THE TULE MARSH MURDER

STORY OF A MISSING ACTRESS AND THE TAXING OF WITS TO EXPLAIN HER FATE.

BY NANCY BARR MAVITY.

SYNOPSIS

Don Elisworth's wife, formerly actress Sheila O'Shay, disappears. Dr. Cavanaugh, criminal psychologist, identifies a charred body found in the tule marsh as that of Sheila. Barbara, his daughter, faints when she hears him tell this to Peter Piper, a herald reporter.

When Mrs. Kane, Sheila's maid is arrested she admits that Elisworth married Sheila under threat of breach of promise. A threatening note signed "David Orme" is found in the murdered woman's safe. Peter trails Orme and arrests him. Peter sees Barbara destroy a jewelled comb of Sheila's and when she refuses to talk he realizes she is protecting someone. At Orme's trial Mrs. Kane states that Orme is Sheila's husband. Orme takes the witness stand.

CHAPTER XLIV.—(Cont'd.)

"Oh, yes, wandering around. And your wanderings, I take it, were conducted by automobile?" questioned the district attorney.

"I have never had a car," replied Orme.

"Yet you made the public automobile camp your headquarters. Can you explain that discrepancy?"

"Some one must have given me a lift on the highway as far as the auto camp. Then, when I was there, I stayed. I had no money, you see."

"Quite so, no money. And having thus belatedly discovered your wife's marriage to a rich man, you doubtless saw an opportunity to recoup your finances by threatening to make the illegality of her marriage known."

"I would not have taken a cent from Sheila if I had been dying!" Orme's face, which had paled to the gray-white of dead ashes at the opening of the cross-examination, suddenly flamed.

"Of course not! And yet your earnings as a sandpaper artist could scarcely have supported your menage during the period of your married life."

Graham half rose to object, thought better of it, and relaxed into his seat.

"I did not think of money then one way or the other. I did not dream that she thought of it either. I loved her."

"So you have told us. And yet you made no effort to keep in touch with her affairs—affairs which were rather widely published—until three days before her death?"

"I have told you that I did not know of her marriage to Ellsworth."

"And having had your little chat with the lady, you left her on a street corner—having made no attempt to follow up the steps conveyed in your letter to her—and fled back to the auto camp, where you concealed yourself under the assumed name of Daniel Osgood?"

"It was the name by which I was known there. I adopted it after I left Sheila."

"Oh!!! And just why did you find it necessary to adopt an alias at all?"

"I—don't know."

The district attorney dropped his air of elaborate sarcasm. He half rose from his chair, pointing his finger menacingly at the man in the witness chair. His voice boomed through the courtroom.

"David Orme," he roared, "I suggest that you deliberately waited until Sheila O'Shay was in a position which you could threaten. I suggest that you used threats of exposure in order to wring money from her, and that, when she refused to submit to blackmail, you struck her down in a rage —you had done just that before, I believe you said—and killed her.

"I suggest that you were in possession of an automobile in which you drove the body to the marsh and which you afterwards junked or ran into the bay; that you then very astutely thought to lose yourself in the floating population of the auto camp, hiding under an assumed name, in order not to arouse suspicion by attempting to flee from the scene without funds. I suggest, David Orme, that you did wilfully and feloniously murder Sheila O'Shay!"

Orme rose to his feet, his eyes fixed in a fascinated stare on the face of the prosecutor. He was trembling violently from head to foot, but he steadied himself with both hands on the arms of the chair behind him.

"Before God, I don't know whether I killed her or not!" he screamed in the high shrill voice of hysteria. "But I don't think it can be possible—because I loved her more than my music, more than anything else on earth!"

CHAPTER XLV.

After the emotional stress of the morning session, the quiet urbanity of Dr. Cavanaugh, as he settled himself comfortably in the witness chair restored an atmosphere of normality to the tense courtroom.

Dr. Cavanaugh was very much at ease and completely at home, and he showed it. He distinctly conveyed the impression that murder trials were no treat to him. He took the oath with the careless nonchalance of a caller presenting himself to a familiar hostess, and awaited developments with a manner that subtly combined a willingness to be helpful with a patient acceptance of inconvenience to himself in thus being interrupted.

Graham had regained something of his former optimism.

"Will you tell the jury, doctor, something of your professional career?"

"I was graduated from the Harvard medical school, and after my interneship was for several years on the staff of Graham hospital for nervous and mental diseases. I then spent four years in study abroad. I was a member of the Viennese Psychoanalytic Society which met with Dr. Sigmund Freud of Vienna in the first study of psycholanalysis. I also spent a year with Dr. Jurrg in Zurich.

