UNCLE HONEY BUNCH

By BARBARA KERR

(©, 1920, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Mr. Thomas Allerton's automobile, containing, besides himself, his sister, Carlotta Allerton; his daughter, Willfred, and his son, Tom, Jr. was, in the vernacular of west Texas, "bogged down" hopelessly in a lane running past a queer little stone house.

Willfred must of necessity see what sort of persons lived there, so she set off down the lane into the yard. A most curious sight met her. A swarm of bees seemed to be trying to get in the window, and bees were roaming wild all over the premises. She gave a scream of dismay, which brought a man from behind the house. She was amazed at the bees but more amazed at the man. He was honey from top to toe and bees were swarming all over him.

He paid no attention to the bees except to catch them by the wings, if they chanced to light on his bare hands, and holding them aloft gently would let them loose to fly away. His big fat collie apparently had taken refuge from the bees behind a screen set up before an overturned box, and did not come out even to speak to the stranger.

"My goodness gracious!" screamed Willfred, dodging a stray bee, "you'll surely get stung."

"Oh, yes, probably, but not enough to hurt. They really aren't paying much attention to me. They're somewhat nervous. I've been robbing them today," said the bee-man, nonchalantly. Then: "Is there anything I can do for you?"

"But just look at them! I should say they are nervous! Why, they are trying to get inside your house. Look at that window ledge! A whole swarm of them trying to get inside. They'll take your house and you'll never get inside of it again!" cried Willfred, aghast.

"Yes, but they did that a long time ago. They seemed to want to live there even more than I did, so I just

Amazed at the Man.

let them take one side of it and I live in the other side," said the bee man.

"But don't they sting you?" insisted Willfred.

"No, we get along most amicably. I fixed up a glass compartment for them, and we live in peace and harmony——"

"Oh!" gasped Willfred. "Then, of course, there isn't anybody here but you—no woman——"

"No, no woman," and he looked wistfully across the desert plain as though hoping she were coming.

"Of course," Willfred hastened to say, "a woman would be so afraid of the bees——"

"And a bit afraid of me and the desert—so she did not come in the first place. Perhaps she was right."

"Oh," murmured Willfred sympathetically, "pardon me. I didn't mean to—to—pry."

"You didn't. You simply caught me rather unawares. I think I told you because I wanted to. Old bachelors get so lonesome that they are garrulous on slight provocation now and then. And if you will not mind my saying it, it was because I fancied a resemblance in you to that woman who feared to trust me and the desert here with her future. As I said before, perhaps she was right. At any rate I blame her less and less as the years roll by. But," changing again to his matter-of-fact manner, "you have not told me whether there is anything I could do for you."

"Oh, yes," laughed Willfred, "or rather no, I guess not. We went into a chuckhole and the men are digging the machine out, so I came exploring. And I am so much more interested in the bees and the honey than digging out autos, which has become a rather common thing."

"Have you ever tasted any of the valley honey? I was going to say catclaw honey, but as you are a tenderfoot you'd hardly know the term. Let me go inside and get some for you."

Returning, he handed her upon a wooden plate a most delicious cake of honey just cut from the frame and it was "bleeding" its liquid sweetness in little orange rivulets into the dish.

"How perfectly scrumptious! Um-m, my! I'll go back and share it with the fam, and then as we come by, they shall tell you how much it added to our lunch, for we have not eaten it yet." She turned to go.

"Perhaps I'd better get the horses ready, for we sometimes have to pull people out of these holes," suggested the bee man.

"Well, what have you there, Mrs. Christopher Columbus?" asked her aunt as Willfred approached her aunt's perch at the side of the road, bubbling over with delight at her acquisition.

Sitting down beside her Willfred proceeded to tell her all about it. "Sweetest man on God's green earth, auntie. He was honey from the crown of his hat to the soles of his shoes. Fact! You'd be crazy about him. I guess the girl that he was going to marry stung him so hard that he took up bees as a counter irritant. What's the matter auntie?" For her aunt gasped, turned white, sprang to her feet, looking from left to right in dismay, as though she must flee—but where to? For the bee man was coming a few rods away leading his horses. He stopped for a fleeting moment as if he, too, had seen a ghost then taking off his hat he said:

"Ah, so that explains the resemblance! Your daughter, I suppose, Mrs.——Mrs.——"

"No," faltered Aunt Carlotta; "it's my niece, Tom's daughter. That's Tom over there."

