A Job for the Handy Man

Continued from page 23

dragged her aside and demanded fierce-

ly: "How long has this been going on?" "The moare!" said Marian. "For "For years!" said Marian. years!"

Later it occurred to them both that they might have been talking about different things; but by that time their lawyers were arranging a polite divorce. Times had changed, Marian reflected

when she had been a business woman for a few months. The agonized struggle of the first weeks was over, when she labored to take dictation swiftly and type it accurately with fingers that had somehow lost their knack in years of sewing on buttons. Now she had mastered her job; she earned the forty dollars a week that bought less than thirty had bought before she was married.

She missed the spaciousness of the house on Long Island, the warmth of the furnace over which Paul used to putter. The radiator in her furnished room was more like a refrigerator. Still she was free, or would be as soon as the decree was made final.

ONE day Mrs. Bassett met her on the street, and stopped her.

"I hear you're divorcing Paul," she "It's none of my business, but said. I think you're a damned fool. I just

want to get that on the record. "Thanks!" said Marian. " "But it really isn't your business, is it?"

"Only this far-that I had to do most of his work for him at first; he was mooning around like a lost soul. You'd only have had to whistle to bring him

"Yes?" said Marian breathlessly. "Now-?"

"Now he's working twelve hours a day-the way I worked when I was fighting for my promotion. If he'd done that then he'd have got it, not I. But he never started till he had to pay alimony.

"I haven't taken a cent of his money! I earn my own!"

"And what a lot of fun that is," said Mrs. Bassett. "Then he's working be-cause he can't bear to go home. . . . What's become of your child?"

"He kept her; he's got an excellent governess. I see her every Sunday, of course-

"And him?" asked Mrs. Bassett, with

a strained alertness. "He plays golf on Sundays... Not that it concerns you, does it?" "Not a bit. But if I'd had what you

had-and you used to envy me, didn't you? Oh, I could see it. . . . It's a cutthroat game, my dear. We all want It's a everything, and there isn't enough of it to go around." "Really," said Marian stiffly, "I don't

lhink—

"There's to be a new vice-presidency in our organization before long," Mrs. Bassett interrupted. "I'd give my eyes for it, but they won't give it to a woman. At the rate Paul's going, he'll get it. . You can't tell me money makes no difference. So if that will make dif-ference enough—" "No!" Marian blazed. "After the

"After the things we've said to each other, noth-ing will ever make difference enough!"

She hated to think of it or talk of it, but worst of all she hated the suspicion that Paul had sent Mrs. Bassett to do his talking for him. . . . Or per-haps—Marian gasped. Perhaps she had been talking for herself. It was a cutthroat game, but some women played it fairly.

At first, when she went to see Jane, Paul was at home, and they made a

ghastly pretense of friendliness. That had been dropped; now she had Jane to herself on Sundays, and the child who saw her rarely loved her more than She seemed healthy enough; but whenever her mother left her she burst into hysterical weeping. So in October -just after the decree was made final -Marian wrote to Paul that she wanted to talk to him. He took her to lunch town; silly that they couldn't be friends, she mused as they ate in si-lence, their stiff formality covering a hair-trigger tension. Then, when their

"She's perfect; she does things for Jane I never did and never could do. But she's a machine."

"I live in that house too," he growled. "A machine was what I wanted." "Somebody who wouldn't talk back?"

(She wondered what drove her to jab him like that.) "But a machine won't do. Jane needs to be loved. Oh, I know you love her, but---

"I'll have more time for her," he said, 'after Christmas. There's to be a change in the office-

"She needs more than you can ever give her, Paul."

"Well, you're a fine one to say that! If you hadn't—"

"If you hadn't---" she countered furiously. His fingers were twisting; he half started up. For an instant she thought he was going to strike heror seize her hands; she waited, weak and breathless-he pushed back his chair and got up, with a wry grin.

'What a pair of fools we are. Marian! Let's try to be decent, anyway." eyed her sharply. "That suit's posi-tively threadbare. There's no sense your not letting me-,,

"Not a nickel!" she told him, trembling with rage. At least she supposed it must be rage, though it didn't feel much like it afterward.

That week she took all the money she had and bought a smart new suit. She wore it out to Luxuriant Gardens on Sunday, but Paul had gone to play golf, so the gesture missed fire. Jane perplexed her with talk of Aunt Flora and Elinor.

"Elinor's Aunt Flora's little girl," the child explained eventually. "They were out here yesterday to spend the

day." "But who's Aunt Flora? I thought I knew all your father's people." "Why, that's Mrs. Bassett. She asked

me to call her Aunt Flora. Daddy said it would be all right." "Oh!" said the woman who still called

herself Mrs. Sturges.

 $S_{\rm later}^{\rm O~WHEN}$ he called her up a few days later and asked her to go to lunch she refused.