"I may say that I am not an adherent of any one school of psychoanalysis—in fact, I think I may be said to have made my own original contributions in the field. On my return to this country, I established my own psychiatric hospital and clinic. For the last six or seven years, I have retired from active practice, although I am still sometimes called into consultation and have taken such cases as have interested me from the point of view of research."

"You are a specialist in nervous and mental diseases?"

"Psychopathology is my particular field—yes."

"And have you written anything for publication on the subject?"

"I have contributed articles too numerous to mention to the medical journals of America, France, England, Austria and Germany. I am the author of several books—'Abnormal Aspects of Genius,' Abnormal Behavior in Relation to Medical Jurisprudence,' 'The Criminal Mind' and 'Autistic Thinking in Normal Life' are probably those best known to the layman."

"And you have, I think, served as alienist in a number of criminal cases?"

"As alienist, or sometimes rather as a psychological investigator—yes. I was expert witness for the prosecution in the case of the people versus James Kelly, the case of the people versus Edwards and Edwards, the case of the people versus Mary Emerson, the case of the people versus Watson and Eaves. Kelly was condemned to death; Edwards was condemned to death and his sister to life imprisonment; Mary Emerson was convicted but died before the date set for execution; Eaves was too young to receive the death sentence, and Watson, after conviction, was killed in an attempted jail break. I was witness for the defence in the trials of Edna Raleigh, Hubert Smith, Everett and Laura Connelly and John Potts. Raleigh, Smith, the Connellys and Potts were acquitted.

"I may add that in numerous instances my services have been requested to conduct a preliminary investigation which in some cases prevented the accused from coming to trial and in others identified the criminal who was being sought. Many of these investigations were such as not to require my presence in court, but I believe they have been more or less a matter of public knowledge."

The jury was obviously impressed. The cases mentioned by Dr. Cavanaugh included a group of the most spectacular trials of the last decade. His name had gone forth in magazines and newspaper stories as a wizard who pulled amazing white rabbits of truth out of the black hat of mysterious circumstance, and his books were written in a strikingly vivid, though by no means sensational, style which had brought them readers far beyond the circle of his professional confreres.

It was quite true that so far as was known he had never been engaged to investigate a case which he had failed to solve, and that the side which secured his services in a trial had invariably received a favorable verdict.

"I believe, doctor, that you have been popularly referred to as 'The Man Who Makes No Mistakes'?"

"Oh, my dear Mr. Graham!" Dr. Cavanaugh protested amiably. "We must concede a good deal to popular exaggeration. Perhaps"—he took the jury into his confidence with a deprecating smile—"it is only that my mistakes have never found me out!"

Graham, beaming like an impresario whose star performer is capturing the audience, waved the point aside.

"You are acquainted with the defendant, David Orme?"

"I am."

"You have examined him professionally?"

"I have."

"Will you kindly explain to the ladies and gentlemen of the jury the circumstances and results of that examination?"

"I have seen the defendant more than once."

Graham looked slightly surprised, but recovered himself promptly.

"Very well; go right ahead, doctor."

"I will ...e as brief and non-technical as possible. If you honor and the jury will bear with me—" Dr. Cavanaugh glanced upward at the judge's bench—"I will go over the entire circumstances of my dealings with the defendant."

"You have all the time at your disposal that you need, doctor!" Even the judge treated this witness with marked and courteous respect. He no longer stared out of the window or gave his bored attention to the wranglings of Graham and the district attorney. It happened that this was the first case he had tried in which the great Dr. Cavanaugh appeared as expert witness, and he obviously looked upon it as an opportunity full of interest.

(To be continued.)

Quality has no substitute

'SALADA' TEA

Tea "fresh from the gardens"

Plant Varieties Produced By X-Rays at McGill U.

Montreal—Successful attempts have been made in the botanical laboratories of McGill University to produce new types of plants through the use of X-rays, it was announced at the university by Professor C. Leonard Huskins, whose papers on botanical research led to much discussion at the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A tremendous number of varieties of a plant can be developed in a comparatively short time, the McGill botanist said. For instance, a plant was introduced to this continent from China about 100 years ago and today botanists can identify more than 1,000,000 varieties of the original, he pointed out.

With the use of X-rays botanists can produce varieties of plants much more quickly than nature would ordinarily accomplish. The chromosomes whose characteristics govern the form of the new variety are influenced directly by X-rays, Professor Huskins said.

