

THE Sacred Eye

A Story of Mystery and Love in The South Seas

CHAPTER 15

THE SOFT LIGHTS from the floor lamps there in the living room glowed pleasantly on the polished surface of the different colored stones laid in broken-bond which formed the floor, and on the rich, colorful patterns of the silky oriental rugs scattered tastefully about. The momentary silence was broken when Pili asked:

"How could that mate, what was his name, Van Syke have known where he was going? There was a lot of open ocean coming over here as I remember."

"You see they had taken a small canoe and a servant from the sinking ship and he had that to navigate with. He had a mate's rating, and so of course he was a navigator," Pili said.

"The agonies he suffered must have been terrible," Pili suggested. "Yes," Pili agreed. "He had apparently become becalmed and his supply of drinking water—green coconuts—had given out. His tongue was so swollen from thirst that his ravings were unintelligible. No one knew where he came from."

"A rescue party could never have started from any place other than Papeete, for Captain Esra?" Tom asked.

"No," Pili replied. "He stayed on Tarea as long as he lived. If he recovered from his wound he could have lived there a long time for there is sufficient natural food there on Tarea to sustain life indefinitely, as well as a small natural spring from which he could have obtained a plentiful supply of fresh water."

"What happened to young Peter when they got him back here on Tarea?" Pili asked. "You mentioned the matches having a bearing, how?"

"His fiery red hair and blue eyes, being a great curiosity in this part of the world, where all human beings had dark hair and dark eyes, saved him at the start. It was as though we should suddenly find someone with bright blue hair and red eyes. The chief kept him as sort of a museum piece."

"When he got back here he opened the metal container in which had been placed the family Bible and the matches. It was water-tight and the matches were dry. He lit one to test them."

"At that time the island people here had never seen matches, and the striking of fire suddenly from a little stick so astonished them that they immediately thought young Peter had a touch of the super-natural and could perform miracles."

"Hadn't the natives here even seen matches?" Pili asked.

"Remember, the Western Wave cleared New Bedford in 1834, and according to Grandfather Peter he was captured some 18 months later, during the early part of 1836."

"Matches at that date were a novelty even in the civilized world. If you will look under the heading of 'matches' in the encyclopedia you will find that they had been invented just a few years before. Thousands

of people were still using the old flint and steel. In those days, being rare, matches were expensive. "Grandfather Esra had used quite a lot of them along for such a novelty, and because fire being struck from a stick was something the islanders could readily understand."

"Matches would give an excellent demonstration, and the 'demonstration' as I remember is said to be one of the first principles of salesmanship. But you were saying that your grandfather created quite a commotion by lighting one."

"Being quick-witted, he realized they were his life insurance policy. He only had a couple hundred, and would only use them for great occasions to start ceremonial fires. And by the time his supply was running low he had ingratiated himself into the good graces of the people so that he was perfectly safe," Holmes prompted. "Learned the language, the customs and that sort of thing."

"Not only safe, but had been adopted by the chief who had no children of his own," Pili added. "How come no kids of his own?" Pili queried.

"He had been seriously injured in a battle some years before," Pili explained.

"Well, that was certainly a break for young Peter," Pili declared. "Didn't Peter ever go over to Tarea to try to find out what became of his father?" Pili asked.

"That was impossible for a long time," Pili answered thoughtfully. "At first, so he told my father, he didn't know whether he himself was to live or die. It seems that after the destruction of the temple the island people shunned the place as they would the plague. They were deathly afraid of it. Wouldn't go near it."

"Grandfather Peter was ordered to keep away from the canoes by the chief," she told us. "The old chief probably figured that he might try to go over there. He was allowed to go fishing with the rest of the islanders, but he was never to take a boat out alone."

I remember noticing at the time that all during her recital Pili never used the term "natives" in referring to the local inhabitants. To her they were "the island people." Nor had she told of the dark cannibal orgy which had evidently taken place when the natives had disposed of the bodies of the captured crew—she simply had stated that there had been "feasting" on old Tarea that night. I thought I could understand why. Some of this "island" blood was running in her veins.

"When did Peter first get over there?" I asked.

"It was nearly ten years later, after he had come to power, and following the death of the old chief," Pili told us. "When the old chief knew that his days were about numbered, he called the people together for a big celebration. At the height of the festivities he arose and commanded silence. Then he called 'Sun Top'—as Grandfather Peter was known—to his side and took from

his own arms the official bands, symbols of power and chieftainship placing them on grandfather, and lastly handed over the great carved whale's tooth, which here was the same as the crown."