"But I want to talk to you!" he insisted, and she was just about to say "Yes" when he added, "About Jane.... No, no-she isn't sick. But if I let the governess go I'd hardly know what-"

"You'd better ask Aunt Flora," said Marian miserably. They arranged by an exchange of

diplomatic notes, stiffly formal, that Jane was to have her Christmas in two installments. On Christmas Eve her mother was to come out for dinner. while Paul went to the club. The next day he and Jane were going to have guests; he didn't say who they were but Marian was in no doubt. She would spend that day in her furnished room. But, of course, she was free.

It seemed unnatural not to be plan-

ning a Christmas present for Paul; but fingers bringing the chaos to order. In after she saw that Electric Village in the toy store window she was thankful that all her Christmas money could be spent on Jane.

And she was very happy with Jane, in the warm spacious house, beside the tree that Paul had trimmed and lighted before he went off to the club. He had left no present for Marian, but when she opened the big box that Jane proudly gave her she knew he had collaborated; for here was a supply, a whole winter's supply, of the French underwear she loved. . . . Everything came too late, Marian reflected, as she began to unwrap her gift for Jane. "O-o-oh!" the child screamed as she

saw the name on the box. "The Elec-tric Village! I saw it when I was in town one day with Miss Todd. Next day Daddy went to look for it, but it was gone. And you-

"I got it for you, darling. Now as soon as we get it set up-

Marian's voice faded out; she'd had no idea there were so many pieces when the thing was taken apart. And wires, and switches, and connections; and appliances whose meaning she couldn't even guess.

"I'll have to look at the directions first," she apologized.

But the directions were a book; it looked as long and intricate to Marian as a textbook on engineering. Before she had even read it through Miss Todd, the governess, came in with the news that Jane must go to bed.

Marian protested, and then argued, and then entreated; and finally lost her temper and almost screamed. But to everything Miss Todd opposed a simple toneless—"I'm sorry, Mrs. Sturges. Mr. Sturges' orders." So Marian, who could give no orders in that house, had to see her daughter dragged off to bed, crying hysterically.

"Never mind, darling!" she called. Mother will set up your village. It will all be ready for you when you come down in the morning."

WHAT optimism that was, she reflected an hour later, sitting on the floor in the midst of a confusion of toy men, and toy houses, and wires, and lights, and jiggets, and doodads, that she understood not much better than when she had set to work. It was easy to get half of the thing together-any half; but after that the rest would fit in nowhere. And she must get it set up; Paul might come home at any moment--

Another hour; he hadn't come back, the work was still unfinished; and the last train left at 11:24. There was only one thing to do: Marian called up the club.

"Paul!" she said presently. "Come over to the house; I need you."

He slammed the receiver on the hook; five minutes later he looked down from the doorway at Marian, sitting helpless on the floor in the midst of a heap of inadjustable parts.

"Oh!" he said. "So it was you who bought that."

"I knew you'd buy it if you saw it." she confessed, "and I wanted to do one last thing for Jane that you couldn't do -or that woman either. . . . And now can't put the damned thing together. hate to ask you to help me just as much as you hate to do it; but for Jane-

"Yes," he agreed, "for Jane-" He sat down on the floor.

chaise longue, and watched his skillful

ten minutes the village was assembled but when he plugged in the switch nothing happened.

'Some connection I overlooked," he grunted. "It's been a long time since tinkered with a job like this." "What?" Marian gasped. "When I

Marian gasped. ou've always loved to be busy fixing things-'

He grinned up at her-the first time either of them had grinned at the other in a year.

"I fix things in the office, now. Our organization's a worn-out machine; Flora Bassett's a great saleswoman but no executive. I'm doing a lot of tinker-ing and patching in the organization that ought to have been done years ago. Keeps me busy. . . . Now let's see if that switch will work-"

T DIDN'T, but he kept on patiently; and Marian, watching him, found that the stiffness and tension had evaporated; she felt as much at ease with him here as if they were married. It was such a restful feeling that she never thought of the time till she heard the distant rumble of a departing train and cast a panicky glance at the clock on the mantel.

"Paul!" she gasped. "I've missed the last train!"

"Too bad!" he muttered absently, and twisted something in the mechanism of the Electric Village. Lights blazed in every house, a score of tiny figures set busily to work. He rose and came to her; he sat down on the chaise longue at her fect. She had flushed, and then turned white.

"Paul Sturges, you could have fixed that thing half an hour ago!' "I wanted to talk to you," he said.