Factors governing the rate of breathing of trees and plants were discussed by Professor George W. Scarth, another McGill botanist, who said that the acidity of certain cells in the leaves of plants controlled the opening and shutting of the breathing pores. Many persons, he said, believe that plants in the home help to purify the air. This is only true in the daytime, Professor Scarth explained, as plants give off carbon dioxide at night just as individuals do. In the daytime the light causes them to use carbon dioxide from the air, thus helping to use up waste gases given off in breathing. He suggested that plants be removed from bedrooms at night.

Danes and Dutch Sign Commercial Treaty

Amsterdam — Denmark and the Netherlands recently concluded a commercial and shipping treaty on the basis of the most-favored-nation clause, for a period of five years, which can be prolonged for an indefinite time by mutual consent.

According to the regulations laid down in this treaty, subjects of each country are to enjoy the same rights as nationals, in respect to residence, the running of an enterprise and taxation. The parties promise most-favored-nation treatment with regard to levying of import and export duties, interior taxes and other rights.

Parisian Chic

The dress Marion Davies wears is called the "Paris Nude." It's black crepe with white dots and is trimmed with white silk.

New Treatment For Pernicious Anemia

Discovery By University of Michigan Offers Simplified Method

Ann Arbor, Mich.—A new and simplified treatment for pernicious anemia, eliminating many of the uncertainties and difficulties of present treatments, has been perfected by research scientists at University of Michigan.

The new treatment involves intravenous injection of concentrated liver extract and obviates the necessity of frequent doses of liver, liver extract or substitutes administered by mouth against which patients rebel.

Experiments leading to this development were carried on during the past several months at the Thomas Henry Simpson Memorial Institute for Medical Research at the University of Michigan under direction of Drs. Raphael Isaacs and Cyrus C. Sturgis.

The intravenous extract of liver is necessary for patients who are too ill to take medicine by mouth. Liver extracts for intravenous use have been prepared previously by others, but because of the presence of certain unknown substances, there are serious reactions such as headache, chills and fall of blood pressure. The Simpson staff has succeeded in so purifying the extract that now reactions are eliminated. The new extract is 15 to 30 times more potent than the extracts given by mouth.

The newest discovery followed earlier work which resulted in the development of dried hog's stomach as a substitute for liver in treatment of the disease. Hog's stomach, known as ventriculin, was announced by the institute in 1929 and was widely accepted in the medical profession as being much more concentrated and less odious to the patient than liver. The new treatment promises to excel both previous methods in benefits to sufferers.

Four to six injections of the new extract into the veins of a pernicious anemia sufferer have restored the blood to normal. After the blood has been replenished with red corpuscles it is possible to maintain this state by single injections at intervals of from four to six weeks.

Relics of the Past Preserved in England

Redhill, Surrey, Eng.—England's oldest windmill—the Post Mill, built at Outwood in 1665—has been having its sails put in order by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Two entirely new sails were added, and the two remaining old ones repaired.

Until fairly recent times the windmills were not only a feature of the pastoral landscape, but also the very necessary means of grinding corn. Food for men and animals, and wealth for the owners were provided by the mills.

Since the introduction of mechanical methods, however, the windmills have lost their medieval importance, and one by one have fallen into disuse, and often into decay, their owners, the millers, finding it impossible to afford the periodical extensive repairs to the sails which are necessary.

While investigating the number of windmills deserving of special preservation, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings discovered that the Outwood windmill was the oldest. It is still working, being the only one in Surrey still in use.

There is a tradition that workmen in the top story witnessed from it in 1666 the raging of the great fire of London. The miller, who holds the mill on a 500-year lease, and the owner of the manorial rights have agreed to enter into a covenant with the society never to demolish the mill and to preserve it in a proper state of repair.

The brothers who originally owned the Post Mill quarreled, so history relates, and one of them built a second windmill only 50 yards away, with the object of superseding the old mill and taking its trade. But the veteran held its own; its rival closed down and today stands derelict. The first reference to a windmill in English history was made in 1189.

East Africa Seeks Greater Crop Yield

Nairobi, South Africa—The East African Government is organizing an intensive campaign to increase crop production in the native reserves.

A BATTLE OF THE ELEMENTS AT GRAND CANYON

FORTUNATE, indeed, the traveler who stood beside the camera man as he caught this dramatic winter battle of the elements in the Grand Canyon of Arizona.

