

A SUITOR TOO MANY

By MILDRED BARBOUR

LILA LATHAM becomes the bride of HERBERT WARE, but the picture of old sweetheart CAPTAIN JACK FARQUHAR lingers in her mind. She confides her secret to her friend, DOROTHY CAIN, an artist.

While in France during the war, Lila had promised Jack that she would become his wife. When he returned from the front, Jack is reported dead in battle, but Lila's secret is varded to Lila, who gave it to disabled veterans.

Herbert learns of the gift, and Lila says the money was her uncle's and was given in memory of his son. Several other stories are told of the gift, but Herbert's mind is put at rest.

Lila one day sees GILROY HOLMES, a star of the stage, and Jack. She learns that Jack is not dead and is to return to New York that day.

She invites him to her home to luncheon. During the meal, Jack asks Lila to marry him.

What he is relating his miraculous escape from death and the circumstances of his return, Lila is laying her plan.

She doesn't tell him she's married, so she says she can't marry him now, but she wants him to save her from financial ruin, she has become engaged to another man.

Various crises after this keep Lila's nerves on edge, but she manages to keep Jack in ignorance of her marriage and Herbert in ignorance of Jack's existence.

CHAPTER XXXVII

With the Assistance of Rain

LILA'S thoughts were in a whirl as she dressed that night. Her deft, quick fingers were all thumbs; she couldn't even fasten the clasp of her necklace.

"It is nothing," she said, trying to speak lightly, but when the woman had gone away, she sat staring into the mirror with sick, frightened eyes.

Gilroy Holmes was coming to dinner. As hostess, she couldn't avoid him. There would be that awful moment when Herbert would present him; when Holmes would look into her face and his eyes would light with recognition; when he would exclaim involuntarily: "Why, it's Lila Latham!"

After that—the deluge! Perhaps he had already seen Jack, or, at least, had learned that the latter was alive.

Lila shuddered. She dragged herself down to the library. Siddons was already biffing in the cocktails, and Herbert was impatiently consulting his watch.

"Holmes is late," he announced. "I don't like that. It's bad enough for an ordinary guest, but, for a man in my employ, it's unpardonable."

"Perhaps he couldn't get a taxi," murmured Lila absently. "It's begun to rain, you know."

"He should have taken that into account," frowned Herbert, "he's lax in social obligations, it doesn't argue too well for his business habits."

Lila was blessing the delay. Anything to put off the dreaded moment.

While they waited, the telephone rang. It was Dorothy.

"HELLO, Lila," she said casually. "Hope I'm not disturbing your dinner, but I forgot to ask you, when you were at the studio today, if you'd mind very much giving me an hour of your time tomorrow. I simply can't get a model suitable for the drawing I've promised to do for a very special order."

"Of course, I'll be glad to," answered Lila eagerly. She turned to Herbert: "It's Dot. She wants me to pose for her tomorrow. You don't mind, do you?"

"If it won't interfere with our lunching together, I give my consent," said Herbert firmly.

Lila paled.

"We—you—I didn't know we had an engagement."

Herbert's brow lifted.

"You know it now," he remarked stiffly.

Lila spoke into the receiver.

"I'm sorry, Dot, but Herbert wants me to lunch with him," she faltered.

"—you wanted me around luncheon time, didn't you?" she asked significantly.

At her end of the line, Dorothy said apologetically, "Do you want me to try to force it?"

Lila's murmur was an assent.

"Then let me speak to Herbert, please."

"Dorothy wants to talk to you herself," Lila said. Herbert picked up the receiver, frowning.

Dorothy's voice, sweet, coaxing.

Key to Questions

1. Yes. The baby is instinctively afraid of thunder because of the loud noise.

2. Yes. He learns to fear lightning?

3. Is he afraid of a sharp, loud noise?

4. Is baby afraid when you bring your hand close to his eyes in a threatening way?

5. Does he recognize a grumpy expression?

6. Is he instinctively afraid of a cat?

7. Is the little baby afraid of the dark?

8. Are all babies willing to be picked up by strangers?

9. Is baby more afraid of a strange face than of a strange voice?

10. Is it instinctive fear that makes baby cry so loudly when he falls?

11. Have most 3-year-olds learned to be afraid of the dark?

Yes No

to be excused from dinner; his taxi had skidded and he had been cut by flying glass.

"I had to go to a doctor for a couple of stitches and I'm not a pretty sight," he told Herbert. "I'm afraid I'd give Mrs. Ware rather a shock."

When Herbert turned from the telephone, after announcing the news to Lila, he found his wife all in a flutter. The respite seemed too incredible to be true.

But, to her horror, Herbert interpreted her manner according to his lights. He gripped her shoulder fiercely.

"Lila, tell me this instant—what is Holmes to you?"

Lila fairly gaped at him. Was it possible that he suspected?

"I—I don't know what you mean?"

"Isn't it obvious?" snapped Herbert. "You know that he has been injured, and it upsets you so that you're trembling like a leaf. Actually, you're shaking and white and—" he paused suddenly and a great light seemed to break.

"Yes, and, by Jove, it's happened before! The night you learned he was in my office you dropped a cup and spilled coffee all over the rug. I remember very clearly now. Lila.....!"

She stared at him, wide-eyed and breathless, hoping devoutly that he wouldn't connect Holmes's presence with her sudden fainting fit at May Varney's party.