You never give me a chance-'

"But this isn't fair! I can't spend the night in this house!" "It's a big house," he observed. "There's Miss Todd and the maid as chaperons. If that's what you mean. "You know perfectly well," Marian shakily, "that that isn't said "that that isn't what I mean. And I think it's rotten of you to torment me this way-'

"Do you think I haven't been tor-mented, when you always hold me off?" She didn't hold him off then; when his arms reached out for her she met him halfway. But presently she drew back and looked him in the eye. "All right!" she said. "But I'm going

back to town after breakfast. And if you-if you still want to marry Flora Bassett, go ahead. It's a cutthroat game; but she plays fair and so will I." "Flora Bassett? Who said I wanted to marry her?"

"Well, if she and her child are com-

ing out for Christmas dinner-" "Flora? Lord no. Cousin Bert Foster and his family are coming out for Christmas dunner. Flora—well, I like her a lot, but-you're the only woman want to marry. And if you-if you

feel this way-" "Oh, I do, I do! But, after all, this doesn't settle anything. At least not anything else-'

'The worst things have settled themelves, Marian-money, and my thickheadedness, and maybe your itch for freedom. As for the rest-do you know anybody who's settled everything? But

gan to laugh-a little hysterically, she was afraid.

"I'm not going back to town after She got up presently, and sat on the breakfast, Paul! After breakfast, I'm going to fire Miss Todd."

This photograph was made one bleak Christmas Eve during the war, in the stable of an old Turkish inn at Leskowatz, Serbia. A dreary festal day for this little group—but not so dismal as to kill their spirits and courage



HE PLAYED "Hookey"

FOR THREE YEARS... and trebled his business!

THE veteran head of a great American business called together his department heads and associates. "Boys," he began, "I've got to play hookey. Something has snapped inside of me. And I want to get out before I'm carried out.

Enic

"But please understand, I want to get out physically... not mentally. I'm depending on you to keep me closely in touch with all that goes on. I want my mind to stay with you, even though my chair is vacant." SO HE departed. First to the woods of the North. Then across the seas to England and the three Eastern Continents.

Wherever he went, there followed him the records and reports of his office. Typed and charted business facts and figures. Statistical "televisions" that enabled him to see into every nook and cranny of his business.

Three months after his departure, things began to happen.

From a fishing camp in Maine came a letter from the absent chief suggesting new colors for the new season's goods. It was the first time "eye-appeal" had been added to this prosaic product. And the new line sold like "hot cakes."

From Paris he mailed a series of new model designs, created by a French stylist, in the modern manner. Again, a trade sensation was registered almost overnight.

From Germany he cabled a production short-cut which saved 15% in factory overhead, while improving the quality of the output.

Scarcely a week passed which did not bring a message from the Absentee Landlord, suggesting new ideas for the advertising department, hot stuff for the sales force, helpful hints to the executive personnel.

For the first time in thirty years, freed



from the fetters of detail, the business veteran found himself playing a complete and unhampered *thinking part* in the conduct of his business.

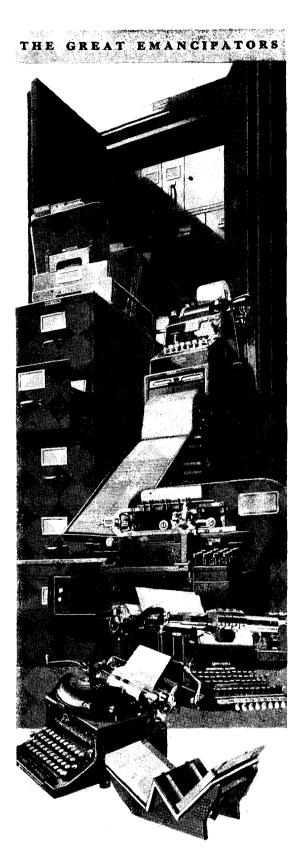
"The rolling stone may gather no moss," he chuckled, "but it picks up a lot of new ideas. Besides, moss belongs to the desk-tied mossbacks."

* * *

WHAT a man accomplishes in business depends largely on his viewpoint. His business can go no further than his aims and dreams. If he confines his viewboint to the needles and pins on the office floor, he will never envision Deportunity's heights.

The Absentee Landlord was able to direct is business from afar because he never tot away from its control. The facts and igures that kept this control with him tame to him automatically. He did not tave to stay on the job to dig them out.

The business machines and methods which automatically furnished him his constant mirror of his business were products of Remington Rand.



These machines and methods are largely responsible for the emancipation of the American business man from desk-confining detail drudgery. They have replaced memory in keeping the records of business. They have vastly reduced the need for hand and head work in charting the day's results.

Use this amazing new Business Service

THE LEADING manufacturers of business appliances have recently merged into one organization . . . Remington Rand. There is nothing comparable to the service it renders, here or abroad. No such central station for the reception of ability and intelligence, and the broadcasting of proved, *exact* methods, has ever been in existence. It offers a single source of supply for business equipment. And it combines 4,000 trained business analysts into a field force that can beat down the most complicated obstructions to better business.