For weeks on end, in midwinter, the Grand Canyon glows under brilliant sunshine and blue sky. But when snow does come to the Canyon rims, as it must do at any elevation of 7,000 feet in this latitude, then the visitor may witness incredible scenes like this.

Travel is continuous throughout the year to the South rim of the Grand Canyon, but Winter seals the North rim which is 1200 feet higher, for months on end. Through Pullmans over the Santa Fe Railway approach within 160 yards of the Canyon edge. South rim, and it is but a step to the informal comfort and crackling fireplaces of El Tovar hotel. Snow, when it comes, may lie thick in the pine forest, but it rarely interrupts the motor drives along the rim roads, and not often even the thrilling saddle trips down the inner-Canyon trails. As one rides down and down, the snow thins out and gradually disappears. Imperceptibly one passes from the crisp cold of the upper world to the hints of spring at Phantom Ranch, 5,000 feet below.

The Grand Canyon is one of the most glowing jewels in Uncle Sam's famous chain of national parks.

Diesel Motors Approved For U. S. Blimp Fleet

Akron, Ohio—After extensive experiments on the blimps Defender and Puritan, the Goodyear Zeppelin Corporation announced that the use of heavy oil-burning Diesel engines was an unqualified success.

As a result, it is thought that the remainder of the Goodyear blimp fleet, as well as future rigid airships like the U.S.S. Akron, will be equipped with Diesels.

"With the use of noninflammable helium as lifting gas, and heavy oil-burning engines for propulsion, the last fire hazard of airship operation has been removed," said Mr. Paul W. Litchfield, president of the Goodyear Company.

The use of the Diesels also makes for better speed and better handling conditions, Mr. Karl Fish, chief of blimp operations, points out. The Defender's speed was stepped up from 42 to 55 miles an hour by the installation of the new 225-horsepower motors, he declares.

Potato Prices Show 100 P.C. Increase in Britain

London—Potatoes sold for $2.16 a bushel at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicester, on Jan. 12, an increase of 100 per cent. over prices paid a fortnight ago.

Farmers of the Isle of Elp, Cambridgeshire, issued a protest against the practice of growers who are hoarding potatoes in order to raise prices. They said farmers' stocks are down 30 to 40 per cent. lower than for many years past.

When You CAN'T QUIT

Fatigue is the signal to rest. Obey it if you can. When you can't, keep cool and carry-on in *comfort*.

Aspirin was meant for just such times, for it insures your comfort. Freedom from those pains that nag at nerves and wear you down. One tablet will block that threatening headache while it is still just a threat. Take two or three tablets when you've caught a cold, and that's usually the end of it.

Carry Aspirin tablets when you travel. Have some at home and keep some at the office. Like an efficient secretary, they will often "save the day" and spare you many uncomfortable, unproductive hours. Aspirin is harmless, so keep it handy, keep it in mind, and *use* it. No man of affairs can afford to ignore the score and more of uses explained in the *proven* directions. From a grumbling tooth to those rheumatic pains which seem almost to bend the bones, Aspirin tablets are ready with quick relief—and always work. Neuralgia. Neuritis. *Any* nagging, needless pain.

Tablets Aspirin Genuine

Get the genuine tablets, stamped with the Bayer cross. They are of perfect purity, absolute uniformity, and have the same action every time. Why experiment with imitations costing a few cents less? The saving is too little. There is too much at stake. But there is economy in the purchase of genuine Aspirin tablets in the large bottles.

For the Woman Reader

by Florence Riddick Boys

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Homemaking

Here's to homemaking—the biggest jolliest, most varied, most important job on earth! The homemaker is cook, scrub woman, seamstress, milliner, educator, philosopher, artist, doctor, financier, social welfare consultant of the family and queen of the home.

Upon the efficiency and wisdom of the homemaker depends the progress of civilization and the happiness of our contemporaries. The profession of homemaking engages almost half the population of the world, while its clientele includes the other half.

Judged By Appearances

Unconsciously when we meet a stranger, we appraise him, and our estimate of him is based on his appearance. First impressions linger long and it will be difficult for him afterward to change our opinion of him.

We, too, are constantly being so judged by others. It is the little things which betray character. No matter how splendid a person may be in intellectual or moral qualities or how elegant his clothing, he goes away down in our estimation if he says, "You was," or "I seen," if his shoes need a shine or if he eats his pie with a knife.

If the stranger is a woman, we think her careless and of not much worth if she has straggling locks or her hose are splashed with mud or her gloves are shabby and—horror of all horrors—if her finger nails are in mourning or a soiled shoulder strap peers out from beneath her blouse.

