Jill of the Fields

A ROMANCE

By Kennaway James

SYNOPSIS

Motherless Jill Kerridew becomes on the death of her father, owner of a farm. She counts on Mark Hanson, head man, to assist her. Mark resents the presence of Phillip Barbour who professes to be investigating the history of old county families. On returning to London he meets two foreigners. The reason for Phillip's interest proves to be a chemical fertilizer discovered by Jill's father, which he had not made known to Jill.

Phillip finds Jill upset over Mark who has declared his love for her.

A body of a man is found in one of the wheat fields. A lighter is found under the body which proves to belong to old George. Barbour rushes Jill into an engagement. She receives a letter from Mark giving notice. Jill is furious that her engagement is announced in the papers.

Barbour and Mark meet crossing the fields and eventually come to blows. Mark is beaten. Uncle Lars consoles him.

Old George tells Mark of the formula who tells him to go to Jill.

This causes Jill to break her engagement with Phillip Barbour. Believing Mark is interested in Freda, Jill becomes engaged to Herbert Norgrove.

THE SECOND BARK

Sometimes tragedy may come and leave no more than sudden death. The bereaved are left behind and the lawyers do the rest.

At other times, however fatality may come, miracle-wise and solve for people problems which they thought were never to be solved. It was tragedy of this kind which cut across the lives of those at Stone Town on a late spring evening when it seemed thta God was pleased with the world and all that He had made.

Mark was sitting outside his cottage door when a man whom he did not recognize rode up rapidly on a bicycle and dismounted.

"Mr. Hanson?" he asked.

"That's me," said Mark in a leisurely tone.

"Well, I have some unpleasant news for you," said the man, who announced his name as Rance. "Or at least for Miss Merridew."

"I'm sorry to hear that," replied Mark. "If you wish I will take you round to Miss Merridew. What is the news?"

"No, I think it would be better if you told Miss Merridew yourself. It is news which could be better given by a friend. There has been an accident and Herbert Norgrove is dead."

Mark looked at the man incredulously.

"You—you dont mean it?" was all he was able to say.

"Yes, I mean it," said the other. "And to tell you the truth I'm not altogether surprised. The way he had been driving that old car about has been simply asking for it. I had a look under the bonnet a few days ago and found the steering-box so loose that it hardly seemed to belong to that car."

"Why didn't you warn him?" asked Mark.

Rance shrugged his shoulders.

"He was there at the time," he said, "but he just smiled and said it would last a long time yet. And now this evening it went and the car hit a tree. Judging by the wreck he must have been going at the devil of a pace."

"He never went at any other," said Mark. "Well, well, it's a sorry business. Yes, I'll go and break the news to Miss Merridew. Then I'll run over and see if I can be of any help, though I don't know that I can do anything."

A few minutes later Rance rode away and Mark walked slowly over to Jill's house. She was surprised to see him, for he never visited her in the evenings as he had once done.

"You look disturbed, Mark," she said when they were alone.

"I am, Jill," said Mark. I've brought some bad news for you."

"Oh, don't say that, Mark. What's gone wrong? You look as though an thrax has broken out!"

"No, it's nothing to do with the farm. It concerns Herbert Norgrove."

Jill sprang to her feet and the colour left her face.

"I know," she cried, "he's dead—killed. I felt it would come. Tell me quickly Mark. It that it?"

"It is," replied Mark as he rose and crossed to the window, so that he should not watch Jill's expression.

Presently he turned to find her in tears.

"Oh dear," she cried. "Surely all my troubles are not starting again. Mark, whatever can be the matter with Stone Town?"

"There's nothing the matter with it, nothing," said Mark. "It is just coincidence that these things should happen in the same place. They are happening elsewhere all the time."

"But two violent deaths . . ."

Mark almost made an exclamation, but checked himself.

"Yes, by Jove, Jill, it is extraordinary. Last November I heard three fox-barks over in Magpie Spinney, and you know what they say that means, don't you?"