A telephone call ... makes every man in this army your ally, at no cost to you

WRITE or telephone for a Remington Rand man. No matter what your need, it will be met adequately and with intelligence. No matter what your problem, it will receive the attention of a trained mind. Hit-or-miss office arrangements, stumbling routine, inefficient machines and ineffective employees may be costing you hundreds, even thousands of wasted dollars. Get the truth. Telephone our local office, or write Remington Rand Business Service Inc., Remington Rand Building, Buffalo, N. Y.

Remington Rand

BUSINESS SERVICE

REMINGTON Typewriters and Accounting Machines . . . LIBRARY BUREAU Filing Systems and Indexing Service RAND AND KARDEX Visible Records . . . SAFE-CABINET . . . INDEX VISIBLE . . . POWERS Accounting Machines DALTON Adding and Bookkeeping Machines . . . KALAMAZOO and BAKER-VAWTER Loose Leaf Equipment Sales Offices Everywhere

A Job for the Handy Man

Continued from page 23

dragged her aside and demanded fierce-

ly: "How long has this been going on?" "For years!" said Marian. "For years!"

Later it occurred to them both that they might have been talking about different things; but by that time their

lawyers were arranging a polite divorce. Times had changed, Marian reflected when she had been a business woman for a few months. The agonized struggle of the first weeks was over, when she labored to take dictation swiftly and type it accurately with fingers that had somehow lost their knack in years of sewing on buttons. Now she had mastered her job; she earned the forty dollars a week that bought less than thirty had bought before she was married.

She missed the spaciousness of the house on Long Island, the warmth of the furnace over which Paul used to putter. The radiator in her furnished room was more like a refrigerator. Still she was free, or would be as soon as the decree was made final.

ONE day Mrs. Bassett met her on the

street, and stopped her. "I hear you're divorcing Paul," she aid. "It's none of my business, but I think you're a damned fool. I just want to get that on the record." "Thanks!" said Marian. "But it really isn't your business, is it?"

"Only this far-that I had to do most of his work for him at first; he was mooning around like a lost soul. You'd only have had to whistle to bring him

back. Now---" "Yes?" said Marian breathlessly. "Now--?"

"Now he's working twelve hours a day-the way I worked when I was fighting for my promotion. If he'd done that then he'd have got it, not I. But he never started till he had to pay ali-mony."

"I haven't taken a cent of his money! I earn my own!"

"And what a lot of fun that is," said Mrs. Bassett. "Then he's working be-cause he can't bear to go home. . . . What's become of your child?"

"He kept her; he's got an excellent governess. I see her every Sunday, of course-

"And him?" asked Mrs. Bassett, with

a strained alertness. "He plays golf on Sundays.... Not that it concerns you, does it?" "Not a bit. But if I'd had what you

had-and you used to envy me, didn't nad-and you used to envy me, duft t you? Oh, I could see it. . . . It's a cutthroat game, my dear. We all want everything, and there isn't enough of it to go around." "Really," said Marian stiffly, "I don't think "

think---"

"There's to be a new vice-presidency in our organization before long," Mrs. Bassett interrupted. "I'd give my eyes for it, but they won't give it to a woman. At the rate Paul's going, he'll get it. . . You can't tell me money makes no difference. So if that will make dif-ference enough—" "No!" Marian blazed. "After the

things we've said to each other, noth-ing will ever make difference enough!" She hated to think of it or talk of

it, but worst of all she hated the suspicion that Paul had sent Mrs. Bassett to do his talking for him. . . . Or perhaps—Marian gasped. Perhaps she had been talking for herself. It was a cutthroat game, but some women played it fairly.

At first, when she went to see Jane. Paul was at home, and they made a

ghastly pretense of friendliness. That ning a Christmas present for Paul; but fingers bringing the chaos to order. In had been dropped; now she had Jane to herself on Sundays, and the child who saw her rarely loved her more than She seemed healthy enough; but whenever her mother left her she burst into hysterical weeping. So in October just after the decree was made final -Marian wrote to Paul that she wanted to talk to him. He took her to lunch town; silly that they couldn't be friends, she mused as they ate in si-lence, their stiff formality covering a hair-trigger tension. Then, when their cigarettes were lighted— "Fire that governess!" said Marian.

"She's perfect; she does things for Jane I never did and never could do. But she's a machine."

"I live in that house too," he growled. 'A machine was what I wanted." "Somebody who wouldn't talk back?"

(She wondered what drove her to jab him like that.) "But a machine won't do. Jane needs to be loved. Oh, I know you love her, but-

"I'll have more time for her." he said, "after Christmas. There's to be a change in the office---

"She needs more than you can ever give her, Paul."