One can have poise and self-confidence and be up to his best standard of efficiency, if he knows that he is well groomed, his language is grammatically correct, and his manners are irreproachable. It is only by practicing these things habitually that they will so become second nature to us that we are in no danger of being betrayed, at some important moment, by an unfortunate lapse.

Room Beauty

The most artistic room has neutral backgrounds which bring out the beauty of furnishings and accessories. The walls should be of soft and neutral tints, and the colors in the rug should be subdued. This gives to a room a restful tone, because of the large areas covered.

To prevent the room from being drab or monotonous, use all the colors you wish in draperies and accessories. They will show off to better advantage because the walls are plain. The neutral walls will serve also to tie together pieces of various colors which might otherwise conflict.

It is best to have the larger and more expensive pieces of furniture, which will stay with you for a time at least, as you live with them for years. But add color and cheer and interest by means of bright vases, draperies, pillow covers and accessories which are easily changed. Give your room a delightful liveability by offsetting the austere severity of plain backgrounds with colorful and charming decorations.

Diet For Overweights

A diet consisting largely of oranges, eggs, tomatoes, lettuce, fruits, fresh vegetables, nuts and milk, is ideal for the short heavy-set people who are overweight, have high blood pressure, bad breath, sallow skins, headaches, and "bay windows." In such a diet breads, pastries, cereals and sugars are avoided.

The persons of the above type who adopt this fruit-vegetable-milk-egg-nut diet will lose their mental torpor, dull pains, protruding tummy, high blood pressure and bilious tendencies. They will look better and feel better in one fifth of such diet. When they get down to normal they can eat two thousand calories a day—which is a very comfortable and ample diet and which will provide strength and vigor and body repair and satisfy their appetites. But—they should always remember to prefer fruits and vegetables and resist cereal foods and sugars.

Household Hints

To have immaculate gloves for occasion, carry along another pair to slip on until out of the traffic and away from the game. A pair of silk gloves may be slipped over fine kid gloves to protect them or the fine gloves may be carried in the purse until the time of their need.

To tighten a roller window shade, roll the shade up as far as it will go, then several times pass the lower end over the top of the roller, from the front.

To shrink new materials before making them into garments, soak the material in a tub of warm water. Do not wring it out, but hang it on the line and let it dry. Iron the material on the wrong side before it is dry. Very thin materials or wool fabrics may be rolled in a wet towel and pressed as soon as they have absorbed sufficient moisture.

Use the crusts which you have cut from sandwiches in making bread pudding or meat dressing, or dry them, roll, and make dried crumbs for breading croquettes and escalloped dishes.

To prevent crumbs from molding they should be exposed to air, but they must be covered to keep out the dust and vermin. A solution of this problem is to store them in a wide-mouthed jar with a piece of cheese cloth stretched over the top and held in place by a rubber band.

Radiator Covers

Furniture makers are now offering us metal radiator covers which are finished to resemble the furniture of the room they are to occupy. They look like radio cabinets and one would not suspect that a radiator was hidden beneath them.

Besides hiding an unsightly object in the room, they make an attractive piece of furniture. They protect the walls and draperies by keeping down the current of air which makes that stain of black, smoky grease on the wall above the usual radiator. They are supplied with a water tray which makes the air in the room properly humid and more healthful.

Leg Cramps

Many women, especially when they have been on their feet more than usual get cramps in the muscles of the foot and leg. These are likely to occur during sleep or when one stretches suddenly upon awakening. They may be quite severe and alarm one for the time being, but amount to no more than discomfort. To relieve them, wrap a band tightly about the offending member to make it relax, stretch the toes apart, apply hot cloths or elevate the feet.

Chocolate Crispies

Chocolate Crispies are so good that they take the place of candy, particularly when mother thoughtfully puts some chopped peanuts on top

The recipe requires: 2 squares unsweetened chocolate, ½ cup butter of other shortening, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, ½ cup sifted cake flour, ½ teaspoon vanilla, ½ cup chopped peanut meats.

Cut up the chocolate and melt it in a bowl over hot water, then add butter, sugar and unbeaten eggs, ½ cup cake flour, and vanilla, and beat well. Spread mixture on baking sheet 12x16, or in three shallow pans about 8x8. Sprinkle top with nuts. Bake in hot oven, 400 degrees, for 15 minutes. While warm, cut with cooky cutter or make in two-inch squares. Then cool and break into the squares. Makes 4 dozen cookies.