"Yes," said Jill. "Three fox barks mean three dead men within a year. Oh, how horrible! Does it mean there's another still to come?"

"It's only a local superstition," he said, "but it does sound curious. Poor, dear Jill, I'm sorry for you. I thought you were on the way to being really happy at last."

Jill gave him a strange look.

"You—you thought I was going to be happy, did you?" she asked tearfully. "I suppose you thought I was really in love with poor Herbert."

"No, I never thought that, Jill, and I don't think anyone else did, either. Not even Herbert."

Jill was standing near the table, her hand behind her resting upon it. Mark thought he had never seen her look so appealing, and though he disliked himself for it, he felt content that she was not to marry Herbert Norgrove.

"Jill?" he said, "I don't know what to say to you. You are all left alone again on the farm. You see," he stammered, for he hated to say it," I'm supposed to be going to Freda's uncle next week."

"Supposed to?" said Jill. "You are going aren't you?"

"I—I, yes, I suppose I am," said Mark.

"Of course you are," said Jill, "Especially now that you and Freda have become what you are to each other."

"Whatever do you mean?" asked Mark.

"Well, you're in love with her, aren't you," replied Jill, turning away, for the tears were coming again.

Mark took a few steps towards her.

"Jill, my dear, don't despair. I know a this is terrible for you, but be your brave self. As for Freda, well, I like her, but that is all." Then he went close to her. "Jill, I can never be in love with anyone but you and . . ."

He was about to speak, but he held up his hand, as one commanding silence.

"Yes, you shall hear it again," he said. "I know it may sound crude at this moment, when Herbert has just been killed. If you loved him it would be a different matter. I should say nothing. But Im going to tell you something. I love you more than all the world, and I'm going to try to win you this time."

"Oh, Mark . . ." Jill sobbed as she looked up at him pathetically. "It—it isn't right to talk like this now . . . Or is it?"

"It is," said ark. "It's got to be."

PEACE

The engagement of Jill and Mark was kept secret for many months, though the secrecy deceived none, least of all old George. Autumn found George declining rapidly, and on a grim November afternoon he sent for Mark and Jill.

"I'm a-going quick," he said, "and there's just two things I wanted to tell you. It was Larry Luby who took my bacca-box—he was always taking 'em, and it was him who dropped it in the field. He told me all about it just afore they took him away. He also said it was him who killed the chap. You know he hated Benson who made that scarecrow, well, he went with an iron bar to smash it. So it wasn't murder after all."

Jill stroked his head. "And what is the other thing?" She asked.

"The other thing is here," said George, fumbling under the pillow and producing a grimy paper.

"This is the formula," he said. "I've had it all the time. He gave it me afore he died. It's yours now."

Old George died that night, and Jill and Mark, sitting before the fire at Stone Town talked of his passing, for he was loved by both of them.

"He seems to have cleared up another mystery, too," said Mark. "You remember about the three fox-barks and three dead men. Well, old George is the third. See?"

The tears in Jill's eyes glistened.

"Then we shall have peace now?"

"Yes, we shal have peace," said Mark. And they had peace.

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"Proud" Father Demands Recount

Slightly Dazed When Wife Gives Birth to Four Sons —Good Start Towards Football Team

Here are the views of the young man whose wife gave birth to four boys in Birmingham, England, as reported by a correspondent.

First View: Nothing, just slightly dazed.

Second view: 'More than a million inhabitants and it had to be me."

Third view:"Well it's a good start towards a football team.

Stanley Hitchins, the father, is twenty-six years old; his wife is only twenty-three. They have a daughter aged two.

Mr. and Mrs. Hitchins live in the Washwood Heath district.

I found Mr. Hitchins in the Birmingham Maternity Hospital shortly after his family had been born. He was standing unnoticed by the fussing nurses and beaming doctors.