But Mr. Allerton had recognized him. "Why, hello, O. B. Where in thunder did you come from? Live around here?" And he hastened out of the mud to greet his old-time friend, and almost once-upon-a-time brother-in-law. "This is young Tom, Ned; you ought to remember him. Tom, this is Ned O'Barron; used to live in our town."

The bee man, without further ceremony, began backing his horses around, to hitch to the stalled auto.

All effort was directed to getting the machine once more on solid earth; then Mr. O'Barron turned the horses' heads toward home.

"Hold on, Ned," begged Allerton. "Hitch the nags to the fence and let's visit a spell; or, say, we'll drive along down and meet your family."

"We're all here except the dog and the bees, and your daughter rather objected to the latter. I'm running a primeval bachelor's paradise," with just a suspicion of bitterness. "But really, Tom, there's no use in your coming down this way, for the bridges below are all washed out, and the water is coming down that deep arroyo like old Mad river back in Ohio. You'll have to go back to Amarillo and wait till the bridges are fixed. I'd ask you to share my shack if the bees would allow me, but if you'll wait a little I'll ride along and help you back over those bad chuckholes."

"Why, I—I'm not awfully afraid of bees, Mr. O'Barron," ventured Aunt Carlotta timidly.

"That's fortunate, Mrs.—Mrs—," he stammered, waiting for some one to supply her married name.

"Just the same name, Ned, that I have always had—Carlotta Allerton," she announced with a trembling little smile.

If the bee man uttered something under his breath, it went no further than Aunt Carlotta, unless those young ears of the niece caught it.

"Guess I've discovered something this time worth while. So Aunt Carlotta was that girl, was she—bet I'll call him Uncle Honey-Bunch before this trip is over," chuckled Willfred to herself, then to the bee man:

"Oh, do come with us, Mr. O'Barron," she pleaded; "the bees can get along a while without you and we need you dreadfully," a teasing look at her blushing aunt. "You see, we will have to stay in town a few days, and we'd so much like to have an old friend for company."

Of course, he needed no further urging, for Carlotta had looked up and smiled and nodded. She was too wise to trust her voice, so the bee man hurried off to change into another suit of clothes.

Aunt Carlotta turned to her beaming niece, who could hardly contain herself, so keen was she to hear all the details of the old romance, and asked: "What did you say, dear, about Mr. O'Barron?"

"Oh," giggled Willfred, "I said he was the sweetest man on God's green earth."

And Aunt Carlotta stored the remark away in her memory, for she was sure that she was going to have occasion to use it when they were back in town.

Slave Traffic Exists.

Slave traffic along the Arab coast is illegal under the terms of certain conventions, but slavery, nevertheless, is said still to exist to a rather considerable extent. A few years ago, the Detroit News recalls, members of the American Arabian mission at Bahrein rescued a whole boatload of black boys who had been smuggled up from Africa for sale along the Oman coast. In the interior towns slaves are used mostly as personal servants, bodyguards, and hostlers. By an old law of Arabia, a slave is freed after seven years of service, provided he has embraced the Moslem religion, and it is said that most of the slaves do so. There is no prejudice against marriage with blacks in Arabia, especially after they are freed. This intermarriage has scattered a black population all over Arabia. In parts like Maskat and Aden mulattoes and mixed breeds are so common that the pure Arab strain is almost a rarity.

CAPES FOR SPRING

Plain and Plaid Materials Form Garments for Sports.

May Be Made of Heavy Blanketlike Wool or Light-Colored Angora Cloth.

Among the very striking array of garments shown for sports wear this year the golf cape combining plain and plaid materials is one of the favorites. Such a wrap is shown in the sketch. It may be made of a heavy, blanketlike wool material in bright Scotch plaid, with vest and collar of white or light-colored angora cloth. A belt of patent leather or of velvet ribbon matching the predominating color in the plaid may be used to hold the cape to the figure. A tam to match will always be found smart or a little sport hat, such as the one sketched, may be worn, if preferred.

These capes, now being worn in the South and on the golf links of every country club when the weather makes golfing possible, are forerunners of a wrap that will be popular in the spring. One such wrap recently designed is made of a striking plaid blanketlike fabric in various colorings, finished all around with self-fringe and held in with a belt of patent leather. It is as loose fitting as a cape, but is really a coat, with clearly defined, though loose, sleeves, and it is claimed for the coat that it is a real economy garment, because a very small quantity of fabric is required to make it.