Hash

Hash is an old dish, but one which never fails to please. Make it with equal portions of cold meat and cold potatoes, diced. Add chopped green pepper and chopped onion, milk to moisten, and bake in a moderate oven until flavors are well blended, about a half hour.

Mrs. Solomon Says:

To be a good home, it must have enough income to provide wholesome food, suitable clothing, good housing, provision for education and recreation, and for emergencies of old age. If your home has this, thank God and plug ahead!

Judging Others

The great question, after all, is this: Shall we judge man by God, or God by man? Does light and understanding flow upward or downward? If we judge man by God, at once we have true and discriminating thoughts of human life. We have absolute standard. We have a test of the worth of all we see or do. But if we judge God by man we only have over again what the world has been so full of—the persuasions of self-interest, the disbelief in absolute righteousness, the changing standards of the changing times. Men have gone into the sanctuary of their own selfishness, the sanctuary of themselves, and straightway they have seemed to see an end of God. All sense of a supreme and awful Fatherhood on which all men depended, to which all action must go back for judgment, has been lost. No higher power than the human has seemed to be moving under and giving meaning to the events of ordinary life.—Phillips Brooks.

Perfection

The heavens are a point from the pen of His perfection, the world is a rosebud from the bower of His beauty; the sun is a spark from the light of His wisdom; and the sky a bubble on the sea of His power.—Sir W. Jones.

"Do you think you can support my daughter in the style to which she has been accustomed?"

"I don't know, sir, but I'll tell you what I can do."

"What's that?"

"I can save you about 25 per cent. of her present cost to you."

English Entry in Olympic Skating Contest

Miss Cecil Colledge, English fancy skater, over for the Olympics, found Lake Placid ice extra slippery during her first workouts. However she smiles through it all.

Vast Oklahoma Salt Desert To Be Transformed Into Lakes

Oklahoma's great salt desert, for years one of the most spectacular phenomena of the southwest and mecca for thousands of tourists, has completed its last season as a "show place."

Called one of the seven wonders of the world by Captain Nathan Boone (son of Daniel, of Kentucky), who led a body of United States troops on the first official exploration of the gleaming white expanse, the 40,000 acres of salt plains will soon be transformed into a salt lake, the third largest in the United States and one of the Federal government's proposed projects of 115 lakes as migratory wild fowl refuges.

Beautiful to gaze upon, but as barren as the Arctic wastes which it resembles, the Cherokee salt plain, in western Oklahoma, has for years proved an enigma to scientists and a thing of wonder to wide-eyed travelers.

FOUR FORMS OF LIFE EXIST.

On its more than forty square miles of sun-blistered salt only four forms of life exist—two insects and two plants. In the last year authorities of the Oklahoma Biological Survey have given careful study to the plains and have returned a verdict that the plains are not old lake bottoms, as was formerly believed, but the results of the weathering of soil that will not support enough vegetation to prevent excessive erosion. Millions of years ago the salt was laid down in shallow seas. Being soluble, it does not appear on the surface as rock, but "sweats up" out of the ground, covering a large area of prairies with a white frosting of salt that varies in depth from a thin coating to several inches.

For years tourists have visited the region, riding in automobiles across the brittle white surface of the unnatural "desert," shading their eyes from the intense glare of the light reflected from the salt carpet and gazing off at mirages produced by the combination of sun and salt. For years, too, residents of the little town of Cherokee, Okla., four miles to the west, have used the plains as picnic grounds because evenings are cool out on the salt slopes, where no buildings shut out the breeze. There it remains light long after dark. And there are no flies or mosquitoes to pester pleasure-seeking folk.

Farmers of the region have long collected the salt for their cattle. Before the ranchman's era Indians of the plains gathered the salt and carried it to their encampments to season their own food.

Coronado, so the stories go, drove 1,000 sheep and cattle across the glittering desert and somewhere on the strip, before he reached the Gran Quivera at what is now Wichita, Kan., he buried a fabulous treasure of turquoise and beaten silver. Not a few Oklahomans but have looked for that magnificent bit of reputed hidden wealth.

The Cherokee salt plains have played an interesting and valuable role in the history of the Western country. But now it is almost time for the curtain to ring down.