He had been called from work (he is a painter), and after counting the babies carefully, returned to his work

After congratulating him, I asked him how it felt to be the father of four bonny bouncing baby boys.

He looked round carefully, and then told me — with emphasis.

'When they told me the number," he said, "I almost demanded a recount.

AS LIKE AS PEAS

"You are certain to get the Kings bounty," I said.

"The wife's mother's sister nad twins," he said reflectively. "Perhaps that had something to do with it."

He told me that, counting from left to right, the children weighed in at 3 lbs. 13 ozs. 3 lbs. 151-4 ozs.; 5 lbs. 2 ozs.; and 3 lbs. 151-4 ozs., respectively.

'We've named them John, Fred, Arthur and Stanley to save them getting mixed up," he explained. They are as like as two peas in a pod except the big one who has got a snub nose."

I told him of Birmingham's declining birthrate, and how glad Dr. Newsholme, the medical officer of health would be. He reminded me of the other million or so inhabitants.

I reminded him of the football team

Mother Drops 41-year Pose

Reveals Herself As Mother Not Sister of Own Daughter

Ouray, Colo.—For 41 years Mrs. Charles N. Jones as a sister to her daughter.

Up and down the continent they trouped in a vaudeville act called "Maxine and Maxie Marshall" and the daughter never knew that her "sister" was really her mother.

The story came out when the daughter, Mrs. H. E. Williamson, sued for and won the right to administer the estate of a father she had not seen since she was a baby.

Mrs. Jones, who was "Maxine," took the stand in Mrs. Williamson's suit to become administrator of the large estate of John Donald, pioneer mining man of Ouray. She told how she left Donald in 1895, taking their daughter with her, and how she pretended they were sisters to prevent Donald from finding them.

Mrs. Jones said that after leaving Donald she worked as a dishwasher and waitress until she perfected a vaudeville act into which she and her daughter fitted as sisters. From the time the child was six years old, she said, they were known as Maxine and Maxie Marshall. When their vaudeville engagements took them to Alaska in 1905, Mrs. Jones met and married the man whose name she now bears.

It was not until last January that she told her daughter of their true relationship.

Anyone may do a casual act of good-nature; but a continuation of them shows it a part of the temperament.—Sterne.

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"SALADA" TEA

Unvarying Quality *Fresh from the Gardens*

Baseball Proving Popular Abroad

Russia Latest Nation to Adopt Game — Japan and Other Countries Already Enthusiasts

Baseball, America's national pastime is becoming more and more international in character, writes Irving G. Gutterman in the N. Y. Times. According to recent dispatches, Soviet Russia has found a place for the game in its program of athletics. Thus one more country is added to the number showing an interest in this sport.

While baseball is in its beginning stages in many countries, in Japan it has been enjoying vast popularity for several years. Introduced more than a decade ago and fostered by the larger Japanese universities, it has become one of the most popular games in the country. It is not uncommon for a crowd of 60,000 to see a contest between two college teams.

Picked American teams have toured Japan, receiving rousing ovations wherever exhibition games were played, so that now the names of such stars as Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig are familiar to many Japanese. The visiting major leaguers have been beset by autograph hunters. According to Gehrig, "the interest in baseball in Japan just about borders on the fanatical."

THE NIMBLE JAPANESE

Naturally nimble and active, the Japanese have proved to be excellent fielders and base runners. Their pitchers are clever and well acquainted with the various curve balls. Japanese teams have played American college nines, and have been more than a match for some of them.

Baseball has been well developed in Africa, North and South. Last Fall it was reported that more than forty organized teams were active in Tunis, where there are more than a thousand ballplayers of at least a dozen nationalities. Organized amateur leagues play regularly and many fans turn out for the games. The first contest between an American and a North African team took place in July, 1932. On the North African team were five Arabs, six Italians, one Frenchman, one Anglo-Frenchman and one Berber. Teams in the Ligue Tunisienne include also Turks, Greeks, Spaniards, Portuguese, English, South Africans, Americans, Moroccans, Tripolitans, Egyptians, Senegalese and Maltese.

