

THE HERO WAS A BRAVE FIREMAN

By MOLLIE MATHER

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"THERE are no men like those you read about," said Della, "those daring, brave and true."

Della's mother looked up wearily; her young daughter was very trying with her ideals and exactions. Here, while other girls with whom Della associated, were happy in the companionship of young men in their set, Mrs. Warring's daughter refused even to try to be interested.

Tommy Wentworth was such a nice boy, Mrs. Warring thought, affectionately. Tommy had done his best to win the mother's approval, hoping through it to gain the daughter's. And Tommy's people had a great deal of money.

"I suppose," remarked the tired mother now, "you have been reading some of that olden literature of which you are so fond. Men are civilized these enlightened times, and a hero does not burst into a room, through the unnecessary means of a tower window, or carry an imprisoned maiden down a lattice, in his arms."

Contempt was in Mrs. Warring's tone. "Tommy Wentworth, I am sure, is as daring enough, were daring necessary. Brave, too, if there were need of an exhibition of bravery," Della's mocking laughter answered. "Tommy darling! Yes, when it comes to keeping up with the silly crowd, who think themselves the last word in smart sophistication. Brave? The bravest thing Tommy can do is to run his car close to the danger limit. I'm sick of them all," added young Della, "sometimes, I wish I might get away from this sameness—anywhere."

Gentle Mrs. Warring sighed. She could not understand the revolt of a daughter, indulged in the accustomed pastimes of a joyful present. For Della's life was joyful as far as parental generosity could make it. Then, into the mother's faded eyes, came a resentful light. Della was ungrateful; very well, Della should be brought to gratitude, by contrast.

"You may go away," Mrs. Warring said, "but it will be my privilege to select your stopping place. You shall pay a long delayed duty visit to Aunt Peg."

Della considered. Aunt Peg lived, she had heard, in a town so small that it was not noticeable on the map. Also, she lived alone.

The family home of Aunt Margaret Morris was more isolated than Della had fancied. There was but one other building in sight at that end of the village—a great brick house opposite which, with its one queer tower, spoke of a more prosperous time. Old Mrs. Hale, Aunt Peg told Della, lived in solitary state in the old home, with only Maggie, a village girl, to help with the chores after school.

The first days of Della's stay in Farmhurst were silently uneventful. Then one day the thing happened—the wonderful, adventurous thing for which Della had long been sighing. A hero appeared, and performed, under her very eyes. A hero whom those pages of ancient romance might not rival.

Mrs. Hale's big house had taken fire in the early afternoon. Young Maggie left a lighted lantern in the attic tower, which probably ignited a curtain. The fire smoldered unnoticed until evening when flames burst forth, just as Mrs. Hale had fallen asleep in her second story bedroom. Della saw the flame as it tore about the attic window casing above; there was no one else to see. She ran down the road to give the alarm. In a very short time the village chemical wagon arrived; cars followed; all was excitement. When Mrs. Hale was not to be found in the lower part of the house, a man rushed to the stairs. Breathless, quiet, the crowd waited. Smoke belched from the half-way. The fireman's figure was quite obscured as he ran. Della saw him at the tower roof window. He was holding the small figure of the old lady in his arms; he came safely to the ground. Della was the first to relieve him of his burden. "I had to hurry her out of the smoke," he explained—"she was suffering from it. We had better take her over to Mrs. Morris' across the way."

Near the end of Della's country visit her mother received a letter. From its confusedly enthusiastic contents Mrs. Warring glanced troubled toward her husband. "From what I can gather," she said, "Della is engaged to a fireman. She is bringing him home to present to us. A fireman—while here is Tommy Wentworth with a profession in prospect. This man was on duty where Della could see him, I suppose, and she fell in love, because of that hero-worshipping imagination of hers. That child—"

Mrs. Warring's regretful remarks were cut short by the entrance of the disapproved "child" herself. Accompanying Della was a fine-looking young man.

"Why," cried Mrs. Warring, "why, Dudley Bronson, how glad I am to see you. I knew your father, Doctor Bronson, when as a girl I visited at Aunt Peg's. The resemblance is not to be mistaken."

"But," stammered Mrs. Warring, "you wrote about a fireman, Della." The good-looking young man smiled. "We all volunteer as firemen in Farmhurst," Doctor Bronson explained. "But not all are as daring and brave," added the happy Della.

323,000 Acres of Land Ready for Homesteads

Washington. — Opening to homestead entry 323,000 acres in five Western states—the largest area to be set aside for that purpose in a year—was announced recently by the interior department. Dates for filings will be announced later.