When the Norbeck bill providing for $50,000 for the preliminary survey of lakes in the proposed system of 115 lakes for wild fowl refuges was passed in 1928-'29 it was the beginning of the end for the salt desert. In passing the Norbeck act, it was the intention of Congress to create a chain of lakes at strategic points in states extending in a line from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada, to be known as wildfowl refuges. The salt plains fell at a most opportune point along that line

SURVEY HAS BEEN COMPLETED

The preliminary survey of the plains has been completed, and the lands have been turned over, by executive order of President Hoover, to the Biological Survey, which has jurisdiction over the plans as set forth in the Norbeck act. The actual waterline of the salt plains lake was begun in 1930. Engineers plan to complete this final survey, after which it is probable construction will get under way.

Residents of the salt desert region look with high favor upon the proposed new lake, a salt lake that will be surpassed in size by only two others in the United States—the Great Salt Lake in Utah and the Salton Sea in southern California. It is believed that such a large body of water would have an important effect upon the climatic conditions of western Oklahoma, which during much of the year is so intensely hot that the country is semi-arid. Then, too, a salt lake stocked with salt-water fish would make an attractive lure for anglers.—La-Vere S. Anderson in N-Y. Herald-Tribune.

Beer is mentioned in Egyptian papyri over 3000 years old.

Advances in British Medical Science

London.—Although last year did not see any sensational discoveries in the field of medicine in Great Britain, there were many important advances.

The increased use of a new serum for the treatment of pneumonia met encouraging results, and although this serum is too costly for general use it is hoped that modified methods of production and a decrease in price will place this important weapon at the service of the poorest.

Advances which may well lead to bigger discoveries in 1932 have been made in cancer research. The publication of "The Truth About Cancer" has done much to enlarge the public knowledge of this dread disease. It is felt that a better appreciation of the importance of an early operation, with its hope of complete cure, should aid materially in the reduction of cancer mortality rates.

Dr. Sussman, a British scientist of Manchester, brought forward a method for the treatment of cancer by the use of certain plant products which are known to control growth in the body. Other investigators are seeking to test this method.

Dr. Bendien's test for cancer has aroused widespread interest here. This is founded upon alterations which are said to occur in the blood in this disease. Dr. Bendien's method of treating cancer in association with surgery has also attracted attention.

Statistics for 1931 are not yet available, so that the effects of various epidemics on the death rate cannot be accurately estimated. At the same time it is evident that influenza must have had a serious effect early in the year. This, however, may be balanced by the reduction in the death rate from respiratory complaints, owing to the extremely mild weather which prevailed during the closing months of the year.

The last year has seen no famous medical centenary or other celebrations. The profession can, however, claim a share in the tributes paid to the memory of Florence Nightingale and Michael Faraday, while the 100th anniversary of the British Association for the Advancement of Science and of the Darwin Society held great interest for medical men.

This year the 100th annual meetings of the British Medical Association will attract physicians from all over the world to London.

Home Influence Vs. Prison

"A good family for a neglected or even law-breaking boy is infinitely better than the best reformatory or prison", declared J. J. Kelso recently, in a talk he contrasted the good clean normal influences whereas in an institution he gets a bad name and associates with other lads perhaps a good deal worse than himself.

Here is a striking statement made last year by a man who had just completed a term in an American prison: "Men sent to prison are no better when they come out than when they were put in. They are only made more bitter and don't learn how to make an honest living or to find pleasure in useful work, and at least some of them learn to love the ways of crime and idleness and carry the contamination with them wherever they go."

There is a lot of trouble in locating suitable homes and trying to steady young fellows through the restless period of youth, according to Mr. Kelso, and yet it is work well worth doing.

The Soft Answer

"See here, my good man, you look able enough to work."

"Yes, mum. Still, you look beautiful enough to be in the movies, yet you prefer the simple life."

"Norah, give this poor man a meal."

Economy is the easy-chair of old age.

Sunday School Lesson

February 7. Lesson VI—The Slavery of Sin (Temperance Lesson)—Matthew 25: 45-51; John 8: 31 36. Golden Text—Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.—John 8: 34.

ANALYSIS

I. KNOWING THE TRUTH, John 8: 31, 32

II. DENYING OUR BONDAGE, John 8: 33, 34.

III. THE TRUE FREEDOM, John 8: 35, 36.

INTRODUCTION—Jesus had been warning the Jews against the consequences of their unbelief, 8: 21-30. His own life was so of a piece with his spoken "testimony"—"I always do those things that please him" (v. 29) —that many people believed on him, v. 30. Others—"the Jews"—became convinced that he was the Messiah. The faith of some of them, he saw to be unreliable. His message to them is of vital importance today in this lesson.