Within the past three years the rise of baseball in South Africa has been swift. Cricket and football clubs near Johannesburg have been turning their attention to the American game, and last Summer a league of eight teams was in operation. The sport has also thrived in Cape Town; last year the Cumorah team of that city made a tour through the Transvaal. The standard of play among South Africans is high.

South Americans have also grown to like the American game. In Venezuela baseball is fast becoming a national pastime. There are teams not only in Caracas, but in Maracaibo, Valencia, Maracay and La. Guayra. Many intercity rivalries have already been established.

VENEZUELAN FANS

That the Venezuelans are enthusiastic fans is evident in the account of a recent games between the Santa Marta team and the Royals, Protesting a decision, the Santa Marta team and many of their rooters warmed the playing field, yelling, "Ladron! Ladron! Protesto! Protesto!" in a manner that would have put even an American bleacherite to shame. They fought to induce the umpire to change his decision, finally insisting that he be ejected and a new one procured. It was the fifth inning and he was the fifth umpire to be chased from the field.

Baseball is played to a limited extent in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Rumania. There is a baseball league in operation in Paris, and at the Barcelona Exhibition in 1930 a picked French team turned back the best Spanish nine before 65,000 spectators. In England and Wales there are also baseball teams. The game has been well developed among the Mexicans and Cubans, and the Filipinos have been expertly taught at school by American coaches.

In Moscow baseball classes have been opened at the Physiculture Institute, where the game is being taught by an American and by a Russian who learned to play in Japan.

While America's national pastime has been played abroad for many years, it is only recently that there has been such a definite rise in its popularity as to bring about the suggestion that baseball be made an Olympic sport—a suggestion put forward by the French Baseball Federation, which includes France, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

Old Shoes

How much a man is like old shoes,
For instance both a soul may lose,
Both have been tanned, both are made light,
By cobblers, both get left and right,
Both need a mats to be complete,
And both are made to go on feet.
They both need heeling, oft are soled
And both in time turn old to mould.
With shoes the last is first. With men
The first shall be last
And when the shoes wear out they are mended new,
When men wear out they're men dead too.
They both are trod upon and both,
Will tread on others nothing loath's.
Both have their ties and both incline
When polished, in the world to shine
And both peg out. So would ou choose
To be a man or be his shoes.

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Those results are due to a scientific discovery by which an Aspirin Tablet begins to dissolve, or disintegrate, in the amazing space of two seconds after touching moisture. And hence to start "taking hold" of pain a few minutes after taking.

The illustration of the glass, here, tells the story. An Aspirin Tablet starts to disintegrate almost instantly you swallow it. *And thus is ready to go to work almost instantly.*

When you buy, though, be on guard against substitutes. To be sure you get ASPIRIN'S *quick relief*, be sure the name Bayer in the form of a cross is on every tablet of Aspirin.

Does Not Harm the Heart

Pedestrians

John O'Rew in the Baltimore Sun

While I like to think of the difference between the British people and ours there is actually any affinity, my skepticism on this point received a few days ago by the receipt of a circular from the Automobile Association of Great Britain on the subject of highway accommodations for pedestrians.

The circular expiated to the extent of some 400 words on the lamentable failure of the British Isles and Scotland to make provision for those who travel afoot. It made special mention to a "striking deficiency" in footpaths, the sad neglect of pedestrians, etc., etc., etc. And it emphasized the urgent need of "special roads for footpaths having a continuous all-weather surface, as safe and more attractive than a mere carriageway."

I find it hard to believe that the men capable of formulating such an appeal as this has anything in common with the Britannia of this great nation of ours, or where to give the pedestrian more than a disdainful look. He is utterly foreign to the national character. Our British 'cousins' are quite "distant" to be able to see themselves in such sympathetic and kindly light. Or is that they are near sighted.