"Well, you're a fine one to say that! If you hadn't-" "If you hadn't-" she countered furi-

ously. His fingers were twisting; he half started up. For an instant she thought he was going to strike her or seize her hands; she waited, weak and breathless—he pushed back his chair and got up, with a wry grin.

"What a pair of fools we are, Marian! Let's try to be decent, anyway." He eyed her sharply. "That suit's posi-tively threadbare. There's no sense

your not letting me-" "Not a nickel!" she told him, trembling with rage. At least she supposed it must be rage, though it didn't feel much like it afterward.

That week she took all the money she had and bought a smart new suit. She wore it out to Luxuriant Gardens on Sunday, but Paul had gone to play golf, so the gesture missed fire. Jane per-plexed her with talk of Aunt Flora and Elinor.

"Elinor's Aunt Flora's little girl," the child explained eventually. "They were out here yesterday to spend the dav.

"But who's Aunt Flora? I thought I knew all your father's people." "Why, that's Mrs. Bassett. She asked

me to call her Aunt Flora. Daddy said it would be all right."

"Oh!" said the woman who still called herself Mrs. Sturges.

 ${\displaystyle S}_{later}^{O}$ WHEN he called her up a few days later and asked her to go to lunch she refused.

"But I want to talk to you!" he insisted, and she was just about to say "Yes" when he added, "About Jane.... No, no—she isn't sick. But if I let the governess go I'd hardly know what—" But if I let

"You'd better ask Aunt Flora," said Marian miserably.

They arranged by an exchange of diplomatic notes, stiffly formal, that Jane was to have her Christmas in two installments. On Christmas Eve her mother was to come out for dinner, while Paul went to the club. The next day he and Jane were going to have guests: he didn't say who they were but Marian was in no doubt. She would spend that day in her furnished room.

after she saw that Electric Village in the toy store window she was thankful that all her Christmas money could be spent on Jane.

And she was very happy with Jane, in the warm spacious house, beside the tree that Paul had trimmed and lighted before he went off to the club. He had left no present for Marian, but when she opened the big box that Jane proudly gave her she knew he had collabo-rated; for here was a supply, a whole winter's supply, of the French underwear she loved. . . . Everything came too late, Marian reflected, as she began

to unwrap her gift for Jane. "O-o-oh!" the child screamed as she saw the name on the box. "The Elec-tric Village! I saw it when I was in town one day with Miss Todd. Next day Daddy went to look for it, but it was gone. And you-'

"I got it for you, darling. Now as soon as we get it set up—" Marian's voice faded out; she'd had

no idea there were so many pieces when the thing was taken apart. And wires, and switches, and connections; and appliances whose meaning she couldn't even guess.

"I'll have to look at the directions first." she apologized.

But the directions were a book; it looked as long and intricate to Marian as a textbook on engineering. Before she had even read it through Miss Todd, the governess, came in with the news that Jane must go to bed. Marian protested, and then argued,

and then entreated; and finally lost her temper and almost screamed. But to everything Miss Todd opposed a simple toneless—"I'm sorry, Mrs. Sturges. Mr. Sturges' orders." Sc Marian, who could give no orders in that house, had to see her daughter dragged off to bed, crying hysterically.

"Never mind, darling!" she called. "Mother will set up your village. It will all be ready for you when you come down in the morning."

WHAT optimism that was, she re-flected an hour later, sitting on the floor in the midst of a confusion of toy men, and toy houses, and wires, and lights, and jiggets, and doodads, that she understood not much better than when she had set to work. It was easy to get half of the thing together-any half; but after that the rest would fit in nowhere. And she must get it set up; Paul might come home at any moment-

Another hour; he hadn't come back, the work was still unfinished; and the last train left at 11:24. There was only one thing to do: Marian called up the club.

"Paul!" she said presently. "Come over to the house; I need you.'

He slammed the receiver on the hook: five minutes later he looked down from the doorway at Marian, sitting helpless on the floor in the midst of a heap of

"Oh!" he said. "So it was you who bought that."

"I knew you'd buy it if you saw it," she confessed, "and I wanted to do one last thing for Jane that you couldn't do -or that woman either. . . And now can't put the damned thing together. I hate to ask you to help me just as much as you hate to do it; but for ane-

"Yes." he agreed, "for Jane-" He sat down on the floor.

ten minutes the village was assembled but when he plugged in the switch noth-

ing happened. "Some connection I overlooked," he grunted. "It's been a long time since I tinkered with a job like this." "What?" Marian gasped. "When you've always loved to be busy fixing

things---

He grinned up at her-the first time either of them had grinned at the other in a year. "I fix things in the office, now. Our

organization's a worn-out machine; Flora Bassett's a great saleswoman but no executive. I'm doing a lot of tinker-ing and patching in the organization that ought to have been done years ago. Keeps me busy. . . . Now let's see if that switch will work—"

 $\mathbf{I}_{and}^{\mathrm{T}\ \mathrm{DIDN'T,\ but\ he\ kept\ on\ patiently;}}$ that the stiffness and tension had evaporated; she felt as much at ease with him here as if they were married. It was such a restful feeling that she never thought of the time till she heard the distant rumble of a departing train and cast a panicky glance at the clock

on the mantel. "Paul!" she gasped. "I've missed the last train!"

