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It Was Time to Act

By FRANCES E. GALE

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"DON'T you see what I mean, Hugh?"

"You mean that you don't care enough for me to take a chance on my succeeding—to help me succeed."

"That's not fair. We were not considering the question of my 'caring.' That was settled long ago."

They had left the towering office building where both were employed and turned into quiet streets.

"I know how it looks to you, Hugh—calculating and unwomanly, and all that—but I've been independent for ten years, I started supporting myself at eighteen, and I've got to see my way to something better, bigger, before I give it up."

Hugh Douglass walked on in silence for some moments. Then:

"I'm not going to beg you to do what you feel wouldn't be for your happiness, Marjory, but this I will say: It may be a good while before I can establish myself independently. I firmly believe that with you beside me I could do it sooner than without you, but that's not the point. I'm not asking you to work for me; I'm asking you to work with me, to be my partner in the real business of both our lives. If that business, the real, the important one, flourished, the money-making would, I believe, be sure to flourish, too. But I'll not urge you any more. I wouldn't have kept it up so long if I hadn't honestly believed it would be best for us both, and if you hadn't told me that there was never anyone you liked better. And I wonder, sometimes, if you're not placing too high a value on the sort of 'independence' you talk of. No, I won't go in today."

Marjory paused upon her boarding house doorstep.

"Hugh, you are splendid. I almost wish I were braver—or more foolhardy—than I am."

* * * * * * *

Marjory Graham, at her desk, arranged the tools of her trade, mapped out the day's work of an assistant, and finally rose in answer to the bell summoning her to her chief's office. There continuously for an hour her pencil flew with amazing speed, and later her fingers flew over the keys of her machine. Upon her return from lunch she learned that a directors' meeting was to be held, and that she would be required to jot down the proceedings.

Half a dozen men sat about a table, and Marjory, at a desk aside, took notes. After an hour's hard discussion regarding the advisability of opening a branch house under the management of a new man Marjory was instructed to transcribe her notes. Returning with her completed work she found the atmosphere charged with the electricity of clashing wills. As she entered one of the disputants was saying:

"My experience has invariably been that it is men that count, not capital, nor backing, nor even opportunity. It's the man-stuff, the human element, that makes the success or failure of any enterprise. We've got hold of the right man now and we may not find him again in a lifetime. The secret of success is knowing the time to act."

Marjory presented her typewritten sheets, hoping her task to be done, but awaiting further instructions. The appointments of the room were luxurious, and directly opposite her a long panel mirror reflected her own figure and the group about the table. As she gazed into it, suddenly the glass seemed to reflect another group—a woman, seated at the head of her table, surrounded by the loving subjects of her home domain, a full partner in the business for which every other business exists—the creation and development of a home.

Obedient to a word of dismissal she returned to her own office, but turned the revolving chair away from her machine and sat with hands clasped upon her lap.

What was it that man had said? "It's the man-stuff, the human element, that makes the success or failure of any enterprise." And those other words, spoken two days before: "I'm not asking you to work for me. I'm asking you to work with me—to be my partner in the real business of our lives."

In her neat, rapid hand she wrote a dozen words, and, calling the office boy, instructed him to give the envelope to Mr. Douglass in another part of the building.

Near the entrance to the park that evening she was joined by Hugh, but as they walked through the summer twilight, passing loitering couples frankly love-making, Marjory fell silent, searching for the words she had come out to say. It was with a tremor in her voice that she asked as they turned into a deserted by-path and paused beside a blossom-brimming urn:

"Do you still want to enter into that partnership we were talking about, Hugh?"

The young man started and seized her hand, bending his head to look into her eyes in the half darkness.

"For life, Marjory?" he asked.

"For life, Hugh," she answered, and, trusting in the friendly shadows, lifted her lips to his.

Practicing

Pest (at general alarm of fire)—Are you busy?

Hoseman—No, buddy. The boys and I are just burning this down so's we'll know what to do when a real one hits in.—Allston Recorder.

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Big Dam At Conowingo

The $52,000,000 Conowingo Power Project wich has been held up for some time, due to controversey before the Public Service Commissions of Maryland and Pennsylvania, will likely be started next spring according to a statement made by George P. Rowe, Chief Engineer of the Susquehanna Power Co., who will be the charge of the work. This will be the largest project ever undertaken in the State for the harnessing of water power, and will not only be a base supply of power for Maryland but will be extended to Delaware and Pennsylvania as well.

— The State Game Department is releasing many Chinese ring neck pheasants on the Eastern Shore.

—Chestertown hook and line fishermen are reporting rather poor luck down the Chester.



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POULTRY NOTES

Items Of Interest That Our Readers Should Peruse

In order to determine the relative success or failure of the poultry enterprise a definite record is needed of the expenditures and receipts. It is not necessary to have a complicated system that is difficult to keep, for the necessary figures can be kept on a rather simple record. The blanks or forms for the records do not need to be purchased but can be ruled into a blank book and thereby kept in less danger of being lost than if kept in loose leaves. The records which are needed are expenses, sales, inventory and yearly summary. It is somewhat easier to get an accurate idea of what the poultry enterprise is doing if a monthly summary is made of all expenditures as well as of the eggs and other items sold.

Poultry needs a certain amount of meat scraps or fresh cut bone in their ration regularly. However, too much of such food, either ground or fresh, is injurious in that it is too rich and concentrated, perhaps leading to indigestion or causing disease. If dried ground meat is used, a small amount of it may be fed every day or two; but if fresh butcher's meat is given, two or three times a week is often enough. One pound of chopped fresh meat or green cut bone is about the proper quantity for fifteen hens. Many folks successfully follow the rule of feeding green cut bone at the rate of one ounce per fowl every other day.

One can almost get totally discouraged on the proposition of successfully overcoming broodiness at this time of the year,, and particularly so if the birds are one of the breeds which are naturally good sitters. Yet if egg production is to be maintained it is important that the brooding idae be replaced with the laying idea at the earliest possible moment. If taken in the early stages the broody hen may be broken with a great deal more ease than if she is allowed to become firmly established in the determination to raise a family. Also, she will begin to lay much more quickly than she otherwise would, for a few weeks on the nest will bring about bodily changes which cannot be overcome at short notice. There are literally dozens of methods of breaking up a broody hen. Some of them are cruel and should never be practiced. A quite common one is to place the bird in a tub containing an inch or two of water and confining her this way for several days. This is not humane, nor is it any more effective than some kindlier method. No method that is cruel is justifiable. If confined in an open airy slat bottom coop suspended on wires so it will swing the ordinary hen will give up the broody notion within a few days. During the confinement she should be well fed, and if this is done she will be ready to lay very shortly.

The first consideration in planning a new poultry house is the selection of the building site. This will depend somewhat on whether the producer has decided on following the colony-type house or the centralized type. In this discussion we are taking the intermediate course which is followed by most producers, that of a house which is partially centralized but not the extreme type found on commercial egg farms. In other words, the handy sized chicken house which is utilized by most producers.

If possible, select a building spot where natural drainage will take all surface moisture away from the building. A good many of the complaints which come in relative to damp floors can be traced to the location of the house. A house which can be built in the lee ward of a windbreak or other buildings will be better than an exposed one. A dry, porous soil such as sandy or gravelly loam is preferable to a clay soil as it is more easily kept in a sanitary condition. If this type of soil and location is not available then it is necessary that it be made it be made dry by drainage.

—Rev. Louis B. Sheen, who was injuried last week at the Queen Anne's Horse Show, is improving rapidly.

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