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The Miniature Romance

By H. IRVING KING

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ALL the Kinsolving girls had been married off but Jennie, the eldest of the lot. Sally and Peggy and Carrie were provided for. "If Jennie had only had a hopeless love affair," said Peggy to her sisters in conclave, "it would not be so awfully prosy, her being an old maid. But she has never been in love in her life, and nobody has ever been in love with her."

"If I were in her place," said Sally, "I'd concoct a romance for myself. I'd buy a miniature of some good-looking youth and wear it in a brooch, or on a black band around my wrist, and pretend it was the picture of the one loved and lost."

"So would I," cried Carrie. "Oh, it would be just glorious! You could make up the most romantic love story to go with it. Let's make her do it."

"She won't," sighed Sally.

"Well, let's try, anyway," said Peggy.

All the sisters were on a visit to Peggy, who had married a Waterman. "John," said Mrs. Waterman to her husband, "the girls and I have concluded that something has got to be done about Jennie." Then she told him the scheme, adding: "When you go to town tomorrow, go to a portrait painter and have him paint a little miniature out of his imagination."

"Did you order that miniature?" asked Mrs. Waterman when John returned home that night.

"Certainly," replied John; "it will be ready next Friday." And when John came home Friday night he brought the miniature with him. The young man whose face was depicted on the ivory seemed to fill the bill; the "girls" had the miniature mounted in plain gold, affixed it to a black velvet band and made a descent upon Jennie.

At first she refused to have anything to do with such an absurd affair. But the sisters were not to be put off. They wept, they scolded, they implored until finally Jennie said good-naturedly: "Well, well, girls—have your own way. This young man in the picture looks to be about the sort of a young man I should pick out—if I ever picked one. I'll tell you what I'll do; I'll wear this memento of my lost romance. But, mind you, you will have to invent and tell the story that goes with it."

A few nights later John Waterman telephoned that he was going to bring home with him for dinner a young man who had brought to him letters of introduction from a business man in Chicago whom John, for financial reasons, was anxious to please.

"Now, girls," said Jennie, "this will be a good time for you to spring my little romance upon the sympathizing stranger. It would not be proper to tell it before my face, of course—but oh, do tell it where I can overhear you. I am wearing my miniature, you see."

But the girls told no romantic fiction that night. Instead, after dinner, when John and the stranger had been left behind in the dining room for a smoke, they sat with their heads together perplexed. "Did you ever see such a strong resemblance?" asked Sally.

"But it can't be the same," expostulated Peggy. "John had the miniature painted by an artist who just drew on his imagination. But the resemblance is too striking. Jennie, you had better take that thing off before he sees it—if he hasn't already."

The young man brought out to dinner by John was a most presentable person, Martin Somers by name, about thirty-five years old. They all liked him and Jennie had regarded him with special interest at the dinner table. "What!" said Jennie at the demand of her sisters that she take off her miniature, "give up the only romance I ever had—before I know what it is? I shall do no such thing." The sisters began to expostulate; but the entrance of the gentlemen put an end to their expostulations. They looked on in helpless anxiety, while Jennie, full of the spirit of mischief, got Martin into a corner for a tete-a-tete. Toying with her miniature Jennie managed to have the young man get a good look at it.

He gave a little start and a puzzled look came into his face.

"Miss Kinsolving," said he, "will you tell me how you happened to come into possession of this miniature?" And Jennie told him the whole true story. The miniature, Martin explained, was one of himself painted about six years before, which had been stolen by a dishonest servant.

"And I'll bet a cookie," said Jennie, "that John Waterman never ordered a miniature at all—he forgot it. Then, on his way home, suddenly remembering what his wife had told him to do, he got this in a pawnshop where it had been pledged by the servant who stole it — among the unredeemed pledges." They called John over and made him confess.

Martin insisted that Jennie keep the miniature. She consented but declared that, of course, she would not wear it any more. "You have spoiled my first and only romance," said she.

