

His First Offering

By DORA MOLLAN

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Nowadays only the coal man views with joy the first signs of winter. One swallow does not make a summer—nor does one velvet hat make a fall. However, the particular one purchased by Marietta Jones on her July trip to the city—Charge it, please, and send the bill to Mr. J. Johnson Jones—was unlucky from the start.

It delighted Marietta because it added at least two years to her age. It displeased Marietta's mother for the same reason. Marietta could stand it. She was young—very young, as Mrs. Jones often asserted. Mrs. Jones had married young—very young, she was fond of repeating. What added two years to Marietta's age must perforce have like effect upon her mother's—reason enough for her disliking the hat.

J. Johnson Jones dealt in ice. Numerous wagons bearing his name peddled the chill commodity from house to house in the very same city where the velvet hat was purchased. July is the height of the ice season. Jones, per se, didn't like to be reminded of leaner days to come. Then the bill, "Outrageous! Just for a bit of puckered-up black velvet!"

Billy Jones didn't like the hat just because he was thirteen and never liked anything his sister had or did anyway.

Amy Lovell didn't like it either. But Marietta Jones didn't know that, and wouldn't have cared in the least if she had. Amy and her mother were occupying the small cottage at the extreme end of the river road that summer. Every time Marietta drove by wearing the hat Amy would sputter: "Good-



Only a Lonely Fisherman.

ness knows, we'll probably never have such a glorious vacation as this again, mummy; people aren't going to offer us a cottage for nothing every year. And it's tough to have to be reminded that fall is coming, even if it is two months off! When it snows she'll buy a straw one, I suppose!"

Billy Jones had peddled vegetables around the neighborhood during the summer of 1918, the product of his own garden. The profits had netted Billy a \$50 Liberty bond. His enterprise had been encouraged by the family.

Even Marietta had conceded it to be "the thing to do." But in the summer of 1919, for some reason which was entirely beyond Billy's understanding, it was not at all "the thing to do." Only Mr. Jones approved. "Billy is all business," he would boast.

So when the scion of the house of Jones, carrying a large basket of crisp vegetables, knocked at the side door of the Lovell cottage one morning simultaneously with the passing of Marietta and the hat, something on the opposite side of the road seemed to have engrossed Marietta's attention. This maneuver didn't get by Billy—nothing did. He added it to the long score he already cherished against his sister, and answered the summons to "Come in," as one well used to the premises.

Billy took the chair offered him by Mrs. Lovell. Business was good here; the Lovells being one of the few families throughout who had no garden of their own. Also there was Amy, two years older than Billy, and pretty. Girls of his own age bored Billy; he had many years to go to reach the maturity where they like 'em younger. "Isn't that your sister, the girl in the black velvet hat who just drove by?" questioned Amy.

"Um," granted Billy, "she won't speak to me when I'm out selling things. Says it isn't the thing to do this year." Billy's mimicry was perfect.

"Well, I wish you would tell your sister it isn't the thing to wear velvet hats in July, either, and remind one of disagreeable things to come, like the end of vacation."

"And school," added Billy gloomily. Billy mused over Amy's words as he trudged home with empty basket and a jingling in his pocket. "Serves her right," was the conclusion he had reached when he carefully counted the morning's gains and stowed them away in a bulging canvas bag under sundry clothing in the lower drawer.

The "her" referred to was Marietta, not Amy, as transpired that afternoon when the female part of the family had departed to a tea at the Country club. Mrs. Jones had somehow managed that a pink crepe confection should adorn her daughter's head. The maids were giving a tea in the kitchen with the new gardener next door as the guest of honor. The coast was clear.

Only a lonely fisherman, patiently watching his cork bob up and down on the ripples, saw Billy as he lifted the heavy rock, then the wooden cover from an unused well close to the Jones' beach. Watched him choose a stone and place it inside a black object which he carried under one arm, tie a string around the object and drop it into the well, replace the cover and rock and walk whistling away.

The lonely fisherman, knowing Billy, was consumed with curiosity. The next morning while listening to an excited tale of the mysterious disappearance of her new velvet hat related by Marietta to his younger sister, he made a shrewd guess that the curiosity had been gratified. But he wasn't the tattling sort.