Busy Little Bee Was Electrocuted

DENVER, Colo.—A busy little bee called out the fire department when it inspected apparently attempted to make a hive in a fire alarm box and came entangled in the apparatus, causing a short circuit that set the bells. When the firemen arrived the bee had been electrocuted.

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Woman's World

By Mair M. Morgan

HOUSE CLEANING

...u are a wise housewife you ...ave started your housecleaning ...e. You will at least, have ...d out all the cupboards and ...drawers for that is always pre...ry to really scientific work. ...f you are methodical, you ...e room at a time and not have ...ole house upset at once. Take ...ll the pictures, brush the dust ...stiff brush, wash the glass ...over the frames with a soft ...

...k them out of the way, and ...walls and ceiling with a soft ...ied over a long broom, then ...and polish the furniture, then ...woodwork, clean and polish ...before restoring rugs.

Variety is Spice

...e women think they must ...the furniture every week be... they "can't abide" monotony ...thing, even the arrangement of ...Others place a thing once ...ever change it. Perhaps the ...lan is to move your things ...spring and fall, and thus get ...of the variety that is said to ...spice of life, without having ...mily trip over the chairs in ...new places.

...a good idea to get rid of the ...elephants" either by selling ...or by giving them to some of ...numerous rummage sales. Too ...furniture spoils the look of a ...room and frequently you can ...desk or an extra chair in a ...m, or change things around so ...all the rooms may be improved.

Too Many Pictures

...of the commonest mistakes ...make is to have too many ...too many pictures and too ...ornaments around. "Raus mit ...If you haven't an attic (or it ...save) get rid of them by sale, ...or gift. Less work, and a ...appearance to your rooms.

Weather Moves.

...metimes you can move chairs ...uches to a window overlooking ...den or some other pleasant view ...where you can take advantage of ...her breezes. In the bedrooms, ...the bed may be moved to give ...more space and air and dressing ...be shifted to a better light.

...you are blessed with plenty of ...board space, you might even give ...your ornaments and pictures a ...for the summer, bringing out two ...three at a time and changing ...m as you tire of them.

...ake your housecleaning a mental ...k as well as a "clean-up" for the ...ne and it won't be quite so hard ...o.

THE GOLDEN BRIDE

...he newest bridal fabric is a lame, ...ven with gold or silver and backed ...h white satin. Gold is the leading ...or for this season, and a golden ...de can be very unusual.

...he important London, England, ...s artist makes good use of this ...ely fabric for a golden bride. The ...lded gown is simply fashioned, ...suggests medieval splendour.

...ver the golden train comes a mats ...shadowy tulle which rests on a ...plet of golden leaves.

...charming bridesmaid's gift ...ld be one of the newest crystal ...s with golden clip. There is a ...ge at the moment for crystal and ...d.

CHOCOLATE CAKE

...he traditional "devil's food" cake ...ally is made with a cooked sort ...custard which is added to the ...ingredients. This produces a ...k cake of spongy texture that is ...lined to dry out quicker than the ...s mixed by other methods.

...hocolate cakes made with yolks ...eggs remain moist despite a ...ked mixture being added to the ...er. In the following recipe only ...yolks are used. The whites are ...d for the frosting, which is in ...n colored with melted chocolate.

The chocolate forms a hard crust over the icing which tends to keep it soft and creamy and makes an exceedingly delicious whole.

Chocolate Cake Recipe

Two squares bitter chocolate, 1 cup milk, half cup butter and lard combined, 1 cup granulated sugar, 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon vanilla, few grains salt, yolks of 2 eggs.

Melt chocolate over hot water. Add half cup milk and cook until thoroughly blended and smooth, but not a minute longer. Cream shortening and beat in sugar. Add cooked mixture. Beat egg yolks with remaining half cup of milk and add alternately with flour. Mix well and add soda dissolved in a little warm water. Add vanilla and salt and beat well. Bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees F.) for thirty minutes. This cake may be baked in two layers or in a dripping pan.