"Some day," replied Martin, "I hope to see you wearing that miniature again. And who knows—perhaps we can, between us, get up a little romance to go with it that will be more real, if not so exciting, as the one your sisters had invented." And they did. They were married three months later—and Jennie wore the miniature on her wedding day.

FARM POULTRY

SANITATION NOT GIVEN THOUGHT

Along with a marked development in the poultry industry during the past year or so has come a mounting wave of poultry troubles, and chief of these troubles is the problem of disease, says H. H. Alp, poultry extension specialist of the college of agriculture, University of Illinois. People interested in poultry have studied improved methods of breeding and feeding and have overlooked the question of sanitation, he said.

On the basis of records which a representative number of chicken raisers kept in co-operation with the college there is an annual loss of about three million birds from the flocks of the state, according to Alp. A large percentage of the loss could be traced directly to undesirable conditions in and around the henhouse, he said.

"The marked progress that has been made in the poultry industry during the past year or so is due to several reasons, but chief of these has been the changing of the farmer's viewpoint toward poultry. A few years ago the farmer looked upon his flock of hens only as a means of supplying his wife with spending money and beyond this they did not interest him. The recent partial failure of the corn crop and other means of revenue from the farm has caused extreme want in many cases. Farmers who have kept a decent-sized flock of hens have warded off this condition and many farmers testify that their hens have saved them.

"In 1925 records on 234 farm flocks in Illinois showed there was a profit on the best one-third of the farms of $2.45 a hen, and on the poorest third a profit of less than 1 cent. These same records also show a mortality rate of 12 per cent. The comparisons of the two profits made will indicate four factors responsible for such a difference between them: Sanitation, personal, breeding and feeding.

"The greatest factor lacking in the management of these farms is the one of cleanliness. The mortality rate for the two groups varied but very little, showing that the progress made by the farmers in the $2.45 class was due chiefly to better feeding and breeding methods. Now take this class and have them practice a sanitation program and the profit a hen will increase practically 50 per cent.

"Feeding is invariably the first problem to be considered by a beginner, and, in a way, rightly so, but it can only be successfully carried on in conjunction with clean and sanitary surroundings. Why throw feed which costs around 3 cents a pound in wet, damp, dirty and filthy litter? If a person would only stop and think of the number of times a hen has to eat on the same area of floor space or ground space, it would be quite obvious even to the person of lowest intellect, that unless that area was kept clean, the bird would soon suffer."

Early Pullets Are Most Profitable Egg Layers

Early pullets are the most profitable pullets, because they begin to produce eggs in the fall and lay through the winter season. As everybody knows, the fall and early winter eggs always bring profitable prices.

Then, too, the early chicks appear to inherit more vitality with the ability to grow off rapidly. The cause of this better growth in the early chick is possibly due to the extra vitality inherited from the hen before she becomes run down through a season's heavy egg production.

One disadvantage of the early chick is the cold weather, making extra heat necessary for chicks. With modern brooder stoves and other brooding methods that produce strong heat this handicap of winter weather is easily overcome.

Another disadvantage urged against early chicks is the fact that, if the weather is cloudy and chicks cannot get sunshine, they are likely to take leg weakness. It is now known that sunshine is the best chick grower.

Keeping Pullets and Hens

Winter egg production is largely obtained from the pullets that are well grown, properly fed, and carry a surplus of flesh. Old hens that have produced eggs for one laying near normally rest during the winter and start laying in February and March. It is advisable to keep a flock consisting of two-thirds pullets and one-third hens. The pullets should be forced for winter egg production through the liberal mash feed. The old hens should be allowed to rest.

Time to Watch Rodents

It is often a large amount of trouble to shut up the little chicks at this season of the year but if the job is neglected there is apt to be a heavy loss. Rats, skunks, coons, weasels, mink and other animals are having their young to feed at this time of the year and chicken makes a favorite dish for them. This is also a good time of year to try and kill off rodents of all kinds. In many cases the young will be found in the nests and they can be easily killed.