"Too bad!" he muttered absently, and twisted something in the mechanism of the Electric Village. Lights blazed in every house, a score of tiny figures set busily to work. He rose and came to her; he sat down on the chaise longue at her feet. She had flushed, and then turned white.

"Paul Sturges, you could have fixed that thing half an hour ago!" "I wanted to talk to you," he said.

"You never give me a chance-

"You never give me a chance—" "But this isn't fair! I can't spend the night in this house!" "It's a big house," he observed. "There's Miss Todd and the maid as chaperons. If that's what you mean." "You know perfectly well," said Marian shakily, "that that isn't what I mean. And I think it's rotten of you to torment me this way—" "Do you think I haven't been tor-mented, when you always hold me off?"

mented, when you always hold me off?" She didn't hold him off then; when his arms reached out for her she met him halfway. But presently she drew back and looked him in the eye. "All right!" she said. "But I'm going

back to town after breakfast. And if you—if you still want to marry Flora Bassett, go ahead. It's a cutthroat game; but she plays fair and so will I." "Flora Bassett? Who said I wanted

to marry her?" "Well, if she and her child are com-

ing out for Christmas dinner—" "Flora? Lord no. Cousin Bert Foster and his family are coming out for Christmas dunner. Flora—well, I like her a lot, but—you're the only woman I want to marry. And if you-if you

feel this way-" "Oh, I do, I do! But, after all, this doesn't settle anything. At least not anything else-

"The worst things have settled themselves, Marian—money, and my thick-headedness, and maybe your itch for freedom. As for the rest—do you know anybody who's settled everything? But if we do try again-

Leaning against his shoulder, she began to laugh-a little hysterically, she was afraid.

"I'm not going back to town after It seemed unnatural not to be plan-th seemed unnatural not to be plan-chaise longue, and watched his skillful going to fire Miss Todd."

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG FI ECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Just One Thing



"Do you remember, you said you would give me anything I wanted for a New Year's present? Well, what I want is something for you as well as for me. . . . Is it a promise?"

THERE is one thing that every wife who loves her husband wants above anything else in the world that he may have good health and a long life.

How many thousands of wives there are who are haunted by a secret fear that their husbands are not entirely well —who steal glances, when the other is off guard, in an effort to discover the cause of that constant dragging weariness, those too frequent headaches, those mysterious fleeting pains. Almost every woman knows that sharp thrust of anxiety to her heart, that catch in her throat when she thinks something is wrong with the man she loves. What is it? What can she do?

No longer must a doctor judge the physical condition of a man by his unaided senses alone. Now, by means of marvelous instruments, he can actually look inside the body and watch the various organs at work! He can see the heart beat, the lungs contract and expand, he can watch the activities of the digestive tract. He can take x-ray photographs showing nearly every part of the body.

> So new are the discoveries of medical science in relation to prolonging life that the majority of intelligent men and women have not heard about them. So amazing are some of these discoveries that they are difficult to believe. That seems to be the only sensible explanation of the estimate that but one person in 500 has an annual health examination.

> To determine the value of health examinations, a group of 6,000 policyholders of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company were given physical examinations. These persons

©1928 M. L. I. CO.

The doctor today who has kept step with the great discoveries in medicine can sometimes learn important things about the condition of the person he is examining, merely by testing the blood or taking the blood pressure. He can often trace the cause of pain in some remote part of the body to infection in a sinus or tonsil. Frequently ailments of years' standing have been traced to unsuspected infection at the roots of teeth.

Doctors today need not guess. There are means for them to find out. They can detect trouble and in many cases check it before it has had time to damage the body greatly. Often their scientific examinations show the

beginning of serious ailments of which the person examined had not the slightest suspicion. It is folly of the most inexcusable sort to refuse to take advantage of the marvelous aids science has given us to discover and check disease and to prolong life.

