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Broken Engagements

By FRANCES SMITH

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WNU Service

CAMILLE came running into the house where her fragile little aunt sat alone in a sunny window, her fingers busy with some dainty needlework. Agatha Andrews lifted her quiet gray eyes and saw the dark sparkling beauty of the girl, the rich coloring of youth and perfect health—and radiant joy.

"Auntie, I've had a darling time!" cried Camilla breathlessly whirling into a chair. "Guess who was there—and I met him!" she ended ecstatically.

Agatha Andrews turned her fair face and looked out into the flower garden which seemed to waver uncertainly before her hurt eyes; all the blossom seemed to nod their heads and say, "I told you so—I told you so—some day—"

"You are not listening!" reproached the girl, for this aunt was mother and father to her and had been for many years since a fatal accident had deprived the child of both parents. "You haven't heard a word—I met such an important person at the garden party—we made heaps of money for the hospital—and he looked and looked at me until he seemed to realize that he was being rude; then Andy introduced him to me! Auntie, I have made a real conquest!"

"Goose," smiled Agatha.

"Behold — the governor's future lady—"

"Camilla!" Miss Andrews had risen and was staring at her niece with wide, startled eyes in her white face. "What do you mean?"

"Nothing but my foolishness, dear," explained Camilla contritely. "I really did meet the governor himself and he was charming to me. He is coming to call tomorrow afternoon and we must have tea in the garden."

"Of course—" faltered Agatha.

"He asked after you, auntie, said he knew you years ago, when you were my age; he said there was a resemblance. Andy was frightfully jealous of him. Isn't he distinguished looking, and so calm and reserved with the twinkly look in his blue eyes? I adore him!" Camilla suddenly subsided in her changeable way, and looked dreamily into the gathering twilight.

"Told—Andy?"

"Yes," carelessly "on the way home. He was quite like a bear about it—so we are no longer engaged!"

"Oh!" cried the older woman sharply; then, as if collecting her scattered forces, she added quietly, "I am sorry, dear. Andy is young, but that is a fault we all get over some day!"

Camilla laughed and kissed her warmly, but the slim finger where Andy's diamond had proudly gleamed was quite bare.

The next afternoon Camilla made preparations for serving tea in the rose-bowered veranda. Miss Andrews had silently helped her, making a loaf of very special pound cake that her mother used to bake. She gave the girl carte blanche where the china closet was concerned, and the consequence was that many bits of old china saw the light for the first time in many years. Agatha, dressed in a soft gray silk, with her graying hair pinned in a knot at her neck, looked like some pompadour figurine as she wandered restlessly about the garden. It was not until she heard voices at the house that she slowly went back to face the past.

There was Andy McDonald, stubbornly faithful in spite of his broken engagement, playing with Camilla's cat; and there was Camilla, radiating glorious youth, her dark bobbed hair blowing in the sweet evening breezes, her awed eyes lifted to Gilbert Frayne's face.

"Here she is at last!" cried Camilla, and the governor whirled around to stare for a moment at the slim figure coming slowly across the grass. The tea kettle bubbled furiously just then, and Andy and Camilla flew to subdue it, the governor went to meet Agatha, his blue eyes keen like a boy's.

"Agatha," he said simply as he took her hand in his, "you told me once upon a time to go away—you never wanted to see me again—"

"Yes," gasped Agatha faintly, her eyes seeking her refuge, the garden. "But one says so many foolish things—"

"Yes—and they hurt all through the years. What a young fool I was in those days not to come back to you."

"Yes," agreed Agatha softly.

—I—came."

"I am—gl... you have been so successful," said Agatha, regaining her poise somewhat.

"Yes—in a measure," he said patiently, "but I came to find out today whether I shall be the only bachelor governor the state has ever known or—"

* * * * * *

"They have gone into the rose garden," said Camilla indignantly.

"Why not? They were engaged to be married and quarreled twenty years ago—great scott, he's kissing your Aunt Agatha!" Andy turned his head away from the rose garden and encountered Camilla's brimming eyes.

"Where's—my ring?" she asked.