"The old chief then charged grandfather to lead the people safely and gave the command that the people should obey the new chief, even as they had obeyed him. Grandfather had no idea what was happening when the celebration started. The turn of events had sort of stunned him. Suddenly he found that he had been made chief. Ruler here in these islands was always, in the final analysis, based on the will of the people ruled."

"There were several reasons why the old chief selected grandfather for leadership. One was, I believe, that he felt that white aggression in these islands would become more pronounced with the passing of the years. More of the great old square riggers had been seen in the past few seasons in these waters, and he felt that grandfather would know how to deal with them for the best interests of the people."

Another was that grandfather was a powerful man, physically. He stood nearly six feet four inches. The island people have always been great admirers of strength, and grandfather could swim, out-dive, out-run and out-hunt the local youths. Then he had a sunny disposition, a ready smile and a natural gift for politics and the handling of people, which he had apparently inherited from his Irish mother—which incidentally was where he got his red hair. During the years a real coolidge had sprung up between "Sun Top" and the old chief. The chief felt he was fitted to lead the people.

"This is sort of a roundabout way of answering your question," Pili said to me. "I wanted to give you the background first. The old chief died a few weeks after this."

"Now there is a custom here in Polynesia which calls for the burial of rulers in a place apart. The location of this spot is kept a deep secret. Only one person in a generation knows the exact location of the burial place of the kings."

"It is high up, and palm-bearers have to be chosen to carry the body up, but when they are very near the place, they are sent down with lips sealed. The act of opening the tomb and placing the body among those of the line, devolves upon but one."

"So when the old chief passed away, the body was anointed and wrapped in new cloth, became grandfather's duty, the exact location having been imparted to him by the old chief, after his coronation, to be the one to place the body in the secret burial place of the kings."

"The funeral party set out in the great war canoes for old Tarea. That was the first time grandfather had set foot on that island since he had been taken from there as a captive ten years before. Now he was returning as chief of the people whose captive he had been."

Tom said softly: "There is drama in that."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

of the governor. Summarizing, he said the various accomplishments and movements which he cited had reduced the total cost of government in the State between five and seven millions of dollars per year and had transferred from real estate and property to the corporate wealth of the State some twelve millions of dollars in additional taxation.

During the "depression biennium," Freeman said this state had its house in order, and having met all obligations and absorbed the deficit a surplus showed the debt would be twelve millions of dollars less at the end of the Gardner administration than at the beginning. "No other state in the Union has made so favorable a record," he continued.

Freeman compared the present period to the post-Confederate war days when Vance led the State and predicted that O. Max Gardner would eventually be recognized "as one of the truly great governors of this State."

Turning from the Gardner administration to national affairs, Freeman said:

"When we compare the manner in which our party in this has met the problems of today with the manner in which the Republican party in this State met the problems that confronted it while in power, and then compare the conduct of the two parties in our national affairs, we are struck with the contrast of the virtues of the Democrats wherever they are in control, with the faults of the Republicans wherever they are in control."

"Between 1912 and 1920, under the leadership of Woodrow Wilson, we proved that hard times and Democracy are not synonymous. What a contrast does the succeeding 12 years afford. First, a period of normalcy; then graft under Harding; then Coolidge's voice raised only in defense of special interests and in encouraging mergers, monopolies and combines; then Hoover's administration to abolish poverty and instead a steady downward trend of business since 1929."

Freeman based the cause of the depression primarily on the unsound structure of unrestricted credit and legislation founded on greed and favoritism permitted and adopted by the Hoover administration and congress.

SENATE CAMPAIGN CONVENTION TOPIC

Morrison and Reynolds Supporters Present Claims at Raleigh Meet

Daily Dispatch Bureau, Raleigh, June 16.—While it is not expected that the State Democratic Convention, in session here today, will formally endorse either Senator Cameron Morrison or Robert R. Reynolds, since both must contest for the nomination in a second primary July 2, a majority of those attending the convention here seem to be more pro-Morrison than pro-Reynolds, and observers agree. It would not be surprising to many if the convention should turn out to be a Morrison convention by the time it is over.

Reynolds, of course, has many friends and supporters among the delegates and others who are here for the convention and these are enthusiastic and vocal in their praise. Had Hoover been able to see things with the discernment of Gardner, he added, things would be vastly different in the country today.