On the same morning Billy answered the usual summons and walking into Lovell's kitchen, placed a large basket of crisp vegetables on the table.

"Got string beans this morning," he announced. Mrs. Lovell departed in search of her pocketbook, which she habitually mislaid.

Billy turned to Amy. "You won't be reminded of fall any more by that lid of my sister's," he remarked; "and she won't get another right off, not if dad has to pay the bill."

"Billy Jones"—Amy looked at him with suspicious eyes—"what happened to it?"

"I could tell you—but I won't. A fellow'll do a lot for a girl he likes," was Billy's reply, uttered in a meaning voice. Amy smiled upon him sweetly.

Billy couldn't decide afterward which reward he appreciated most, Amy's sugary smile—or the dollar his mother gave him when she wormed the truth out of him. But his leaning was toward the smile.

ADVICE THAT MADE DISRAELI

Irish Statesman Credited With Giving Wise Counsel to Orator Destined to Be Great.

In the first speech in the house of commons Benjamin Disraeli had not spoken more than four or five sentences when he was interrupted with loud cries of "Hear! Hear!" He paid no attention and continued his speech, which was again interrupted with cries of "Hear! Hear!" This had the effect of angering him and he raised his voice until it became a thin falsetto. This produced roars of laughter and what was intended to be a serious oration became a mere jest. Justin McCarthy, who is conceded to be a fair-minded historian, says that the effort was a fiasco. But for many minutes the new member refused to sit down and confusion became worse confounded. It was useless to go on. One of the fair-minded members of the house who felt that he had not been given a square deal was Sliel, then one of the Irish leaders. He told his friends afterward that Disraeli was one of the coming men of England. "If ever the spirit of oratory was in a man," he said, "it is in this young man."

He took the new member aside and gave him a few words of wisdom: "My lad, you can win, and win quickly if you will take my advice: Get rid of your genius for a while. Talk when it is necessary, but do not talk too much. Do not wait too long for your second speech because that may give them the impression that you are afraid of them, and that will never do. When you speak, speak slowly. Be quiet, be dull, give them plenty of statistics, quote heavy authorities. And presently they will sigh for the wit and eloquence which they know you possess."

It was good advice and Disraeli followed it. A week or two after his dismal failure, the new member arose again to speak on the copyright bill. He made no attempt at flights of eloquence. He spoke quietly and with force, and he gave the members information that had not been given before. It was not a brilliant speech by any means, but Disraeli had accomplished his purpose.

He was heard often after that and always with respectful attention.

Spoken With Deep Feeling. "Travel on transatlantic air liners will be luxurious, I'm told." "It haven't the slightest doubt of it," replied the man who has suffered more than once from seasickness. "I should think being able to get up every morning and eat a hearty breakfast would be the last word in luxurious transatlantic travel."

Doesn't Want Much. Peg—No, I wouldn't think of marrying you, and you'll find very few girls who will. Rupert—Ah—but I'd be perfectly satisfied with a few!—Cornell Widow.

CO-OPERATION TO CURB THE RIOT OF UNWISE SPENDING

Savings Societies, Schools, Women's Clubs, Unions, Lodges and Churches Aid Savings Movement.

By Albert Boswell, Director Co-Operating Organization Government Savings Organization, 7th District.

Establishment of harmonious or reciprocal relations between the citizen and the government by giving the people an opportunity to acquire a stake in the government is one of the aims of the savings organization. Co-operation is the keynote of the 1920 thrift movement—the Treasury department and the people working together for the common good.

Purchase of Treasury Savings securities benefits the nation and the individual alike. It starts the saver on the road to independence and provides needed funds for the U. S. Treasury.

The business of the savings organization is to promote savings and the purchase, from the Treasury or in the market, of U. S. Government securities of all kinds and the continued holding thereof. In this, co-operating organizations play a large part in furthering the teaching of saving, not merely as an end in itself, but as a means of safe investment, which means government securities.

