

ON THE SIDE WITH E. V. DURLING

The shadows fall about me like a cloak,
A shroud that hides me from the world
and you;
I sit alone and once again relive
The love we knew,
I see you happy, carefree walk—your
eyes
Revealing wordless little thoughts—
Your smile
Gleaming from lips I love—do you
grieve, too—
Once in a while?

—ANNE MORRIS
(Contributed)

Sale of Peggy Mitchell's "Gone With The Wind" has reached 1,000,000 copies. There have been only about seventeen books written in this country which have sold over a million copies. And Gene Stratton Porter wrote four of them! These were "Freckles," 2,000,000; "Girl of the Limberlost," 1,700,000; "The Harvest-er," 1,600,000, and "Laddie," 1,500,000.

ALMOST CONFIDENTIAL

Item from Hollywood Reporter of January 22: "Larry Darmour's 'Trouble in Morocco' troupe in Yuma, Ariz., for 'Sahara Desert atmosphere' couldn't work yesterday. It snowed." Yarn is headed "SANDS OF THE DESERT GROW COLD" . . . Statistics, of which I am probably reading too much, reveal there are more men to women in Nevada than any other State. This doesn't mean a thing in the way of advantage to women though. I have never been in a State where men paid less attention to women than in Nevada, particularly in Reno. Beautiful females pass along Reno's main stem all dressed up with new outfits, snappy hats and what not and the males never give them a tumble. Cruelty to women I call it. . . . Remember when during autoists featured pennants indicating what town they were from. This method was somewhat sophomoric but the basic idea was good. Why not license plates indicating name of autoist's town? While in Kearney, Neb., summer before last I saw two young fellows in a California car and they had an added sign on their license plate which read "Hollywood." And the Kearney girls sure were falling for that thinking these fellows were assistant directors at least. Remember this, young fellow, next time you motor east. It's a great gag. . . . Howard Dietz, song-writer and M.G.M. advertising manager, married into a fortune of around sixty million when he made the Guinness brewery products heiress, Rt. Hon. Tansil Guinness Montagu, his bride. In addition to writing such songs as "Something To Remember You By" and "Dancing in the Dark" Dietz originated the M.G.M. Lion trademark. He did his first writing under name of "Freckles" for Franklin P. Adams's Conning Tower Column in N. Y. Tribune. And remember if anyone who contributes to this column now ever marries a girl or dame worth sixty million don't forget the Old Doctor, will you?

PASSING BY

Max Reinhardt. The old master himself. Here to direct for Warner Freres. But no Shakespeare this time. Instead something called "Casino" featuring Ruby Keeler and Edward G. Robinson . . . Bob White, Newspaperman. Play "Deadlines" he wrote with Gerald Burnett is to have a New York production. I must dust off my play one of these days. I have a second act finish that doubles me up with laughter every time I read it. . . . Irene Castle McLaughlin. Seems like just the day before yesterday I saw her and Vernon dancing at Castles in the Air in Manhattan. Irene is originally from New Rochelle, town immortalized by George M. Cohan in "Forty-Five Minutes From Broadway." Eddie Foy and all the little Foyes used to live in that town and I once coached the high school baseball team there. . . . I. E. C. adwick. Independent film producer. Once known as the King of Poverty Row. Chadwick's hobby is first editions on the authenticity of which he is said to be one of the leading authorities in this country.

MARRYING JUSTICE RETIRES WITH FORTUNE

Freeman of Yuma Hears 26,000 Couples Say "I Do" in Nine Years' Ceremonies

[This is the second of a series of articles describing the proportions to which the marriage industry has risen in Yuma, Ariz., the Gretna Green for impatient sweethearts, since California passed the law requiring three days to elapse between the application for a marriage license and the granting of same.]

BY PAUL WHITNEY

It may seem strange—this marriage business in Yuma—and half the townspeople may be chiseling on the other half; but it's legal! It's on the up and up! Nobody can yell graft and even the suckers are given an even break. The only ones who can protest are the ones who haven't thought up a scheme for cashing in on the set-up. That takes brains; and even a cursory glance at the Yuma bride-and-bridegroom industry is enough to convince one that when the brains were passed out not many of the Yuma boys and girls were caught holding thimbles.