Of course, many long coats will be worn in the spring; but there is to be

Golf Cape of Angora Plaid.

a decided leaning to hip or three-quarters length models. This applies to coats developed for general and street wear, as well as to those classified as sports models.

WIRING IN EVENING FROCKS

Arrangement Extends Hips, Used in Simple Round Neck and in Short Sleeves.

Evening frocks, almost in every case, show the wired-out hips and full lines. The wiring is usually concealed by garlands of ribbon or flowers. A jade blue gown is much ruffled as to the skirt, and is also wired and trimmed with wreaths of silver flowers, which are placed partly on and partly hanging below the edge of the ruffles. The bodice shows no other trimming than the silver garlands.

A lavender chiffon dress has the simplest of trimming, just a row of mauve velvet violets concealing the wiring at the hips and the simple round neck is wired as well as finished by the row of violets. Very short sleeves are also wired in this manner.

The tunic of a frock of black taffeta has inset at the sides two squares of the heaviest of silver filet, on which are carelessly laid garlands of silver flowers. This makes a striking note, as one may imagine, for the silver contrasts so strongly with the black. The bodice shows just a wide band of the silver filet at the top, which relieves the blackness of the dress. The short sleeves are also silver.

Fancies in Taffetas.

One is led to believe that taffeta will continue to be worn for another season at least, writes a Paris correspondent. Everywhere one hears plaids spoken of for next summer. The woolen manufacturer presents plaid woolen suitings, and now comes an idea in taffeta. A combination of pleasing colors is presented in large plaid patterns. Striped taffetas are offered. One sees the unison of four colors in fine stripes, grouped together and spaced about three inches apart.

BLACK VELVET FOR CHILDREN

Popular Fabric, Hand in Hand With Lace, Again Favorite for the Youngster.

Could the figure of little Lord Fauntleroy ever have become immortalized in anything but that black velvet suit of his? Suppose he had been dressed quite sensibly in a navy-blue suit with sailor collar, suppose he had worn brown kindergarten cloth, or gabardine, or serge or corduroy, in short, anything but velvet, could Reginald Birch—who really has almost as much to do with it as Frances Hodgson Burnett herself—have made of him the quaint little figure that has endeared him to us for so long?

Well, perhaps the little lord was different from some children of today. And doubtless for your red-blooded young lion of a boy velvet would be out of the question. Surely you would have a hard time getting by the scientifically trained nursery governess with anything like that these days for it is one of the cardinal doctrines of the creed of those who are versed on child hygiene these days that their clothes should be washable and durable and non-dust gathering. And velvet is none of these.

Nevertheless, velvet for children has established itself in the shop windows and from all you can see it is finding an enthusiastic response in the women.

Lace and velvet always come hand in hand, and when fashion decreed a return of lace it seemed inevitable that velvet should come in, too. Thus, although some of the children's frocks and suits made with velvet are unadorned with lace, those that are enjoying the best favor are those that like the immortal suit of little Lord Fauntleroy, are trimmed with collars and cuffs of lace.

TRIMMING ON MILADY'S GOWN

Stenciling Is Popular and Affords Interesting Decoration for Various Garments.

Coarse stencil has been used as a household decoration to be seen on curtains, table covers, and the like for some time, but as a trimming for the frock its use is quite recent. Though it came into vogue in Paris a short time before the opening of the late war, American women have only recently been appreciating its vast possibilities.

For vestees, blouses or panels, stencil may be colorfully combined with braiding, embroidery or beading.

Thus a vestee of tan linen might be stenciled in a design of squares and triangles in one color, such as green, wine color, orange or old blue and afterward outlined in black or in two or more colors.

Separate motifs may be used to trim the edges of tunics. The same motif might be repeated upon the sleeve, upon the blouse and sash end. A grape design might thus be effectively stenciled upon a serge dress and outlined with wool.

Soutache braid may successfully be used to outline a stencil design such as a wall of Troy or Greek key design. These are used mostly for borders and are especially successful upon the little girls' frocks.

As for the method of stenciling, the design should be traced on stencil board by means of a sharp pencil or stylus. Stencil board may be obtained at any artist's supply shop. A sheet of manila paper shellacked upon both sides might be substituted. The stencil paper should extend beyond the design at least two inches in order to avoid staining the material to be worked upon.

