

APRIL ESCAPADE

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

SYNOPSIS

Mary Kate and Martin are the only two working members of the Widow O'Hara's household. Martin is studying medicine at night and has an opportunity to go to Germany, but finances will not permit. Christopher Steynes is a proposition and she accepts. She is to play the part of the countess. The money, she hopes, will allow Martin to take his trip. Mary Kate meets Christopher Steynes at the Burlington station and he takes her to his house. Later they meet the countess Mary's boss, Gordon Rountree, a friend of Steynes. The ruse is successful, but the countess says she will have lunch with them the next day. Christopher takes Mary back to his house. Don Archibald, who is a guest at Rountree's, comes to the Steynes house and tells Christopher his car has broken down. The two men chat away and leave Mary Kate out of their conversation.

CHAPTER XIX. (Cont'd.)

Something in this casual disregard hurt Mary Kate deeply. It was not that she cared about their talk, or wanted to be included in it. But it was puzzling that—after all the gaiety and gallantry of their attitude toward her in Gordon Rountree's house, when she had seemed to have forgotten her. She was simply not there. It occurred to her, with sharp pain and resentment, that she had served her turn; Chris not only did not need her any longer, but he also no longer needed any pretense of courtesy toward her. His last words before Don had entered burned in her mind.

"My dear, if you knew the whole ridiculous story you'd know that my people would simply rise in a mob and slay us both."

Uncomfortable, yet unwilling to seem dismissed by their mere manner, she sat on, pretending to listen to their casual talk, most of which was about golf, yachts, polo or poker, and so entirely incomprehensible to her. Mostly, she looked unseeing at the fire; now and then she glanced at one or the other as if amused.

"Why do you have to get to town tonight, Don?"

"Well, I don't, as a matter of fact. I've got an outfit at Gordy's and if you could run me up there—"

Chris looked an interrogation at Mary Kate. His eyes asked, "Shall I tell him?"

The color rose in her pale, tired face, and she returned a granite negation, in a brief shake of the head.

"I'm bringing the spare room replastered," Chris began, "or I'd offer you a bed here."

"Oh, I'd have to have a change," young Archibald said.

"We've only got one extra room here, it's a little box of a place, really, except for the gallery," Chris pursued.

"Well don't," Archibald applauded, with a significant laugh. Mary Kate, with a sick plunge at her heart, saw that he knew.

"How'd you mean well done?" Chris demanded.

"Gordy told me. I congratulate you, Chris. It went over big!" the other man said. They stared at each other.

"Damn that old tattletale," Chris commented then, without resentment, indeed with a deep grin of amusement.

"It looked to me, and to Gordy, too, as if it had worked like a charm!" Archibald told him, admiringly.

Chris congratulated Chris complacently. Himself having nothing to do with it—just the hired masquerader whose whole business was to do their will. Mary Kate's face burned. Her throat was dry and thick, she could not seem to get into the conversation.

"Well, you see why I can't offer you the spare room," Chris said, shrugging, smiling.

"One never knows!" Archibald said, with a deferential little bow. They both laughed loudly.

"Well, of course there's nothing like being an optimist!" Chris observed.

"I think it was a grand thing to do," the other man said, with relish.

"The thing is, Don, did it work?" "Did it work? Why, you heard the old girl saying that her daughter would marry a cousin, or someone, in Russia."

"It sounded good to me."

"Say, Chris,"—drawled the younger Archibald, with a curious glance. "How far did you go with Marka, anyway? You seem to be a terror, with the gals."

And all the time she must sit there, drooping, pale, furious, listening helplessly, or slip away, dismissed like a servant, without farewell. To Mary Kate the night began to seem like a horrible dream.

"How long have you two known each other, anyway?" the caller presently asked.

His eyes were still only for Chris. But Mary Kate resolutely broke into the talk.

"We hardly know each other at all," she asserted, with a touch of haughtiness.

"What?" Archibald said.

His lazy insulting amusement again. It made her cheeks burn.