They're smart, these folks across the Colorado River. They're too smart for most of the lovesick Californians who flee to Yuma to get plucked rather than give their romance three more days to run in their home towns. Because it is to evade California's three-day marriage act that most of these couples hasten to Arizona.

MAJOR OCCUPATION

Justice of the Peace Earl A. Freeman—Arizona's marrying judge—foresaw the possibilities of the wedding industry shortly after the legislators in Sacramento voted aye. Performing marriages was his major occupation for nine years. During that period he heard 26,000 couples say: "I do." He is said to have accrued a sizeable fortune in fees from men and women who just couldn't remain single three days longer.

Justice Freeman never shied from publicity. He loved a newspaperman's camera almost as much as he loved the book from which he read the sacred words that made a boy and girl husband and wife.

ACTORS FLOCK TO HIM

There was a quaver in his deep-throated voice when he almost chanted the ritual—as provided in the Arizona code of civil law.

He was an actor and the actors of Hollywood flocked to him to be married.

He'd climb out of bed at any time of night to collect—that is, to perform a marriage. Claudette Colbert kissed him full on the lips. Jean Harlow was more discreet, and chose his ruddy cheek. Gloria Swanson, Loretta Young, Marjorie Rambeau, Heather Angel, Evelyn Laye and Lily Damita were among the grist of picture stars who osculated in one way or another.

LOS GATOS SEARCH

Meanwhile, search spread near Los Gatos, 300 miles north of Los Angeles, for Lawrence R. Rogers, former Pennsylvania police officer, a Mattson kidnaper suspect, who is said to be hiding at a ranch.

Rogers, also known as Lawrence A. Bell, is sought as one of the two bandits who shot 18-year-old Harriet Woody here last May 17 when she attempted to block a hold-up in her mother's service station at 3300 West Stauson avenue.

GUNMAN GAVE TIP

Detective Lieutenant Jerry Devine, who recently returned Mike Sberne, Chicago gunman, to this city to stand trial for the shooting, gave Federal Bureau of Investigation agents the Los Gatos hide-out tip.

"Sberne, in attempting to make a deal to reduce his bond, offered to lead me to a ranch."

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THREE CHILDREN EAT ANT PASTE

Hospital Treatment Saves Their Lives

Experience is a difficult teacher, but the lessons it taught three Los Angeles youngsters about ant paste yesterday probably will not be soon forgotten.

Four-year-old Johnny Hardman, 11249 South Vermont avenue, and his brother, David, 3, were playing in their home with Bonnie Hoffman, 5, 11251 Vermont avenue, when they discovered "molasses in a bottle."

A spoon was procured and the three sat down to enjoy their find, consuming more than half the liquid before it was snatched from their hands by Mrs. Hardman, who took them to Georgia-street Receiving Hospital. Dr. Arnold Saverien officiated at stomach-pumping ceremonies to relieve ant-paste poisoning.

Having learned their lesson, the three were returned to their homes out of danger.

ELECTRIC SIGN ATTRACTS BRIDAL COUPLES



Justice Winn of Yuma is pretty proud of his Neon sign which attracts bridal parties to his house after dark. Installation of the advertising sign was made shortly after he succeeded Justice Earl Freeman as the marrying justice of the Sunshine City. Times photo

MARIE PREVOST AND MOTHER TO BE CREMATED TOGETHER

The loneliness which attended Marie Prevost when death ended her motion-picture career will vanish this week when her ashes join those of her mother in double cremation rites.

This was made known late yesterday by the actress' sister, Peggy Prevost, wife of a San Francisco shipping firm executive, who arrived in Hollywood to arrange the funeral.

BODY TO BE EXHUMED

Mrs. Prevost preceded her daughter in death eleven years. Her body, buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, will be exhumed to be cremated with the body of the motion-picture actress whose lifeless body was found, lying face down on a wall-bed in a small Hollywood apartment last Saturday.

Tentative arrangements call for strictly private services, the actress' sister said.

SAME READER

Distracted over her sister's death, Miss Prevost is remaining with close friends at 925 South St. Andrew's Place.