Nearest to Diamonds

The gem stone nearest in appearance to the diamond is the colorless zircon. The index of refraction of this mineral approaches that of the diamond, but it lacks the dispersive properties of the diamond and does not show the bright red and blue flashes of the latter stone. The zircon has a hardness less than that of the diamond. These stones are found in Ceylon, but are usually obtained by decolorizing colored stones by careful heating. They are sometimes called Madura diamonds. They are classed as semi-precious stones.

The Badger

When put to it to defend himself, the badger has fierce courage, and will usually satisfy attackers they had better retreat. Squatting low to the ground, and provided with powerful muscles and sharp teeth, he can inflict serious wounds. When attacked, the badger gives off a powerful and nauseous scent from a pair of glands near the base of the tail. (He belongs to the "stink-cat" family; a relative of the weasel, mink and skunk).

Facts And Figures On Your Telephone

By EDWIN F. HILL

Edwin F. Hill

Telephone communication to foreign countries last year showed a substantial increase over the previous year with a total of 20,187 calls, according to Elam Miller in the current Bell Telephone Quarterly.

The Quarterly article shows that 13,097 of these calls were across the Atlantic to European countries, Asia, Africa and Australia; 3,474 calls to South and Central America, Bermuda and the Bahamas; and 1,255 calls across the Pacific to the Hawaiian and Philippine Islands, and Java and Sumatra in the Dutch East Indies. There were also 2,361 ship-to-shore telephone calls.

These figures indicate the extent of use of the trans-oceanic telephone which makes it possible to connect any one of the 16,000,000 telephones of the Bell System and its connecting companies with the 13,000,000 telephones located in fifty countries and territories scattered over five continents.

In 1927, the first year the trans-oceanic telephone service was established, there were about 2,000 calls. The number increased to about 10,000 in 1928, 15,000 in 1929, approximately 17,000 in 1930 and reached a peak of about 21,000 in 1931. The number dropped down to about 18,000 in 193

Ship-to-shore telephone service, established in 1929, is now operated from about twenty vessels plying the Atlantic.

A Downeaster Steps Out

Down in the Eastern Shore of Maryland, in one of those little supposed-to-be sleepy towns, is a Maytag dealer who is thoroughly awake and on his toes.

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We are pleased to present W. E Griffith, a resident of Chestertown, Md., where last October 21, President Roosevelt visited in person, to receive the degree of Doctor of Laws from Washington College, the only institute of learning ever authorized by George Washington to use his name. Mr. Griffith, by the way, is a Washington College graduate and on his watchchain is a medal testifying to his athletic and scholastic prowess.

"Griff," as he is best known, operates a total of 9 outlets in four counties, the total population of which is not quite 65,000. He has bought 205 washers from us in the first four months of 1934, and confidently expects to retail no less than 500, maybe more, depending on crop yields and prices, oysters poultry, etc. But when the going gets tough Griff and his men bear down a little harder, so we can safely count, favorable conditions or otherwise, that 500 homes down that way will be made happier this year by the advent of Maytag home laundering.

Before joining Maytag in 1930 Mr. Griffith was a construction engineer. He still is, for that matter. He is constructing an organization and engineering results.

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—Maytag News, Newton, Iowa

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McDaniel said he was walking home when he saw a pole lying on the street. Being civic-minded he picked it up and carried it home to keep somebody from stumbling over it.

"Gosh was I surprised, judge, when I got home to see them ducks and turkeys had been roosting on it all the time," he said.

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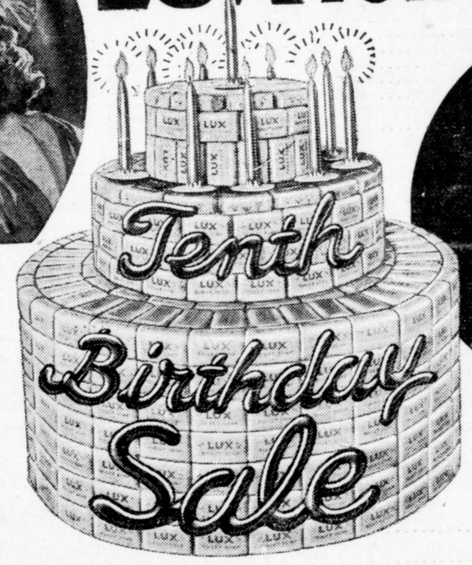

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