In conclusion Freeman said present day conditions have been made by men and "can be remedied by men." "I would not dare to name a date when we may look for an improvement in our economic life, yet I will tell you one thing that must be done before that gladsome day can arrive. We must drive from power in this country the Republican party and place at the head of our government an apostle of the fundamental principles upon which our party is founded, one who will insist upon equal rights to all, special privileges to none, special regard for the worth of the farmer and the workman, the encouragement of commerce and industry, the preservation of individual initiative and return of foreign relations on a basis of mutual interest in foreign commerce."

of Reynolds and in their predictions. Most of those in the Reynolds camp are predicting that he will have a majority of not less than 50,000 over Morrison in the second primary and that he is making gains every day in every section of the State. They maintain that it is unthinkable that any of those who voted for Reynolds in the first primary will desert him now and go to the candidate who trailed him 15,000 votes in the first primary and that the great majority of those who voted for Sam C. Bowie, Frank D. Grist and Arthur Simmons will undoubtedly turn to Reynolds rather than Morrison.

The Reynolds forces are also maintaining that Grist's decision to support Morrison instead of Reynolds is reacting to help Reynolds more than Morrison, and that Grist's assault on Reynolds' war record, in which he branded Reynolds as having evaded his duty during the war, has really turned more ex-service men to Reynolds than to Morrison.

It is an apparent fact, however, that the Morrison organization has gotten down to business in short order and that it has been functioning smoothly and effectively now for almost a week, while Reynolds apparently has been doing little more than mark time until the caucus he held with his county managers and supporters here yesterday afternoon. Under the direction of Colonel Don Scott, of Graham, State campaign manager for Morrison, the organization of the Morrison campaign has been going ahead steadily, without any blare of trumpets, but with precision. It is agreed that already, in less than a week, Morrison has a better organization functioning in every section of the State than in his entire campaign previous to the first primary. It is also agreed that this organization is going to become increasingly effective between now and July 2 and that it embraces a great many influential men who were more or less inactive in the senatorial campaign before the first primary.

The Reynolds supporters are already raising the cry that Morrison has started out to "buy" the nomination in the second primary, that he has made the sky the limit in campaign expenditures and is already spending money like water. They maintain that Morrison's demand for a second primary has already angered

ed many who voted for him in the first primary because of the cost of this second primary, which they claim will cost the taxpayers of the State \$200,000. The facts are, however, that the second primary is being held in more than half the counties in purely local contests, so that a second primary for State or congressional offices will not increase the cost more than \$17,000 or \$18,000 at most.

While prohibition is admittedly one of the largest single issues in the campaign, with Reynolds an out-and-out wet and Morrison dry, the Morrison managers are baying their qualifications of the two men rather than upon prohibition, maintaining that Morrison is better fitted by background and past experience to represent North Carolina in the Senate than is Reynolds. They agree that Reynolds is likeable, entertaining, suave and clever and that he puts on an entertaining campaign, especially in his speeches. But they maintain that when it comes to legislative matters affecting the welfare of the State and nation, Morrison is the safer and saner man to tie to an depend upon.

Fat Man Reduces 53 Pounds—Oh Boy!

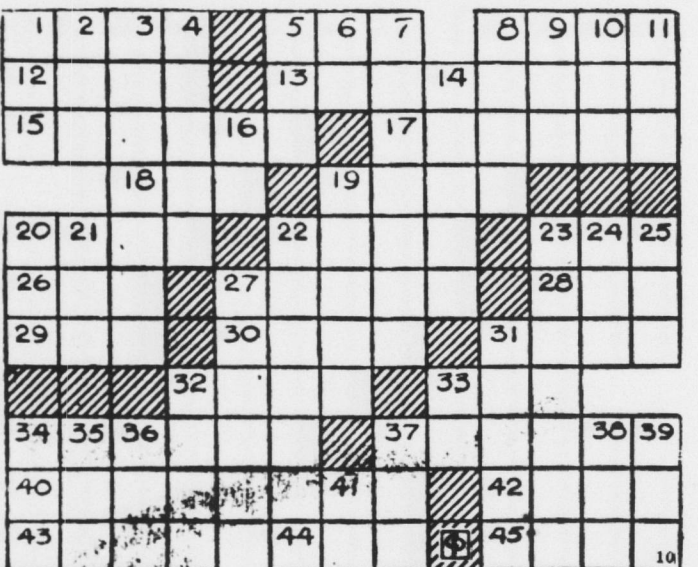
Don't be stubborn, you big fat men—throw off your fat before your fat throws you into the discard. Do as Mr. S. A. Lanier of Sawtelle, Calif., did—read his letter:

"I have used two reducing belts to no benefit but since using Kruschen salts each morning in my coffee I have taken off 7 lbs. in a week and eat most anything I like. I weighed 243 pounds 6 months ago and now I weigh 190 lbs."