(To Be Continued)

(Copyright, 1928, Metropolitan News-paper Service, New York)

How Bright Is Baby?

Very early in his life baby shows fear.

There are certain happenings that make the brand-new baby afraid.

These are:

1. Loud sounds.

2. Sudden removal of support; that is, if baby falls even a tiny distance, he is frightened; or if his blanket is jerked just as he is going to sleep, he becomes frightened.

Here are some things that frighten older children. If you think the little boy is afraid of them, underline Yes, but if you do not think he fears them, underline No. Then compare your answers with the key.

1. Is baby afraid of thunder?

2. Does he learn to fear lightning?

3. Is he afraid of a sharp, loud noise?

4. Is baby afraid when you bring your hand close to his eyes in a threatening way?

5. Does he recognize a grumpy expression?

6. Is he instinctively afraid of a cat?

7. Is the little baby afraid of the dark?

8. Are all babies willing to be picked up by strangers?

9. Is baby more afraid of a strange face than of a strange voice?

10. Is it instinctive fear that makes baby cry so loudly when he falls?

11. Have most 3-year-olds learned to be afraid of the dark?

Yes No

12. Does he learn to talk.

13. Next we will inquire how baby learns to talk.

(Copyright, 1928, Science Service, Inc.)

DEMOCRATS 'STICK'

State Organization Put on 'Peace-Time' Basis.

Returning to a "peace-time basis," the Democratic organization in Indiana will be kept intact for the 1930 campaign, R. Earl Peters, state chairman, said today.

"Since the election Nov. 6," Peters said, "I have talked with at least two-thirds of the Democratic county chairmen of the state. They are not discouraged and are keeping their organizations in tact for the next campaign."

Jackson day will be the signal for Democratic rallies throughout the state, Peters said.

To place the state organization on a firm "peacetime" financial basis, county chairmen are obtaining pledges from leading Democrats in their counties, equal in number to each county's delegate apportionment to the state convention, each of whom will contribute \$1 monthly to the state organization. This will afford a revenue of \$1,182 monthly, sufficient to accumulate a reserve while maintaining state headquarters at the Claypool.

Key to Questions

1. Yes. The baby is instinctively afraid of thunder because of the loud noise.

2. Yes. He learns to fear lightning because it comes with the thunder.

3. Yes. When he is 3 months old he raises his arm to protect himself.

4. Yes.

5. Yes. At 6 months he draws back and begins to cry.

6. No. He learns to fear animals.

POLICE TERMINATE

MYTHICAL SHOWCASE

Utah Cops Hold Man After Swindle With Store Furniture.

By United Press

PROVO, Utah, Nov. 16.—G. W. Thayer won't give away his mythical showcase any more as his "gift" complex has been terminated by the Provo police.

Thayer's method if livelihood, according to authorities, was to "give away" his showcase to dealers who needed one. There was a string attached, however, whereby Thayer came out with a profit.

Investigators declare that Thayer would approach a merchant with the offer of a showcase—he always had so many men he couldn't use them all—and offer it gratis if the merchant would pay freight charges from a nearby city.

Often the merchant was so impressed with the deal that he gave Thayer the money to pay the freight charges. Then Thayer would leave town hastily.

She began to laugh, laughed aloud, and a young farmer going into the city to see a movie eyed her curiously, and then concernedly as the girl began to cry.

She felt that she had escaped some horrible fate, although, concretely, she had faced nothing worse than being discovered in the company of a decent young Mexican farm laborer by her foreman.

She had almost reached Stanton before the apathy of the conclusion of "The Voice," the Rupert Brooke poem she had been quoting to satisfy her poetic mood, accrued to her. She opened the book then and read the line with swimming eyes:

"The noise of a fool in mock distress, Chilling and laughing and blindly going, Of ignorant feet and a swishing dress, And a voice that seems to say 'I'm sorry'."

Of course the foreman hadn't laughed; neither had he worn a swishing dress, but his voice had profaned the solitudes which the Mexican boy's unspoken but ardent love had made holy. There it was, in the very next line:

"The spell was broken, the key denied me—"

Why did the foreman's bellowing roar for "that darned greaser" have to shatter the most perfect moment she had ever lived? Certainly with Rupert Brooke she almost could cry, in heartbroken rage.

"By God! I wish—I wish that you were dead!"

Then Crystal bowed her face in her hands, unconscious of the other passengers, and knew that she

(To Be Continued)

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

By Ahern

"EGAD LAD, I NOTICED AT THE FOOTBALL GAMES THAT THE VOGUE THIS WINTER, WOULD BE FUR COATS! HMM—ILL BE IN STEP WITH THE STYLE THIS SEASON! I'VE HAD THIS COAT PACKED AWAY FOR SOME TIME! GENUINE SIBERIAN BEAR THAT I SHOT MYSELF, WHEN YOU WERE A LISPING TOT!"

"SURE, I REMEMBER THAT MOTH RANCH, WHERE YOU WORE IT THREE YEARS AGO! THAT'S TH' COAT YOU SAID YOU TOOK SPECIAL AIM AT TH' BEAR, SO THAT TH' THREE SHOTS COULD BE USED FOR BUTTON-HOLES!"

"BUT LOOK AT TH' MOTHS POPPING OUT OF IT! YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO HANG THAT HAT UP, IT CAN FLY UP ON A HOOK!"

"THE OLD HOME-STEAD FOR MOTHS =

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.