DAY

This community has been saddened by the untimely demise of two of our young people, Miss Jessie Pickett, whose death was caused by tuberculosis, and Leo Bloom, who was accidentally killed while on duty for the B. & O. Railroad Company. To the bereft families we extend our sympathy. Leo miraculously escaped death last year when he came in contact with the deadly third rail, and was thought dead by his fellow-workers who were greatly surprised when he regained consciousness en route to a hospital, and apparently suffered no ill effects from his unusual experience.

Mrs. T. B. Gosnell and Mrs. N. G. Pickett spent Tuesday, April 19th, with Mrs. H. F. Leatherwood, in Sykesville.

Marion Unglesbee spent the week-end with Pauline Lewis.

Mrs. Clarence Lewis and "Sonny," of Eldersburg, spent Wednesday night with Mrs. Bertha Taylor. Mrs. Lewis accompanied R. R Lewis to Baltimore Thursday and visited her small son, who is still at Maryland University Hospital. The baby, whose hand was crushed in a pumpjack several weeks ago, will not be allowed to return home until its hand is thoroughly healed.

Mrs. Jane Chaney and Miss Florence Anderson spent Saturday night with Mrs. N. G. Pickett.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Franklin, of Morgan, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Mullinix.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Marshall, of Brunswick, are spending some time with Mrs. M. M. Mills.

Guernie L. Stuller, near Dennings, called on Mr. and Mrs. George N. Pickett, Sunday morning.

Mrs. Josephine German, Mrs. Blanche Buckingham and son Bernard, of Mt. Olive, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Pickett.

Mr. T. B. Gosnell died Sunday evening, after a short illness, of pneumonia. Funeral services were held at Morgan Chapel Tuesday at 2:00 P. M. and interment in adjoining cemetery. Mrs. Gosnell will make her home with her daughter, Mrs. Guy Spurrier, in Boonsboro.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Corbin and children, Mrs. Jane Chaney and Miss Florence Anderson motored as far as Winchester, Va., to see the apple blossoms, returning by way of Martinsburg, W. Va. It must be a lovely sight, hundreds of acres of trees, as far as the eye can visualize, a veritable sea of bloom.

The men in the neighborhood have promised to gather on the school ground one day soon and dig the trenches for the cement walks. Members of the P. T. A will be on hand to serve lunch consisting of hot-dog sandwiches, coffee, ice tea and pies. We are fortunate in having teachers who take an interest in their work, constantly planning for the betterment of the school ground and buildings, as well as introducing original and unique educational ideas in the class room, striving to make lasting impressions on the plastic minds of the children. Those making a perfect attendance for the month in Miss Anderson's room were Arthur Beall, Ralph Condon, Stephen Beall, Leon Gosnell, Edgar Condon, Herbert Kessler, and Thelma Condon. Those in Mrs. Chaney's room were Thomas Fleming, Harold Pickett, Harry Evans, Joseph Dorsey, Carol Fleming, Charlotte Shull, Carlyn Corbin, Marie Condon, Dorothy Wolbert, Irma Pickett and Francis Lewis.

Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mills moved to Flohrville.

A U. S. Navy dirigible passed over here at about 7:00 A. M. Tuesday. It was flying low, the lettering being plainly discernible.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Brown, a seven and one-half pound daughter, at Frederick City hospital, on Wednesday morning, April 27th.

A play entitled "The Last Trust," a comedy in three acts, will be given under the auspices of the P. T. A. Wednesday evening, May 4th, at 8:00 o'clock, in Howard Hall, Woodbine. Miss Loraine Pragard, elocutionist, a graduate of the School of Dramatic Art, Michigan, will entertain between acts, and Miss Ward, of Mt. Airy, will sing, with other attractions. We expect a full house, don't disappoint us. The play is much funnier than the title indicates. Admission 35c, children 25c.

HEARTY CHICKS

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COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE

Hereafter and until further notice the County Commissioners of Carroll County will meet at their office in Westminster every Monday and Tuesday of each week for the transaction of business.