The areas include 110,700 acres in Carbon and Phillips counties, Montana; 69,000 acres in Lander and Pershing counties, Nevada; 58,500 acres in Otero county, New Mexico; 5,000 acres in San Juan county, Utah; 80,950 acres in Lake county, Oregon; and 27,950 acres in Piute county, Utah.

Rancher Sees Deer Lock Horns in Battle

Altura, Cal.—J. Gutzman, a rancher, recently was eyewitness to a spectacle not often seen by human beings, that of a deadly combat between two male deer with their horns interlocked. Gutzman, who is deaf, came on the deer in a wilderness near here and was within 25 feet of them before he saw them or they sensed his presence. When the bucks noted the intrusion they ceased fighting and scrambled away, their horns still locked, to a point hardly 100 yards distant, where the battle was resumed. Gutzman did not approach the animals. Instead, he notified the game warden, and the next day an investigation was made. The bucks could not be found, but the trail they had left for miles told eloquently of the terrific battle. In places the ground was torn up as if by a plow, and saplings were broken down. At one point the fettered foes had fallen over a cliff 12 feet high.

The game warden predicted that the final chapter of the episode would be written when some hunter found two pairs of whitened horns linked together. Such finds are not uncommon, an indication that fights between male deer often last until both die of exhaustion or starvation.

Boy Prodigy Gains New Honors While at Oxford



Above is pictured William J. Maier, Jr., of Huntington, Va., who has just added to his many honors by being elected as secretary of the British-American club at Oxford university. Maier is but twenty years old, yet has won many scholastic honors. He graduated from high school when fifteen, and at sixteen entered Harvard, winning the Massachusetts Rhodes scholarship in his second year. He graduated from Harvard at nineteen, then went to Oxford, where he is now in his second year. Young Maier expects to complete his studies at Oxford next year, when he will return to Harvard for special training in law.

U. S. Bureau to Guard New Mexico's Forests

Washington.—A system of fire protection for timber lands belonging to New Mexico will result from the agreement recently made between the state authorities and the forest service, United States Department of Agriculture. Under the provisions of the agreement all of the state-owned timber lands located within or adjacent to national forests within New Mexico will be included in the general fire protection organization that has been built up by the federal government. The state of New Mexico will pay its share of the costs. New Mexico owns about 1,200,000 acres of timber lands to which the fire protection will extend. The adoption of the protective system brings New Mexico well to the front among the states from a standpoint of conservation of state-owned timber.

Judge Tells Husband Wife Can Bob Her Hair

New York.—A bob is a wife's own business, Magistrate Stanley Kenard ruled recently in Harlem court. May O'Donnell charged that when her husband came home the other night and found her displaying a head of short hair he beat her, called her mean names and told her he was through with her.

"It's her hair," said the magistrate. "Yes, but I have to live with her," objected O'Donnell. The magistrate turned the matter over to a probation officer.

Rich Cape and Frock for Dainty Little Miss



This darling frock for little sister is designed in radium silk of soft gold color, trimmed with white and accompanied by winsome little cape that matches.

White Satin Blouses Now Bidding for Favor

Now that black satin has come into especial favor for dresses and some are shown with the white veils, it seems opportune for the advent of the white satin blouse. Undoubtedly it will have many uses in the wardrobe. Most successful among these is the blouse which extends over the hips in usual fashion, but cut into vest points at the front and provided with pockets or at least one for the ubiquitous watch fob. Noteworthy is a group of these models seen recently was one with trimming in scroll, embroidery done in black floss on the white satin, the pockets covered with this design and a panel of it in the front where it would be effective with a suit or coat.

Costume blouses are frequently of black satin with trimming motifs of Chinese inspiration lending color to the general effect of the Oriental art. These are in evidence in the collections in Paris and are perhaps the newest thing that the display of spring blouses has to offer. Blues and pinks are enriched with motifs in silver and gold among the lighter color schemes. Paris also offers some of the shorter, flatter pointed blouses in black satin richly embroidered.

Georgette blouses have manners of their own in trimming and decoration suitable to the fragile or rather sheer fabric for in reality georgette is extremely durable. Fine tucks and the use of plaits are both part of the designer's way of treating them. In a blouse of salmon pink georgette, for instance, one finds a deep, oblong inset of fine tucks outlined with jagging and a band of embroidery at the bottom of the tucks, which are perpendicular in direction. With so much elaboration above the tiny pockets are simple slits with a narrow, straight edge of embroidery.

Models for Young Ladies Are Chic and Snappy

This season's styles are particularly happy in their models for misses. The designs are chic and snappy, the materials charming and comfortable, the colors refreshingly pretty. There have been seasons when the young woman just out, or she that was just to make her debut, was either overelaborate or stuffily childish and unattractive in her dress.