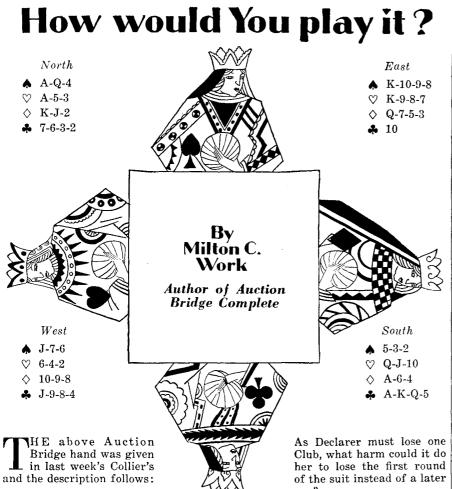
Make sure that your dear one has a thorough health examination this month. And why not have one yourself? No better New Year present can be made.

were advised to the extent they and their physicians deemed necessary on the proper way to conserve their health. In nine years the saving in mortality in this group was found to be 18 per cent.

The Metropolitan has recently prepared a booklet containing most important rules for gaining and keeping health. It gives much valuable information that tends to make life both long and happy. Send for booklet 19-C. It will be mailed without charge. HALEY FISKE, President.

Published by

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY ~ NEW YORK Biggest in the World, More Assets, More Policyholders, More Insurance in force, More new Insurance each year



The Auction

South opened with one No Trump. With this hand one school would try to find out where the strong Spades were located and so would start with a Club and approach the No Trump gradually. The other school would contend that bidding one Club does not picture the full strength of the hand; and in the long run the best results are obtained by bidding No Trump when the hand sizes up to No Trump requirements-

as South's hand surely does. West passed and North bid two No Trumps, which obtained this contract. This would be considered doubtful by some, because probably unnecessary. But, in spite of North's strength, it is possible that a bid of any one of the four suits by East, calling for that lead from West, might be embarrassing to South if North subsequently bid two No Trumps as she doubtless would.

At Contract Bridge South would bid one No Trump; North, with a count of 14, two over the minimum generally required for the double jump, would bid three at once.

The Play

West opened her only four-card suit, leading the Four of Clubs. Dummy played the Deuce, East the Ten. Declarer could then count three Club tricks, two Diamond tricks, two Heart tricks and one Spade trick-one short of game. Of course she had finesses to take in Spades, Hearts and Diamonds; and if these three finesses succeeded, she would make a total of eleven tricks; but even with everything right, there would be no chance for a Small Slam. The hand was of the type which we see occasionally, North and South having exactly the same number of cards in each suit, in which no opportunity is afforded for either hand to obtain discards upon established cards of a suit led from the other hand. It was absolutely certain that the Declarer must lose one Club and one Spade. She knew that West had opened a four-card suit, and, as Dummy and Closed Hand each had four Clubs, that East's Ten of Clubs played on the first trick must have been a singleton.

one? In most hands the De-

clarer wishes the lead to be up to the Closed Hand, and in such cases frequently utilizes a small card of the adverse suit to place the lead (late in the hand) with the adversary on her left so as to force her to lead a suit advantageous to Declarer. In this in-stance, however, the shoe was on the other foot. Declarer wanted leads up to Dummy. So she made the unusual play of placing the lead on the first trick by ducking East's Ten of Clubs, although she had three Clubs with which she could take that trick. East must lead a Spade, Heart or Diamond and, regardless of her choice, the lead must be advantageous to Declarer.

East selected a Heart. Declarer false carded, playing the Queen from Closed Hand, which held the trick.

Declarer now decided to see how discarding would affect the East hand; so to trick 3 she led the Ace of Clubs, on which East discarded the Trey of Diamonds. The King of Clubs produced from East a discard of the Eight of Spades and the Queen of Clubs placed East in an awkward position. Any dis-card she made might weaken her hand seriously. She decided in favor of a Heart. South then could read the situa-She decided in favor of a tion with great accuracy; she could place the King and one other Heart in East's hand, so she led a Heart from Closed Hand to trick 6 and won in the Dummy; and to trick 7 led a Heart from Dummy, placing East once more in the lead. It mattered not whether East led a Spade or a Diamond: either lead insured game for Declarer.

Next week's hand is given below: bid it and play it before you read next week's description.

North	East
S. A-9-3	S. K-5-2
H. K-7-6	H. Q-J-10
D. 10-9-3	D. 7-6-5-4
С. К-7-6-3	C. Q-J-8
West	South
S. Q-J-8-7-6	S. 10-4
H. 9-8-5-3	H. A-4-2
D. K	D. A-Q-J-8-2
C. 10-9-2	C. A-5-4

Marriage for Two

Continued from page 21

ex-fiancée he would know that it was through unwillingness to touch a sore spot.

Of course, the servants knew that the invalid in his bedroom was soon to become the mistress of the house. Tracy told Hogan, told him in a colorless voice that forbade any comment even from this devoted servitor. But Hogan had not offered the mockery of congratalation. As for Nurse Evans, her manner took on a strange coldness, but what did Tracy care?

And now, on this first day when Dr. Blanchard had given his consent for the patient to leave the house, they had driven downtown together and been married.