JUST THE THING FOR SPRING

Advance model with Yedda body faced with London crepe. It is trimmed with sweater braid and worsted, and may be had in attractive colors.

A Corsage.

As a note of color for the hat or girdle, a cluster of nasturtiums in rust-red or flaming orange is the choice of the Parisienne. This simple garden flower, perfectly imitated, is the chosen companion for simple linen or voile frocks. With white muslin dresses the correct thing is a little bunch of deep orange nasturtiums tucked away in the folds of a black velvet ribbon waist-belt, a further bunch of the same flowers appearing on the brim of the hat.

The Cape Suits.

It is impossible to predict the popularity of the cape suit for spring, but that it will be worn to a more or less degree is assumed by the attractive models that have been introduced.

A living, breathing, loving personality

OUR OWN ST. RITA

A LIFE OF THE SAINT OF THE IMPOSSIBLE

By REV. M. J. CORCORAN, O.S.A.

St. Rita gives us the feeling that she is very near to us—a Saint that we can understand. She was so human, and bore the weight of so many woes with patience and kindliness of heart. Reading of her beautiful life gives us a new incentive each day, new courage to lift again our cross and struggle bravely on.

The Saint stands before us in her girlhood, and her womanhood, as maiden, wife, mother, widow, nun; a living, breathing, loving personality, thoroughly sweet and thoroughly good, yet thoroughly human.

12mo, cloth, illus., net, $1.00

Will be sent postage paid on receipt of $1.15

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

With Reflections for Every Day in the Year

Compiled by

REV. ALBAN BUTLER

This volume offers in compendious form the lives of many eminent servants of God.

The life of each Saint and the history of each great festival are given in succinct, but clear style, and each day closes with a practical reflection.

There is no better book for fostering a spirit of piety than the "Lives of the Saints" and this edition with its low price, clear and legible type, ought to be in every Catholic family.

406 pages, net, 75 cents

Will be sent postage paid on receipt of 85 cents

An Encyclopedia of Catholic Information

The Catholic's Ready Answer

By REV. M. P. HILL, S.J.

will enable Catholics to remember and impart the truths of their religion whenever the occasion presents itself. The *right* answer at the *right* time has converted many.

We mention some of the up-to-date questions treated in this book:

Agnosticism
Apes and Men
Blessed Virgin
Boycotts
Bible and Geology
Bible Myths
Bible Reading
Catholic and Protestant Countries
Celibacy of Priests
Chance and World's Origin
Church, The
Cremation
Christ, Divinity of
Creation, The
Chastity
"Christian Science"
Confession
Divorce
Darwinism
Existence of God
Eve and the Serpent
Evolution
Eugenics
Faith
Flood, The
Free Love
Free Masonry
Free Thought
Free Will
Galileo
Geology and the Bible
Hell
Idolatry
Indulgences
Infallibility of the Pope
Labor Unions
Lourdes
Luther
Marriage and Divorce
Miracles
Missions, Catholic and Protestant
Mixed Marriages
Morality of Bible Heroes
Original Sin
Pantheism
Parochial Schools
Public Schools
Pauperization Theory
Pope, The
Prosperity No Test of a Nation's Religion
Protestant Disunion
Purgatory
Reason and Faith
Religion and Morality
Religious Orders
Resurrection of the Dead
Science Witnessing to a Creator
Science and the Bible
Scientific Research Open to Catholics
Secret Societies
Sin, Original
Socialism
Soul, Spirituality of
Spiritism
Spontaneous Generation
Strikes
Superstition
Theosophy
Tradition and the Bible
Transubstantiation
Trinity, The Blessed
Unions, etc., etc.

As the Sunflower turns to the Sun, Our minds should look towards the Truth

8vo, cloth, 490 pages, net, $2.00

Will be sent postage paid on receipt of $2.20

Address all orders to Catholic Journal, Rochester, N. Y.

Envelopes to Match

Use envelopes to match the color of your stationery.

We can supply you with fine letterheads printed on Hammermill Bond and furnish envelopes to match in any of the twelve colors or white.

Remember we are letterhead specialists. You will find the quality of our printing and the paper we give you very high and our prices very low.

Let Us Show You What We Can Do