Fudge Cake

Two cups light brown sugar, 2-3 cup butter and lard combined and softened, 3 squares chocolate, 3 eggs, 1-2 cup sour milk, 2 cups flour, 1-2 cup boiling water, 1 teaspoon vanilla, few grains salt, 1 teaspoon soda.

Cream shortening and sugar. Melt chocolate over hot water and beat into first mixture. Add eggs one at a time, beating hard after the addition of each. Stir in sour milk. Add flour and beat until perfectly smooth. Add boiling water and mix well. Add vanilla, salt and soda dissolved in 1 teaspoon cold water. Pour into two square pans and bake thirty minutes in a moderate oven (350 degrees F.) Put together and cover top and sides with fudge.

If economy is necessary and a not-quite-so-rich cake is wanted, reduce the shortening to 1-2 cup and use 2 squares of chocolate and 2 eggs, leaving all the other proportions the same.

Sour Cream Chocolate Cake.

One and one-half cups light brown sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 2 eggs, 1 cup sour cream, 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon vanilla, 1 teaspoon soda, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1 cup grated chocolate, few grains salt.

Cream butter and sugar and add the yolks of eggs well beaten. Melt chocolate over hot water and add to mixture. Mix and sift baking powder, soda, salt and flour several times. This is very important because the soda must be thoroughly mixed through the flour. Add to first mixture alternately with sour cream. Add vanilla and fold in whites of eggs beaten until still. Bake in two layers in a moderate oven (350 degrees F.).

FASHION HINTS

Two sports suits favorites of the spring should, by priority rights, rule for summer. We refer to the Mexican jackets, with back belts, and pleats like men's sports jackets, which are well represented in linen, and to the reefer coat suit in linen or cotton.

* * *

Tie silks with light grounds are coming forward rapidly to assert themselves and take the place of the dark ground tie silks used so much for sports dresses. They are still at their best in shirtwaist frocks.

* * *

Fingertip blouses for two-piece pyjamas to be worn on the beach are being underscored with belts or fringed sashes. They are very casual and show the foreign influence of the tunic.

* * *

Transparent bathing caps worn with printed fabric bandeaux to look as if the wearer is going on the tennis court instead of in swimming or else worn with triangular kerchiefs to match other accessories are proposed as smart.

* * *

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Even if a jelly will not set, it can be made into a delicious table cream.

Bring a pint of milk to the boil, then sprinkle in three tablespoons of quick-cooking tapioca and sugar to taste. Cook and stir for three minutes. Pour in jelly, stir well and leave to set.

* * *

Smear a little butter under the spout of the cream jug. This prevents drips on the tablecloth after the cream has been poured out.

* * *

When beating cream add the white of a new-laid egg. This makes it go further.

* * *

To clean a cloth beret: Wash beret in warm soapflake suds, rinse thoroughly in two or three waters, and then place a pudding plate inside the beret, slightly stretching the beret over it.

Stand the plate on a tall tin in a warm place. The beret will dry quickly and in perfect shape.

A Fair Warning To U.S. Golfers

The Supreme Court of the United States recently decided that where the assured, while playing golf, suffered a sunstroke, from which he died, recovery could not be had on an accident policy providing for payment if death should result from "bodily injuries effected directly and independently of all other causes through external, violent and accidental means".

The court pointed out that the external means were stated to be the rays of the sun to which the insured voluntarily exposed himself and that the pleadings did not suggest that there was anything in the sun's rays, the weather or other circumstances external to the insured's own body and operating to produce the unanticipated injury, which was unknown or unforseen by the insured.—Weekly Underwriter.

King Decorates Prince

LONDON—Prince George and his comptroller, Major Ulick Alexander, who returned recently from a long tour of South Africa, received honors from the King. His Majesty's youngest son was invested with the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (G.C.M.G.) while Major Alexander, who accompanied the prince throughout, was made a companion of the order.