The tendency of fond parents to bestow all at once the ornaments a girl may require one at a time, or to keep her as long as possible in the Junior class, has, in the past, the rules of taste and fine proportion in the fashions designed for young women. But these rules have become standardized and are now representing the best talents of the leading artists of Paris.

There is an obvious compensating for in their creating, and most interesting, engaging things are shown in the new models—things lovely and expressive of youth in their design and colors. Many of the new ideas intended for young women are equally good for women at large, and there is no monopoly on the palette of colors from which they are developed.

Desk Accessories

The busy woman with much correspondence to care for will rejoice in the new accessories for her desk. Large envelopes of colored leather are plainly stamped in gold, "Paid," "Unpaid," "Answered," "Unanswered," etc. Each envelope is made of a different colored leather, such as rose, blue or tan, so that the search for the missing letter or unpaid bill is greatly facilitated.

Opals Are Chic

People evidently are losing their aversion to opals. At any rate, long chains of round, milky opals are considered chic. The opals are alternated with rose quartz or black onyx.

Hand Bag of Moire

The little moire hand bag is more and more favored. Its latest development is a handsome medallion of real petit-point in the center of the front.

Multiple Bracelet Sets New Fashion

Rich Decoration Favored in Jewel Wearing—Beads Are Popular.

The old order changeth even in jewelry, where from time immemorial every conceivable stone could be worn in almost any manner. Today many of the jewelry fashions of earlier years have joined the oblivion of the past, and are quite as demode as the mid-Victorian chapel, according to a writer in the New York Tribune.

Few women, for example, are wearing headresses now, either jeweled or fancy. Diadems and coronets have gone out of fashion. They are not in accord with the shingled bob or the sleek-flat coiffure of the day. One never sees a jeweled dog collar now, except perhaps upon an English dowager, into whose toilette the present-day fashions never enter.

Flat jewels, set in gold or platinum, have also lost some of their ancient glamour. The modern woman prefers to wear her precious bangles in the form of beads strung on fine chains of platinum with circles of brilliant mingling with the sparkling balls of fire and color. Sometimes a long string of faceted emeralds is worn between two matching strips of pearls. Again it is a chain of emeralds and brilliant, cut in graduated sizes and terminating with a marvellously leveled tassel ornament.

A score of emeralds and diamond bracelets will often be worn on one arm. Sometimes the note of color is given by a pair of huge earrings—sometimes it is a large pendant or a brooch as big as one's hand that glazes from the shoulder or the front of the corsage.

Another jewelry fashion of the moment is the wearing of multiple bracelets. In shaded tones to match the dress, or to accentuate some note of color in the fabric or trimming. These highly colored ombre bracelets are made of enameled metal. Developed in rainbow tones or in various shades of one color, they are worn in groups of dozens and placed on one arm, which they entirely cover from wrist to elbow.

Organdis and Lace for This Collar-Cuff Set



Organdis and lace are combined in winsome manner to make this simple but charming collar and cuff set, which is liked by the majority of women.

Inset Vest Is Shown in Sweater Models

As almost every dress, including those intended for afternoon wear, has some suggestion of the inset vest it is not surprising that we find the same idea in the sweater. A suit of dress, whichever one may choose to call it, is made of fine white jersey, the alpaca blouse pulled over the plaited skirt is embroidered in brown and yellow, a large Egyptian motif used in the center of the skirt bosom vest is doubly noticeable bordered with a wide band of brown, with the design picked out in white and yellow. A narrow edge of the brown binds the skirt and the waist has a wide border of the embroidery.

Dyed Lace Is Liked for Afternoon Gowns

There is a craze for dyed lace. This forms an important part of the season's and semi-tones in many of the new models for softer gowns, the handsome afternoon and informal dinner gowns particularly. The laces are to be had in every possible color and shade, wide or narrow, the preference being for Spanish laces, some in the most lovely yellows, from pale gold to orange; some in violet, blue, rose and the lighter shades of brown, beige, champagne, sage-green, gray, taupe and smoke.

One of the most attractive new gowns seen this season was made of light brown chiffon and wide lace, lighter in color, all over lace-trimmed satin, with touches of dull gilt.

Of Cloudy Amber

Perfectly enormous beads of Chinese cloudy amber form a barbaric chain. The beads are irregular in shape, and except for their range in color from ruby to lemon look like chunks of wood.

Flesh Slippers

Flesh satin makes up an attractive pair of the newest evening slippers, to be worn with nude hose.

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