"Since Mr. Rountree told you anything at all," she said, with what dignity she could muster, "he might have gone a little further and explained that this whole thing is a sort of joke—just a perfectly businesslike arrangement—" she stopped.

"Why certainly, what else could it be?" Don Archibald asked innocently.

widening his eyes, assuming the air of a man who is trying to keep from laughing.

She hated him. She loathed him. She was too young, too inexperienced to extricate herself from this detestable position; she could only founder helplessly, trying to be dignified, trying to keep the whole thing funny, bitterly hurt and ashamed in her soul.

"I hope I know a business arrangement when I see one," Archibald pursued modestly. "Only—" he added, with his characteristic guffaw, "only I didn't know Steynes was such a good business man."

"Cut it out," Chris said briefly, with a little frown. But he was not really angry, not really concerned.

"I think now," Mary Kate said, trying for a dispassionate conversational tone, "I think now that it was a silly thing to do. And I know that my mother will be—or would be—"

It was no use. They were not interested in what she, or her mother, thought. Indeed, in the wretchedly sensitive stage in which she suddenly found herself, she appreciated that both of them disliked the introduction on explanations, apologies. They belonged to a class that never explained or apologized.

"I was going to say that I have been Mr. Rountree's secretary for two years," Mary Kate said, coldly.

Archibald laughed again.

"And is that a long time for any girl to stay with Gordy?" he asked.

"Shut up, you ass," Chris said, smoking, grinning starting into the fire. "Going to play round tomorrow?" he asked. "How early would you play? I'm having a lunch here at about half past one. We'd have to begin about nine, wouldn't we?"

"It listens good to me."

Suddenly, to her horror, Mary Kate knew that she was on the verge of tears.

CHAPTER XX.

"You're tired, why don't you turn in?" Chris asked.

"I think—" she gulped, and looked at him bravely, the unmistakable tears on her cheeks. "I think I will."

"Sleep as late as you like in the morning, and ring when you want your breakfast. Mrs. Peters will bring it in. She lives out in the garage, but she's always 'round in the morning."

"Thanks." But she did not move. She spoke impulsively, suddenly. "I ought to say—" she began. Her voice thickened, she fought down the maddening tendency to tears, and made herself smile. "I ought to say that I see now that this was a silly thing to do—" she went on unsteadily. A moment of awkward silence.

"Why, that's all right," Chris said generously, kindly.

"I think it was a swell thing to do," Don added, with a laugh and a yawn. "You mustn't lose your nerve," Chris added.

"No. I'm not losing my nerve!" She was determined to talk. "But I want to say that if I had realized—and perhaps, if I had had sense enough to consult my mother, I would have realized—"

This was floundering, weak, incoherent stuff girls always talked, when they got themselves into tight places. Her tears were dried from sheer shame and anger now, and her cheeks burned.

"I mean—I thought of it only as a joke!" she said.

"And so it is, my dear," Chris said, amused and distressed and anxious to help. "Don't make too much of it. Be a sport! There's no harm done."

"No, I know—" she said, in a whisper. She looked up brightly, laughing, holding her head high. But her face was pale now and her eyes showed traces of tears; with her disordered hair pushing straight off her forehead, and her figure weary and drooping, half the spirited beauty of a few hours ago had gone. Chris looked at her oddly, as if he saw her—as a girl, a woman, with a heart and soul and mind of her own, for the first time.

"Turning in?" he asked, getting to his feet. Don Archibald did not rise.

"I think so, I'm tired."

"I'll run Archibald up to Gordon's. Don't be frightened if you hear me coming in."

He was trying to be nice, she knew. But somehow it did not help her spirits, she could not rise to it, laugh the whole thing off, carry it with a dash. Don Archibald laughed suddenly aloud. Mary Kate did not look at him, as too heavily—too solemnly, she put out her hand.

"Your porch windows are all bolted," Chris said, "and you'd better lock your hall door. There've been several robberies—"

"Oh, come now, Chris, don't scare the girl to death!" Archibald said lazily.