Co-operating organizations contributing toward the success of the thrift movement, and their varied activities, may be set down as follows:

1. GOVERNMENT SAVINGS SOCIETIES—These are formed in industries, mercantile and other establishments and are defined as "a group of men or women employing 'teamwork' for systematic saving." Their aims are:

To create community sentiment for saving.

To effect a change in the present extravagant standard of living.

To decrease the tendency toward convention in spending.

To provide a constant reminder, an incentive and the required suggestions for saving, and the purchase of government securities.

2. SCHOOLS—They are the means of achieving the object of inculcating the saving habit and of building up for the future a nation of thrifty citizens with a leaning to government securities for investment. The government asks the schools to:

Introduce thrift material into textbooks through enactments by state boards of instruction and legislature.

Distribute Treasury Department literature among pupils for family reading as well as their own use.

Make adequate arrangements for the regular sale of Thrift and War Savings Stamps.

3. WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS—Next to the schools, organized groups of women probably are the most important factors in advancing thrift education. They are expected to:

Establish classes in thrift and household economy through the use of the budget system.

Make appeals to women who, through inheritance or participation in industry, have money to invest and who may be convinced of the wisdom of investing in government securities.

Aid in carrying out the selling work in the schools in order to lighten the burden of the already overworked teacher.

4. LABOR, FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS, ETC.—Labor organizations, fraternal societies, commercial associations, agricultural bodies, churches and foreign language speaking groups offer means of general assistance, as follows:

Furnishing information on government securities.

Making suggestions at regular meetings and at conventions on wise spending as the essence of true thrift.

Promoting the vigorous sale of government securities.

Encouraging the investment of idle organization funds in some form of government security.

The advantages presented by Treasury Savings Certificates, issued in denominations of \$100 and \$1,000, as investments for lodge funds, is being widely recognized by fraternal organizations. Labor unions and churches also are adopting this method.

Investment in government securities is being urged by experts in rural economics for farmers, who do not need to put the money back into their farming, as the best disposition for the farmers' surplus. They point out that investment of this surplus in land that must be leased or farmed by tenants usually will not pay as much net income as government bonds; also that bonds are useful as collateral for notes in banks to obtain temporary capital. The holding of government securities now owned and the buying of more is urged, therefore, as good policy for farmers.

THRIFT FINDS WAY TO SEA. Along with the men of the navy the War Savings stamp is following the flag round the world. In the Mediterranean squadron the government savings securities are as much a part of the battleships and cruisers as the straightening out the tangled affairs of the Minotaur, as the ammunition hoists.

A letter received by the savings division from Capt. David F. Boyd, commanding the U. S. S. Olympia at Constantinople, brings the information that the thrift campaign on that vessel has been placed in charge of Lieut. H. K. Koebig. Captain Boyd gave assurance of the co-operation of himself and his men.

COULDN'T FACE THE UNKNOWN

Antics of Contortionist Saved Him From Hungry Tiger When Other Escape Was Impossible.

It is related that a native of India, who had learned some of the elementary principles of jugglery and contortion, put his knowledge to a decidedly practicable as well as novel use one evening when he was walking upon a ridge plain.

When the Hindu had reached the top of one of the mounds he saw a tiger ahead of him, 500 or 600 yards away. Before the man could hide behind a mound the tiger had seen him and began to bound toward him at its topmost speed. Having no means of defense there was nothing for the man to do but to race for the nearest tree, but though he tried it and put forth his utmost strength the tiger steadily gained on him.

What was he to do? In sheer desperation he resolved upon an unusual scheme. Just as he disappeared for an instant from the tiger's sight in running over a ridge he halted, stretched out his legs at right angles, curled down his head so as to look between his legs to the rear and extended his arms upward in a fantastic manner, like the sails of a windmill.

In a few seconds the tiger hove in sight, and at that instant the face of the object assumed a hideous grimace. A prolonged yell arose, such as had perhaps never before pierced the ear of any tiger, and the sails of the windmill began to revolve backward and forward, as if a sudden whirlwind had burst upon the scene.