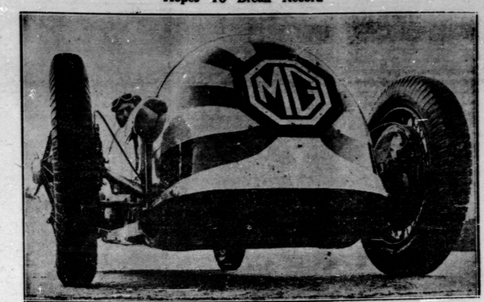
Orange and Black Colors For 1935

GUELPH, Ont.—Ontario license plates for 1935 —perhaps not pleasant to think of so early in 1934—will be colored orange and black. It was announced recently at the Ontario reformatory, where the plates are manufactured. They will carry black letters on an orange background.

* * *

"Those who regard the purpose of the New Deal as the restoration of the 'good times' of 1928 and 1929 mistake its aim."—Nathan Straus Jr.

Hopes To Break Record



Captain George Eyston, famous British racing driver, seen in his new car while testing the bullet-shaped machine on the Brooklands track, Surrey, England, in preparation for his attempt to break the record.

Sunday School Lesson

Lesson VIII. (20).—May 20. The Future of the Kingdom.—Matthew 24:1-25; 30. Golden Text—The kingdom of our Lord, and of Kingdom of the world is become his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.—Rev. 11:15.

"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins." The expression is very condensed, and that means that the search of mankind for the kingdom of heaven is like, in two contradictory aspects, the action of five of these virgins on the one hand and five of them on the other hand.

"Who took their lamps." Either like the familiar Roman lamps carried in the hand or attached to staves or else torches which were sometimes fed with oil. "And went forth to meet the bridegroom." Christ is the bridegroom and the church is his bride.

"And five of them were foolish, and five were wise." We are not to conclude from this that on the judgement day half of mankind will be accepted and half rejected.

"For the foolish, when they took their lamps, took no oil with them." Olive oil was used, drawn up by a floating wick, which projected through a little notch or spout in the side of the bowl of the lamp.

"But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps." They carried vessels full of oil from which they could replenish the supply of their lamps as they burned low.

"Now while the bridegroom tarried." Christ is looking forward to the long period—two thousand years now—that would elapse before his return to earth. "They all slumbered and slept." That does not mean that when the Bridegroom comes he will find none awake. Many a man has died while engaged, Bible in hand, in meditation, upon his favorite theme, the coming of the Bridegroom.

"But at midnight there is a cry, behold, the bridegroom!" The longer the virgins slept, the nearer was the approach of the bridegroom. The longer we wait unprepared for the coming of Christ, the nearer is his sure approach.

"Come ye forth to meet him." Translate this into other words, and it runs thus: Recognize and act upon, the law of preparation of human character."

"Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps." The wicks had become charred while they slept, and must be cut to burn brightly.

"And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil, for our lamps are going out." The foolish virgins are the half-and-half people, people who in any case of difficulty never think of turning to the light within to guide them through the darkness, but they at once turn to some one who they think is living a Christian life, as if a borrowed light would do.

"But the wise answered, saying, Peradventure there will not be enough for us and you. This is a harsh and selfish refusal but arises out of the very necessity of the case.

"Go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves" We cannot impart our Christian life to another but we can point to him the divine Source of all life, we can turn him to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

"And while they went away to buy the bridegroom came." Just at the critical moment, when all was eager hurry to do the fitting honor to the advancing bridegroom.

"And they that were ready went in with him to the marriage feast." If this is a lesson of terrible warning it is also a lesson of comfort and cheer. If we are ready we shall go in with our Lord to his eternal feast of joy.

"And the door was shut." These are the most solemn words of this solemn parable. "A new thing it is for that door to be shut. So long has it stood open, thrown wide back, that we forget there is a door that can shut that entrance.

"Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us." They wanted to get in.

"But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not." One of Christ's most terribly emphatic statements.

"Watch therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour." The close of your earthly opportunity may come today—the very next minute. Now is the accepted time.

Australia and Canada

VICTORIA—Trade relations between the Governments of Canada and Australia are intimate and cordial, L. R. MacGregor, Australian trade commissioner to Canada, declared on his arrival here recently.

"While I was in Australia, I discussed the question of bringing about even closer trade relations than have already been established by widening the scope of the present trade agreement," he added. Mr. MacGregor spent two months in Australia.

Old Age Pensioners Show Big Increase

NEW YORK—The number of old-age pensioners in the United States has increased from 1000 to 135,000 persons, Mr. Abraham Epstein reported recently at the opening of a two-day national conference on social security. Mr. Epstein, executive secretary of the American Association for Social Security, characterized 1933 as "the year of greatest achievement in providing security for the dependent aged."

"There is no economy in either cheap labor or cheap material."—Henry Ford.

Girls Sleep More Soundly Than Boys

Large Meal Before Bedtime Bound to Cause Restlessness

Is the healthy child a restless sleeper?

New light is thrown upon this question, on which advice is constantly sought by mothers, by Dr. Glenville Giddings in the Journal of the American Medical Association, which contains a valuable study of the activity of a group of children—28 boys and girls—during sleep.

BATTERY OF PINS

To obtain a complete and continuous record of each night's sleep a remarkable electrical machine called a hypnograph was used.

The slightest movement of the child in bed caused a small brass wheel to travel up and down a perpendicular strip of metal attached to the bed spring. This caused changes in an electric current, which were conducted by cable to the hypnograph in an adjoining room.

The hypnograph consisted of a battery of 28 fountainpens (one for each bed), which wrote on a moving roll of paper in different coloured inks, according to whether the subject was a boy or girl.

The tests reveal that the movements of a healthy child conform to a definite pattern. The most active part of the night is during the first half-hour. The most tranquil is in the second-half-hour to 45 minutes, and a restive phase recurs during the hour before waking.

Girls, it was found, sleep more soundly than boys. They not only drop off more quickly, but sleep more quietly.

Among 24 children studied, the most restless sleeper showed an average of 110 active minutes during 15 nights.

COLD WEATHER BEST

A drink of warm milk at bedtime was shown to produce definitely quieter sleep. A large meal, however, even though the food was plain, resulted in marked restlessness.

Baths, whether cold or warm, it was found, had no constant effect on sleep, while children sleep more peacefully in the cold than warm weather.

Dress of Women Will be Simpler

Col. H. C. Osborne Forsees Change in Politeness as Well

Ottawa.—A day when women will quite conceivably exercise a leading influence in the state was foreseen by Colonel H. C. Osborne, C.M.G., speaking at a luncheon meeting of the University Club on the subject, "Women—Yesterday and Today."

Venturing into the realm of the future, the speaker predicted that women's dress would become more sober and more simple during business hours. There will be changes, too, he said, in certain forms of politeness now existing between the sexes.

"The myth of weakness as far as women are concerned is all nonsense," he said. "It never was true. In the chronicles of early Egypt we come across a type of civilization where men attended to the lighter tasks and the household, and women did the heavy work—even to the waging of war.

"It used to be thought that a woman was incapable of picking up a handkerchief or opening a door. Indeed, last century they were so bundled and becorseted that perhaps they couldn't. But if you go out on our golf courses and tennis courts or along the ski trails you see that they can pick up all the handkerchiefs in the world and open all the doors too."

Women, continued Col. Osborne, are still in danger of standing in their own light by permitting the spread of ideas that certain subjects fall in the realm of women and others in that of men. He urged that this idea was fallacious, that the entire field of knowledge is open and knowledge is power.

By BUD FISHER

MUTT AND JEFF