"You, shut up!" Chris said, in genuine annoyance. It was not much, but it was some little comfort to Mary Kate, as she left them.

"Too bad Gordon had to spill the beans. But after all, what does it matter—after tomorrow, who knows or who doesn't know?" Christopher said in the hall.

"The whole thing—and I blame only myself—makes me sick!" Mary Kate said passionately.

"Why, we haven't done anything wrong!" she said surprisedly. "Oh, please—please." She was suffocating.

"Why, what are you afraid of?" he said. "You had all the nerve in the world a little while ago."

Mary Kate made no answer. Her face was flushed and strained. She nodded to him a wordless good night, and went off through the dim Spanish archways and passages to her own room.

(To be continued.)

What New York Is Wearing

By ANNABELLE WORTHINGTON

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern



Simplicity retains favor with smart woman for general daytime wear.

Straight slim lines mark this one-piece model. Grouped plaits at the front give generous width to the hem and give height to the figure.

Don't you love the neckline with its cross-over bands and soft jabot frill? It provides excellent theme for contrast and also detracts from breadth.

In patterned crepe woolen in dark green coloring and lighter green plain trim, it is strikingly smart.

Style No. 2806 may be had in sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust. Size 36 requires 3 1/2 yards 39-inch with 3/4 yard 27-inch contrasting.

Featherweight tweed in knitted diagonal weave in dark brown mixture of self-fabric or of blending shade plain woolen.

Canton crepe, flat crepe and wool jersey are suitable for this smart wearable model.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS. Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Hard Starting Remedy Told

Hard starting is frequently due to the spark plug gap being too wide. It is advisable, especially at this time, to reset the gap according to recommendations in the car owner's instruction manual. With the plugs in proper shape starting is made easier and battery strength is conserved.

GABBY GERTIE



"We're wading through the snow or sloshing through the rain, bucking wintry winds that blow—happy days are here again."

Inhale Minard's Liniment for Asthma.

How To Make Small Rooms Seem Larger

Light Plays Important Part in Giving Illusion of Space

While much can be done for nearly every small room in the way of increasing its actual floor space, sometimes even satisfaction comes from giving an appearance of being larger than it actually is—a simulated spaciousness.

Imagine two rooms of exactly the same size, 11 x 13 feet. One of these is believed by everyone who sees it to be several feet larger than the other, its ivory walls and dark waxed floor giving it an air of delightful area compared to the small, cramped look of the other room with its brown walls and unsuitable rug.

Wall Treatment of Major Importance Proper treatment of walls is of great importance, and will be discussed first. Since a well-lighted room always seems larger than a dark one, walls tinted or painted in suitable light tones produce an illusion of greater size. Among the desirable colors for this purpose, reflecting the light well, are deep cream, ivory, tan, yellow, gold, and Nile green, the last a warm shade of light green. These all tend to make any room look larger and more open.

Certain wall papers also will give this effect. Those which are very helpful have small and not too heavy patterns. These should have either an open background in a lighter color or shadowy lines behind the pattern. The effect desired is to suggest space behind the pattern—that is, behind the actual wall. Desirable for this use are also the pictorial papers in subdued colors, with perspective in the drawing, sometimes showing distant meadows or a remote horizon line. In some of these the illusion of space is remarkable.

Dark Floors Are Advised No kind of floor gives an appearance of quite so much space as does an entirely bare one stained in walnut or other dark color and waxed. It loses little of its value, however, when one or two small and moderately dark, richly hued rugs are arranged on it so as to leave considerable of the dark wood exposed.

The next best choice is to cover the entire floor with carpeting, practically the same effect being achieved with a large rug which leaves a margin of only a few inches showing all round it. Rugs to avoid are those of a size that leave a very wide margin of uncovered floor or that have a wide and dominant border that calls attention to them. Either kind will appear to divide the floor into sections and make it look smaller.