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THEY LEARN SWEET THINGS MIGHT NOT BE GOOD

Character studies of three youngsters who learned from experience that ant paste is decidedly different from molasses. Bonnie Hoffman, 5 years of age, left; David Hardman, 3, center, and his brother Johnny, 4, were playing in the Hardman home when they mistook the poison for syrup. The result was a visit to Georgia-street Receiving Hospital where they had their stomachs pumped out.

DOCTOR DIES IN CRASH; WOMAN FATALY HURT

Two Others Lose Lives in Accidents, Raising Toll for Year to Ninety-six

Dr. Frank D. Sweet, Long Beach physician and surgeon, was killed last night when his automobile collided with another car driven by Lester W. Dearing, of 128 Camden Drive, Beverly Hills.

An hour and a half after the crash, Dearing's wife, Mrs. Dolly Dearing, died at Seaside Hospital, Long Beach, from injuries received in the crash. Dearing and the physician's wife are in the same hospital seriously injured.

The deaths of Dr. Sweet and Mrs. Dearing increased the day's traffic death toll to four, bringing the year's total to ninety-six.

HURLED TO DEATH

Hurled through the windshield when the car in which he was riding as a passenger crashed head-on into another machine, Raymond Peral, 28-year-old bus boy of 327½ South Avenue 20, was killed instantly early yesterday.

Sixty-year-old Dave Finestine of 2553 Ganahl street, a pedestrian, later died of injuries suffered when he was struck and thrown twenty feet by another car.

Two drivers involved in weekend crashes were held on charges of suspicion of felonious drunk driving.

CRASH KILLS DOCTOR

Dr. Sweet, living at 1203 Pacific avenue, Long Beach, died almost instantly after his car crashed with Dearing's machine on Santa Fe avenue, north of LaCroix of the studio fire department were given treatment at the emergency hospital near the set.

Battalion Chief Schramm of the West Los Angeles department was taken home after his companies had aided studio fighters in controlling flames. He was badly gassed by the smoke pouring from the corks linings of the soundproofed stage walls.

STAGE LEFT RUIN

Completely decorated as the interior of a European cafe's gaming room, Stage 3 at the Westwood Hills studio plant was a total loss. Damage to the set alone was estimated at \$50,000.

Even more loss will result, according to Robert Fairbanks, studio manager, for the company's latest picture, "Cafe Metropole," was due to start this morning on Stage 3.

FILM DESTROYED

Another \$150,000 went up in crackling flames and smoke, Fairbanks said, when part of \$2,000,000 worth of film in the cutting rooms adjacent to the stage walls.

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PEDESTRIAN DIES

Finestine died at General Hospital of injuries incurred Saturday night when he walked in front of a car on Wabash avenue, between Fickett and Soto streets.

Max Glick of 2310 Cove avenue, 16-year-old driver of the car, was not held.

In a crash between two automobiles at Whittier Boulevard and Eastern avenue, Ann Koshermer, of 130 South Chandler street, Monterey Park, lost five front teeth and received a possible fracture of the right wrist and cuts on the body, for which she was held at General Hospital for further observation.

DRIVER UNINJURED

Another woman riding in the car, Stella Sasso, of 311 East Newmark street, Monterey Park, was treated for cuts and bruises about the head, and allowed to return to her home. The driver, Leo Mangini of the Rex Hotel, Los Angeles, was uninjured.

Police arrested the driver of the second car, James W. Gamble, of 132 West Francis street, La Habra, on suspicion of drunk driving, felony, after they reported finding a bottle of liquor and an empty bottle smelling of alcohol on the floor of his machine.

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Blaze Perils Fox Studio

Three Fire Fighters Injured and Loss Put at \$200,000

Flames swept through sound stages and cutting rooms at the Twentieth Century-Fox studios yesterday afternoon, destroying \$200,000 worth of scenery, equipment and unreleased films before four companies could control the blaze.

Firemen, blinded and choking in the acid fumes of burning cork soundproofing, battled the conflagration for more than an hour to save the \$10,000,000 Westwood Hills plant from general destruction.

FIRE FIGHTERS HURT

Burned and cut, Night Chief High E. Conlon and Serg. Frank LaCroix of the studio fire department were given treatment at the emergency hospital near the set.

Battalion Chief Schramm of the West Los Angeles department was taken home after his companies had aided studio fighters in controlling flames. He was badly gassed by the smoke pouring from the corks linings of the soundproofed stage walls.

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