ARTICLE V. All the corporate powers of this corporation shall be vested in and exercised by a Board of five Directors, a majority of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Said directors shall be elected at a general meeting of the stockholders to be held on the second Tuesday in January of each year.

Notice of such meetings and of all other meetings, not otherwise provided for by law, shall be given in writing to each stockholder by mailing same to such stockholder's last known address ten days before each meeting.

At the first meeting of the board of directors after its election it shall elect

from its number a president, a vice-president and a secretary-treasurer; and all vacancies occurring shall be filled by the remaining directors, for the unexpired term.

Until the second Tuesday in January, 1914, the following shall constitute the first Board of Directors, namely:

Frank C. Mevers, Leon L. Villere, Bernard Favret, John H. Meyer and Oliver S. Livaudais, with the said Frank C. Mevers as President, the said Leon L. Villere as Vice-President, and the said Bernard Favret as Secretary-Treasurer, and they shall serve until their successors are elected.

At all of the meetings of the stockholders each stockholder shall be entitled to one vote for each share of stock owned by him and such shares may be voted in person or by proxy.

ARTICLE VI. This act of incorporation may be amended or this corporation dissolved by and with the consent of two-thirds of the entire capital stock represented in person or by proxy, at a general meeting called for the purpose after notice as provided for by law.

In case of the dissolution of this corporation, its affairs shall be liquidated by two commissioners, elected from among the stockholders at a meeting for that purpose or at the meeting at which the dissolution is voted, and they shall serve until the affairs of the corporation shall have been liquidated. Should either of the commissioners be unable to act for any reason, the remaining commissioner shall fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE VII. No stockholder of this corporation shall be held liable for the contracts or faults of this corporation beyond the unpaid balance due on the stock subscribed for by him; nor shall any informality in organization have the effect of rendering this charter null or of exposing any stockholder to any liability beyond the unpaid balance due on his stock.

Thus done and passed before me, notary in my office at the Parish of St. Bernard, on the day, month and year first hereinbefore written in the presence of A. Laburre and Jean Sarragnac, competent witnesses who have hereunto signed together with said appearers and me, notary, after reading of the whole.

(Signed) Jos. Maumus 6 Shares  
Bernard Favret 3  
Frank C. Mevers 35  
Oliver S. Livaudais 5  
Pierre Senac 2  
A. P. Perrin 2  
L. Leon Villere 4  
Geo. R. Fisk 2  
L. H. Servat 1  
Ebanth Roy 1  
E. C. Glen 1

(Signed) WM. F. ROY, Notary Public.

Witnesses:  
(Signed) A. Laburre,  
Jean Sarragnac.

Recorded Parish of Plaquemines on Feb'y. 19th, 1913, in M. O. B. 4 folio 703 of this Parish.

ERNEST ALBERTI, Clerk of Court.

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