By order.

SAMUEL J. STONE,
Clerk.

SHIPLEY

Those who visited Mr. and Mrs. William N. Barber Sunday were Mr. Robert Zahn, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Mr. Levi Zahn, of Westminster; Mr. Paul Zahn and son Robert. Monday guests were Mrs. Mary Nightengale, Mrs. Bertha Miller, Mrs. Nellie Gorsuch, Mrs. Edna Myers, Mrs. Hilda Gehman, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Flohr, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Hoff, Misses Gladys, Helen, Elsie and Ruth Barber, Elsie Gilbert, Mildred Hoff, Annie Myers, Messrs. James Nightengale, Robert Myers, Leslie Hoff, Jr., and others.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wilhide spent Sunday with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Earl B. Owings, it being his son Sterling Pierce Owings' 5th birthday. He had two cakes each with 5 candles on and he received other gifts. Other guests were Mrs. Laura Frizzell, Dennis Carr, Charles Frizzell, and others. May he live to enjoy many more happy birthdays.

Mrs. Fremont Welch entertained Saturday her sister, Mrs. John Blizzard, of Eastview.

Mr. and Mrs. William Caples entertained Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Caples, Mrs. Grace Smith, Misses Julia and Mildred Caples, Mr. Howard Smith and others.

There will be preaching and Sunday school at Zion Sunday morning. Sunday school 9:30; preaching 10:30, by Rev. James Peyton Adams.

The Easter service was quite a success Sunday night and those having parts did well, for such little practice as it rained almost every evening.

Mr. Samuel Reaver has moved to the home he recently bought here. Welcome new neighbor. We wish you prosperity and success.

MILLERS

The following spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Bollinger: Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Rudisill, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Druck, York; Mr. and Mrs. George Albaugh, Melrose, and Mrs. Lizzie Lessner, Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston Snyder, Hampstead, spent Sunday with the former's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Hare.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Miller spent Saturday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Miller, Hampstead.

Mrs. Amanda Lessner returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Bollinger, where she will spend some time.

Mrs. John U. Leister and daughter Gladys, Hampstead, spent Sunday with the former's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Leister, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Zepp.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Miller and Miss Fern Miller spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Garrett, Lineboro. Other visitors at the same home were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Mills, son Melvin, Mr. and Mrs. John Wentz, Hampstead; Mr. and Mrs. Luther Wentz and daughter Marie, Greenmount.

A number of our people attended the play given by the Manchester high school, Friday evening in the firemen's hall entitled, "Safety First."

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Graf and children, Dorothy, Laurence, and Glenice, spent Sunday at Stone church.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Wentz and daughter Marie, Greenmount, spent Sunday evening at the home of Mr. John K. Miller.

GAMBER

Sunday school at Providence M. P. church Sunday afternoon at 1:30; preaching at 3:00; Junior C. E. at 7. Topic, "Mary And Martha, Who Were Friends Of Jesus." Luke 10: 38-42. Intermediate C. E. at 7:30 P. M. Topic, "How Can I Choose The Right Kind of Life-work?" I Cor. 10: 31-33; Luke 2: 48, 49. Senior C. E. at 8:00 P. M. Topic, "What Vocations Are Worth While?" I Cor. 3: 6-16. A welcome to all.

Mrs. Nelson Barnes and Mrs. Florence Barnes, of Roland Park, spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. William D. Bush, Sr.

Miss May Hill spent the week-end with Miss Elizabeth Slasman.

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Barnes spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Powder.

Miss Evelyn Brauning and Miss Lucille Pool spent Sunday with Miss Mary Osterhus.

Mrs. Lee F. Ward and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. George E. Allen, of Gist.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Creswell and son Lewis, of Baltimore, spent Sunday with friends of this place.

The C. E. business meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Slasman on May 6th.

WANTED

Second-hand bran and feed sacks, in good condition.

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