The best colors for a rug or carpet depend on the room and its particular color scheme, but preference almost always should be given to medium or rather dark tones. What has been said as to rugs applies equally to linoleums and similar floor coverings.

Avoid Large Objects or Many Small Ones Not even in a large room should a mantel, shelf, table or open cabinet be filled with objects. This is particularly undesirable in a small room. A profusion of pictures on the walls is also undesirable, tending to make the room look crowded. Also very large pieces of furniture or heavy looking pictures are to be avoided.

If some bulky piece of furniture must be retained, paint it, if possible, a light color. Preferably it would match the tinted or painted wall, or the background of the wall paper, especially if it is ivory, tan, light green, soft light gray or another suitable color. The piece of furniture will then seem to fade, back into the wall itself, and be much less conspicuous.

How Windows Help Because they seem to add to its dimensions some portion of the out-of-doors windows make a room look larger. If there is only one window, and a narrow one at that, an apparent increase of the size of the window will be helpful to the room. This is done by a certain management of window draperies.

These should be made wide and full, using the full width or 36-inch material on each side. The rod on which they are hung should be long enough to bring them out beyond the window itself, to cover the outer two-thirds of the window frame and six or eight inches of the wall as well. This exposes all of the window glass and the inside one-third of the frame at each side. Draped thus any window looks much wider, and, in turn, gives the room an appearance of more space.

It is generally believed that plain, unfigured window draperies should be used in a room having wall paper with a pattern; also, that drapery materials having a large, bold pattern always look well with plain tinted or painted walls. But this cutting up of the room into plain and strongly patterned sections makes a very small room look still smaller. In such a place draperies with unobtrusive patterns that afford no strong contrast are likely to look best with either plain or patterned walls.

Reflections Give Illusions A mirror of good size, or two mirrors of which one at least is fairly large, can work wonders for a small room which one desires to have appear larger. This is because of the illusion of space which reflections create.

The best place for a mirror used for this purpose depends on the room itself, but it should not be placed in a corner, but somewhere along a wall. Frequently it can do most for a room if placed on one of the two longer walls, as, for instance, on the 16-foot wall of a room measuring 10 x 16 feet.

A ceiling that is very low tends to make a small room look smaller, therefore it is well to try to increase the apparent height of the ceiling. Wall papers containing stripes or patterns with vertical lines make a wall look higher. Plain tinted or painted walls, in a suitable light shade, have the same effect. The same may be said of wooden molding placed at the very top of the walls, next to the ceiling.

Raising the apparent height of the window also makes the ceiling seem higher. This can be done by using either a cornice of a valance across the top of the window, arranging it to come as high as possible, covering not only the window frame but also a number of inches of the wall above the window. From "The Christian Science Monitor."

Salada Orange Pekoe Blend gives greatest satisfaction

"SALADA" TEA
"Fresh from the gardens"

Thinks Impact of Rain Drops May Have Wrecked Airship

Bombardment by falling raindrops as one possible cause of the recent disaster when the British dirigible airship, the R-101, crashed and exploded in France, is seen by the Abbe Gabriel, well-known French student of weather phenomena. The weight of rainwater accumulated on the outside of the airship and perhaps held in depressions of the fabric on its upper side already has been mentioned, the Abbe recalls, as a possible reason why the ship lost lift and crashed. It is known that rain was falling at the time and that the airship had passed through several rain-storms. Extra load due to the weight of rain had been provided for, however, in the airship's design and would have been taken into account by the officers in charge of the ship, all of whom perished so that their stories are unknown. It is possible, the Abbe believes, that sufficient account was not taken of the mere momentum of millions of raindrops striking against the airship like bullets against a target. In a sudden rain squall consisting of very large rain-drops, the fall of these drops, the Abbe computes, may be quite rapid. The momentum of this falling water may have been sufficient, he suggests, to drive the nose of the ship toward the ground in much the same way that a man would be knocked down by a load of sand or a barrel of baseballs dropped on him from a sky scraper.