I. KNOWING THE TRUTH, John 8: 31, 32

The translation in the Authorized Version of vs. 30, 31 is "believed on." In v. 31 a better rendering would be "believed." Verse 30 tells of a real faith, a personal trust and loyalty. Verse 31 tells simply of an intellectual, doctrinal belief. The Jews—those who, in this Gospel, are taken as the party antagonistic to Jesus—became convinced that he was the Messiah. Their conviction, however, made no change in their lives. They said, "We believe that what you say is true," but they did not make them "followers" of Jesus.

To them Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth," vs. 31, 32. That is, Jesus' teaching can be understood only by those who are prepared to practice it—who make their "faith" the principle by which they guide all their activities. Every earnest man asks the question, "Why am I here? What is life's purpose for me?" He wants to know the truth. Only as he makes Jesus' way of living his way will he come to understand the meaning of life and his place in it. He shall know the truth.

Knowing this and seeing therefore the "real" unhidden by "appearances" he will be saved from error sin and folly. His moral vision will see him free from the moral dangers into which, through ignorance of their real character, he might otherwise fall. He sees, for example, his own body as a temple of God in the building. Therefore he will permit nothing that will deface or defile it.

II. DENYING OUR BONDAGE, John 8: 33, 34.

The Jews were insulted at the suggestion that they were not free. They "We were never in bondage to any man." Then what about Egypt, Babylon, Persia, Syria? Even at that time was the Roman garrison not looking down from the castle into the Temple courts—keeping a watchful eye upon these conceited Jews. Like most of us, they were able to ignore and even deny unpleasant facts.

Hence, of course, they felt no need of freedom. What more discouraging work than offering salvation to people who do not feel their need of it—to people who are content with one—answering questions which no one is asking? How indifferently we listen to the story of God's redeeming love. Nevertheless, when it is forced upon our attention, we are conscious that we are "out" with the moral universe around us. We find a law—an influence working upon us—that when we would do good evil is present with us. We are in bondage.

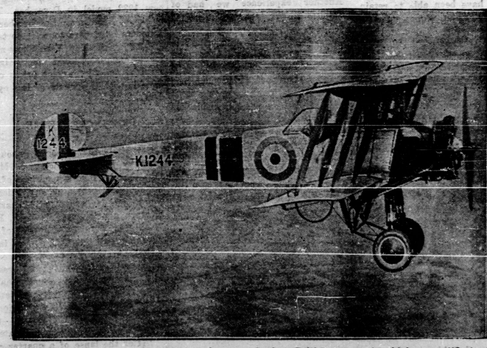
III. THE TRUE FREEDOM, John 8: 35, 36.

When Jesus then contrasted the family relationship of the slave with that of the son (v. 35) he meant that no matter how long or how hard a man's bondage to sin had been, it was still only an artificial and, if he so desired, a temporary bondage. Whether he be a drunkard, apparently enslaved by his alcohol habit, or one of those who are even harder to redeem—the respectable complacent folk who are saturated with the form of religion, but uninfluenced by its power—his bondage can be broken.

To whom? "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed," v. 36. How does the Son deliver me from the sin that holds me? He wins me by the power of his own pure love to awaken an answering love in me. If the one whom I have greatly wronged is able to convince me that his love for me is strong enough, not only to overcome any resentment toward me, but to forgive me freely and yearn with a passionate longing for my answering love, then I cannot but respond to it. The thing that wounded him will become hateful to me. When I am brought face to face with the abandon with which God in Christ has loved me I become free from the shackles of my old bondage. I enter into a new relationship with my Saviour—brother.

"Sin, which was once so alluring now becomes not merely a prohibited thing, but actually distasteful; and goodness, which was once so difficult, becomes not only a thing required of me, but actually a thing I love," Baillie—This is the true freedom from sin.

British Airwomen Qualify In "Blind" Flying



Lady Bailey, one of Britain's foremost airwomen, is first British woman to obtain a certificate for "blind" flying, and is at present practising night flying at Croydon, in order to qualify for a full commercial air pilot's license. Photo shows a pupil of the Central Flying School, Wittering, near Peterborough, receiving instructions in "blind" flying.

New England Village

Here is soil for the deepest root
And air for branches to spread;
Bins for the gathered fruit,
And ample bins for the dead.

And here in this weathered place,
At these doors, stripped of paint
and neglected,
The maledicted face
Even is not rejected.

—Lindley Williams Hubbell, in Harper's Magazine.