The tiger recoiled. What, he evidently thought, is this? There stood a ferocious star-shaped monster, gigantic against the sky. Its vice-like jaws, between which those feline hands were issuing, were actually placed above its two fiery eyes. Its limbs were furiously clanking for action; and the man he had been chasing, where was he? Already devoured by this terrible beast. The tiger did not pause to reflect. He turned tail, and as he disappeared over a friendly ridge a last awful yell caused him to redouble his pace. He was conquered by the unknown.

ONLY RELICS OF LOST RACE

Network of Canals All That Remains of Early Dwellers in the Arizona Deserts.

By far the most interesting remains of the lost people of Arizona are their network of canals which prevail through the valleys. The longest is the one tapping the Gila river and which supplied with water the ancient city, now marked with the one standing building. This is the Casa Grande, about which so much has been written and which has so excited much interest among archeologists in the last ten years.

The volume of water taken out by this canal must have been immense, for it supported millions of acres. In most places the canal has been filled with drifting sand, but its course is easily traced. Engineers who located the Maricopa canal made use of the old Aztec ditch and today water runs over its pebbly bottom just as it did 2,000 or 3,000 years ago.

For miles and miles around mounds tell the tale of houses destroyed by the ravages of time. Phoenix was built on the ruins of this ancient city and there relics frequently are found of this ancient civilization.

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Order of Publication.
State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Shiawassee.
At a session of the Probate Court for said County held at the Probate office in the City of Corunna, on the 2nd day of January, A. D. 1920.
Present, Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate.
In the matter of the estate of Emma A. Littlefield, deceased.
On the petition of Milton Barry praying for the probate of the will of said deceased now filed in this Court.
It is ordered, that the 2nd day of February, A. D. 1920, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be appointed for hearing said petition.
And it is further ordered, that a copy of this order be published three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing in The Owassee Times, a newspaper printed and circulating in said County of Shiawassee.
MATTHEW BUSH, Judge of Probate.
CLARIBEL GALLOWAY, Register of Probate.

Commissioners' Notice.
In the matter of the estate of Alfred Morley, deceased.
We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Shiawassee, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against said estate do hereby give notice that we will meet at the residence of the deceased in the Township of Secota, in said County on Friday, the 29th day of February, A. D. 1920, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of each of said days for the purpose of receiving and adjusting all claims against said estate and that four months from the 19th day of December A. D. 1919, are allowed to creditors to present their claims to said Commissioners for adjustment and allowance.
Dated the 19th day of December, A. D. 1919.
ORS IN LELAND, EDSON PUTNAM, Commissioners.

Order of Publication.
State of Michigan,
The Probate Court for the County of Shiawassee.
At a session of the Probate Court for said County held at the Probate office in the City of Corunna, on the 29th day of December, in the year one thousand nine hundred and nineteen.
Present, Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate.
In the matter of the estate of George L. Ruah, deceased.
Frank B. Ruah, the executor of said estate, having rendered a final account to this Court.
It is ordered that the 29th day of January, next at ten o'clock in the forenoon at said Probate Office be appointed for examining and allowing said account.
And it is further ordered that a copy of this order be published three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in The Owassee Times a newspaper printed and circulating in said County of Shiawassee.
MATTHEW BUSH, Judge of Probate.
CLARIBEL GALLOWAY, Probate register.

FOR RENT—Eleven (11) acres of land at 823 South Chestnut street, West Owassee. Inquire of M. Marrah, 933 Wenoob avenue, Oak Park, Ills.
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Commissioners' Notice.
In the matter of the estate of James M. Curwood, deceased.
We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Hon. Matthew Bush, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Shiawassee, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims and demands of all persons against said estate, do hereby give notice that we will meet at the residence of James Oliver Curwood in the City of Owassee in said County, on Monday, the 29th day of February, A. D. 1920 and on Friday, the 5th day of April, A. D. 1920, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of each of said days, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting all claims against said estate, and that four months from the 8th day of December A. D. 1919, are allowed to creditors to present their claims to said Commissioners for adjustment and allowance.
Dated, the 8th day of December, A. D. 1919.
JAMES OLIVER CURWOOD, ED. F. CONANT, Commissioners.

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