New Cancer Study A Step Forward

Los Angeles.—Using white mice as subjects, scientists have been able to study in a comparatively short time the incidence of cancer in as many generations as it would take 1,000 years to produce in men, Madame Debrovolskai Zavadskaja of Russia told the 16th annual convention of the Radiological Society here recently.

Mme. Zavadskaja said that by interbreeding the mice over a long period of years she has been able to produce cancer at will in the new born. An added value to the research work, she pointed out, is the fact that she can produce cancer in the exact part of the body she wishes. She suggested that the results of her research offered new lines of approach to human relations.

A young man took a girl for a ride in his new car. On a particularly deserted stretch of road the engine went "dead." While waiting for help the young man began to make love to his companion. "My kisses," he said, passionately, "will put new life into you." "Then for goodness sake kiss the car," said the girl, "and let's get home."

First Skater: "What are you laughing at?" Second Skater: "That fellow at the other end of the pond whom we couldn't hear." "But what about him?" "Well, the ice couldn't hear him, either."

"Football is a brutal game but brutes can't play it."—Coach Bob Zupke.

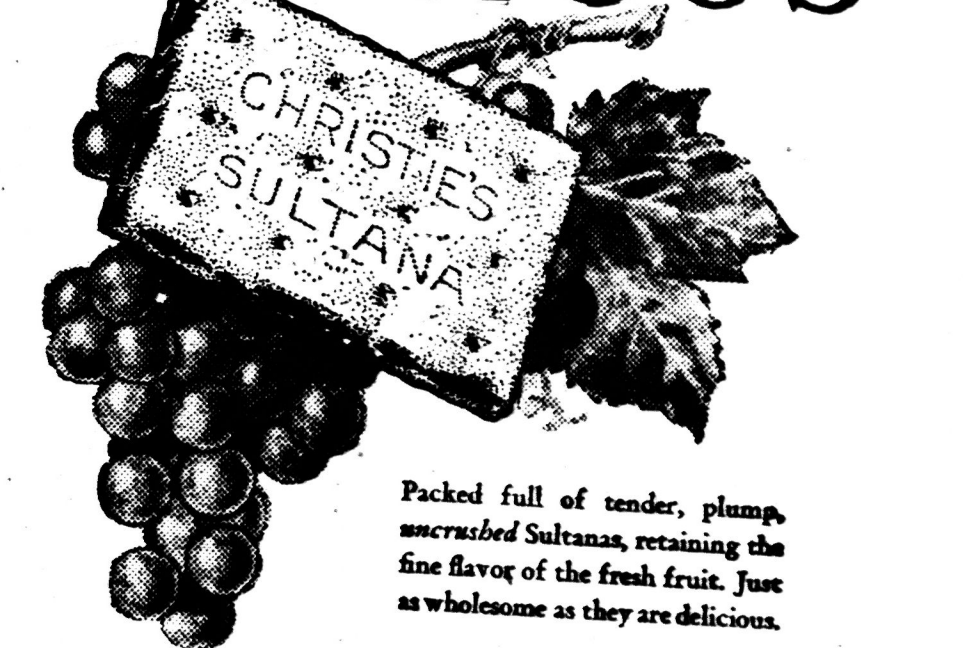
Neolithic Town, Earliest Known In World, Unearthed in Cologne

Cologne, Germany.—An entire neolithic village, on the outskirts of Cologne has been unearthed by the Wallraf-Ricartz Museum excavators. It is the first of its kind to be found in Germany, and probably one of the earliest in the entire world.

The neolithic objects found consist mainly of stone hand mills, flint knives, flint arrow heads and hand-shaped pottery. That the pottery is purely neolithic was determined by the fact it had been made before the potter's wheel was known and shows characteristic signs, being burnt in the open fire.

It is believed that these remains not only are the earliest in Germany, but in the whole world.

DELICIOUS



Packed full of tender, plump, uncrushed Sultan's, retaining the fine flavor of the fresh fruit. Just as wholesome as they are delicious.

Christie's Sultan's