The ceremony itself had made no impression upon Tracy.

 $B_{implication}^{UT}$ now, as it receded behind him, its implications took hold, and all the conventionality that was his background rebelled against the outrageous thing he had done, the wicked thing that he had persuaded this young girl to do. Or perhaps, instead of these implications, this thrusting into the foreground of a hazy background, it was the expression on the girl's face that made him realize what he-she, too-had done. "How can one be sure of understand-

ing anything about a man like you?" she demanded.

He met her anger with an equal rage. "You value yourself too highly," he id. "You have nothing—that I want." said. "And I," she told him, "would never

"And I," she told him, "would never wish to give anything." "You may even," he went on, "rest assured that after your usefulness to me has ceased, I shall in no way inter-fere with any plans you may care to make for the future." "My usefulness," she sneered..."will

cease, I suppose, as soon as Miss Wilson is aware that you were able to forget your grief in marriage?"

"Not quite," he said. "I do not wish her to think that I merely-was married. I wish our marriage, apparently, to be a happy one."

"You think we can successfully im-pose such a pretense on anyone?" she asked.

"Unless you try," he said, "I shall feel that what you said—about being willing to repay me, was a cheap promise, with no honest intent behind it." He felt, angrily, that he sounded

bookish, unreal. But the situation in which they found themselves was so outside his experience that he knew no way to meet it. "I shall keep my word," she said.

Then she turned her head away from him, and they arrived in silence at the house. Behind Hogan could be seen the smiling face of Nora and Kinjo, the Jap cook, a chef's cap looking strangely out of place above his swarthy countenance.

But the welcome that had been planned for the bride and groom died a-borning. Even loyal old Hogan could not maintain the pretense of celebration. Not in the face of the set, stern countenances of these two young people. So the planned boisterousness became a curtsy on the part of Nora, a sickly grin on the part of Kinjo, and an abashed lowering of the eyelids on the part of Hogan.

Then, in the library, the young couple were alone. Tracy was first to break

the silence. "It is usual," he said, "for a newly married couple to go on a wedding trip." "Whatever you like," she replied, indifferently.

"It's what you like," he said. "I?" She shrugged. "If my usefulness"-she stressed the word-"can be increased by a wedding journey, then I suppose it is my duty to become en-thusiastic at the prospect." He sat down deliberately, first plac-

"Suppose," he said, "that we come to a reasonable understanding. Anger, recrimination, quarreling, will get us nowhere. We both very deliberately did a thing. We are both—well, not proud a thing. We are both-well, not proud of it. But-we've done it. We must continue, so far as the rest of the world is concerned, to pretend we are happy. That will be difficult if-we quarrel when we are alone. I shall not inflict myself upon you forever. After a reasonable length of time, I shall not interfere with your procuring a divorce. In the meantime, suppose we show that courtesy to each other which will make it possible for us not to be-too miserable."

Her face softened slightly. "Let's," she said, with a return of the Lets, sne said, with a return of the impulsiveness that had seemed part of her. "At least, if we despise our-selves, let's not try to despise each other."

"Fair enough," said Tracy. They found themselves shaking hands on the bargain, and Tracy was aware of the fact that her hand was both soft and firm at the same time.

"I should like, if you don't mind, not to go anywhere," she said. "I-I'm still tired."

"Of course," said Tracy. He watched her go from the room, and he was conscious of admiration for the dignity with which she moved. In the doorway she stopped and looked back.

"May I-dine in my room?" she asked. He nodded assent. Then she was gone. He sank into a chair, to remain, absolutely still, until Hogan announced din-ner. Then, white, strained, worrying about what Hogan was thinking even while he assured himself that it didn't matter what Hogan thought, he dined. That ordeal successfully undergone, he instructed Hogan to tell any newspaper men who, having learned of his marriage, would wish to revive the sensation of last week that he and Mrs. Tracy -how odd the title sounded—were out of town. Then he went to that room which he had occupied since Joyce's arrival in his house.

OW cheap a thing revenge was! And How futile, especially when one's revenge reacted—as all revenge must— upon one's self. What an ass! What a wicked fool! He, Laurence Tracy, to have married a woman about whom he knew nothing beyond the fact that her name had been Joyce Carroll. But there were, in this city, others

who knew more of his wife than the man who had married her. And one of these, aptly though not euphoniously known as Ratty Rogan, looked up from the evening paper, with its glaring headline:

LAURENCE TRACY MARRIES JOYCE CARROLL Jilted Fiancé of Helen Wilson Finds

Solace with Another Girl

"So," said Rogan, "that's where she went. That's what happened. How in hell did she cop herself a swell like that? And what do I get for keeping me mouth shut about—everything? For the Tracy-Carroll wedding was to

stir more than the upper world. The underworld would ripple also.

(To be continued next week)