Take one half teaspoonful of Kruschen Salts in a glass of hot water every morning—cut down on fatty meats, potatoes and sweets—now you know the safe way to lose unsightly fat.

For a trifling sum you can get a jar of Kruschen Salts that lasts 4 weeks at Parker's Drug Store or any drugstore in the world—but be sure and get Kruschen—your health comes first.—Adv.

CROSS WORD PUZZLE

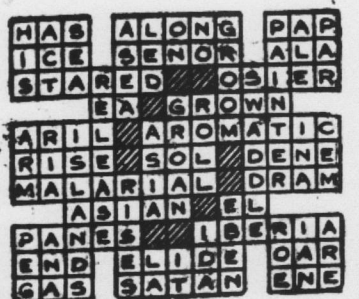


ACROSS

- 1—A city in Italy
- 2—A melody
- 3—A woman's name
- 4—Cheese named for a Dutch city
- 5—Seashores
- 6—Enjoy and appreciate
- 7—Period of rest from work
- 8—Employ
- 9—To plunge
- 10—Only animal tissue (plural)
- 11—To quote
- 12—Domestic animal
- 13—Crude metal
- 14—A style of type
- 15—A constellation
- 16—A color
- 17—Part of a cooking stove
- 18—A sea bird
- 19—Bugs
- 20—Anglo-Saxon coin
- 21—That which lessens
- 22—A shaped mass of bread (plural)
- 23—The owner of a patent
- 24—Only
- 25—A snow
- 26—A pronoun
- 27—Preparatory school (colloq.)

- 28—A river in New Jersey
- 29—Cubes
- 30—A poem
- 31—The matter or thing (law)
- 32—A beast of burden
- 33—A number
- 34—A compass point
- 35—U. S. silver coins
- 36—In behalf of
- 37—Exist
- 38—Hiding place
- 39—Butcher's tool
- 40—Over
- 41—Succeeded
- 42—A city in France
- 43—To trudge heavily
- 44—To boil
- 45—A Hawaiian bird
- 46—Likely
- 47—Exclamation of contempt
- 48—Corroded
- 49—A shelter
- 50—Before
- 51—A math (abbr.)
- 52—Exclamation of inquiry

Answer to Previous Puzzle



Col. Freeman, As Keynote, Praises Gardner Regime

(Continued from Page One.)

perity to this almost prostrate country."

Good Government. The party stands on a record of "thirty-two years of progressive and constructive government," he continued and does not have to defend a record of poor government.

Freeman cited all of the numerous ways in which the State had prospered under Democratic rule, pointing out good roads, humane treatment of defectives and convicts, excellent health conditions and better schools as achievements of the party.

"As distressing as are the economic conditions today, no state in the Union is as well off as our state," he said.

"As Aycock flashed a torch which shed light on a new era in the State, so has Gardner held it high when our people were being crushed as a result of the complete break-down of the national Republican party in its gesture towards meeting the present day crisis, and I would point out to you some of the acts through which the party under his leadership has kept faith with the people."

Progressive Measures. Freeman then talked of recent progressive Democratic measures. "As Nero fiddled while Rome burned, so did Hoover prattle while the financial structure of America fell," he continued, but Governor Gardner required a reduction in State expenditures of about \$3,500,000 last biennium. This put the State's house "in order" while the nation marched on in darkness.

"Consider the questions confronting the congress today and the conduct of that body dominated by a Republican senate and a Republican president—then think on the acts of our last legislature," he continued. "A comparison will show that the Democratic party is to be the safest trusted because it has the principles and men nearest to the people and standing for them."

Noting that "a progressive and enlightened government always recognizes that new conditions require new remedies," Freeman recalled passage of the MacLean school law, the local government act, the new road law, the division of personnel, the division of purchase and contract, the reorganized banking department, consolidation of the three major institutions of higher learning into the University of North Carolina, changes in the methods of running states prison, and the Gardner live-at-home program as outstanding steps forward from legislative activities or initiative

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