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PROFESSIONAL

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"Do not attempt to evade," she warned. "I am deeply in earnest. Where is the—the—" She seemed at a loss to proceed. Finally she threw diplomacy to the winds. "Who was the girl with you—alone—at this hour of the night? I have a right to know and I had thought you a gentleman, though I should have known that no gentleman would have—have—" she finished lamely.

"Kissed you?" questioned the mayor, the frivolity scarcely gone from his voice.

"Certainly!" she flashed.

Bedight puffed thoughtfully at his cigar, the fragrant pungency of the tobacco wafting to Jackie as she stood in the moonbeam's path, the light giving an ethereal beauty to her trim, erect figure.

"It was wrong, I admit," he said impulsively, "I am willing to admit that—but I refuse to believe that no gentleman could be other than honored by such a privilege. As one who



Fired in the General Direction of the Moon.

has tried to be such, I would be willing to do it again if—"

"Mr. Bedight"—the voice was keen now—and the mayor hesitated. "I did not come here to bandy words. I never shall cease regretting that I am in a sense guilty of a misdemeanor which makes it impossible for me to condemn you as I should—but I warn you not to presume to justify further presumption."

Miss Vining paused effectively.

"But you have not answered my question, Mr. Bedight," she continued. "Who was the girl that came down the path with you?"

The man drew closer to her. The

flippancy was gone from his voice. His face was earnest.

"Miss Vining, you have inferred that I am guilty of conduct unbecoming a gentleman. A few mornings ago you ran after me in a spirit of mischief, and in the same spirit I caught you in my arms and kissed you. If I have hurt you I am sincerely sorry, but I, too, am reaping the fruit of folly. You have chosen to arm yourself with a distant demeanor toward me, you rebuff my attempts at entering the circle of your real self, you are "judge" both on and off the bench, distant, suspicious, haughty. You pursued me; I took toll. With your permission I promise to forget that you ran, but I cannot forget that I kissed you. I am not a boy. I have seen I do not know m

have been too busy trying to do something, to fall in love, or else I never have happened to meet the woman. Since coming here I don't know exactly what sort of an enchantment I have entered—but I do know that I cannot forget the ecstasy of the moment when our lips met. You may scorn me and it lies within your power to discipline me—or defeat me—but I shall not try to obliterate the thrill of that brief moment!"

Jackie Vining did not meet his eyes. In her heart she felt a strange, new feeling of elation, a softening of resentment, but women were theorems long before mathematicians struggled with right-angle triangles and hypotheses, and all their non-understandable descendants, beautiful and sweet and charming as they are, still persist in being man's hardest problem.

"Your frankness in some things," she said without emotion, "is commendable as your lack of it in others. Must I repeat my question and answer time? Who is the girl?"

The mayor spoke firmly and decisively.

"As a man who is at heart as much of a gentleman, I refuse to answer. The girl has done no wrong. She—"

"Mr. Bedight, on Tuesday night I saw one of my crowd of young ladies leave the arbor after a midnight night meeting with you. I had a chance to blunder upon you that night, again in the company of a young woman. There are no young ladies here, aside from our party. I feel a responsibility and I must trust your answering."

The mayor shrugged his shoulders.

"Who was she?" asked the "judge" for the fourth time.

"Why don't you ask her yourself?" said the mayor.

"Where is she?"

"The last I saw of her she went through that door," he replied, doggedly.

Miss Vining stepped toward the door and opened it. In the farther end of the boathouse a second door stood open and through it the moonlight streamed.

"I see I have been outwitted," angrily.

"May I walk to the hotel with you?" asked the mayor humbly.

"I prefer to go alone," she replied in a tone of finality, starting up the path.

"Miss Vining!"

It was the mayor calling from the dock.

She stopped.

"What is it, Mr. Bedight?" impatiently.

"You remember saying the girl with me must be one of your party because there were no other young ladies about?"

"Yes," crisply.

The mayor's voice had something of the old ring in it as he asked:

"Did you think of the colored cook?"

But the "judge," going up the path briskly, did not deign to reply.



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Cole's Hot Blast Heater maintains a continuous fire—also a steady even heat. It will hold fire from Saturday night until Monday morning (48 hours) without attention. It will hold fire over night with less coal than any other stove.

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- "3—That the rooms can be heated from one to two hours each morning with the soft coal or hard coal put in the stove the evening before.
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as Good.

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The
**Women's
Candidate**

By BYRON WILLIAMS

SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER I.—In a spirit of fun Mayor Bedight, a summer visitor, is chased through the woods by ten laughing girls, one of whom he catches and kisses.

CHAPTER II.—The girls form themselves into a court and sentence him to do the bidding of one of their number each day for ten days.

CHAPTER III.—A legislative measure opposing woman suffrage which dropped from the mayor's pocket, is used to compel him to obey the mandates of the girls.

CHAPTER IV.—His first day of service is with Max Andrews, who takes him fishing. They are threatened by a thunder storm and locked up, but escape.

CHAPTER V.—Miss Vining sees what she considers a clandestine meeting between one of the girls and the mayor. The next day he goes driving with Mabel Arney. They meet with an accident, are arrested and locked up, but escape.

CHAPTER VI.—The mayor returns to the hotel, finds the sheriff waiting for him, and takes refuge in the room of Tess Winters. He plans to get possession of the incriminating bill.

CHAPTER VII.—With Harriet Brooks the mayor goes to investigate an Indian mound. They are caught in a thunder storm.

CHAPTER VIII.—Returning late he has rather a stormy interview with "Judge" Vining, who seeks to find out who returned to the hotel with him.

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—North of Square Tahoka, Texas



gratulation to you and to all of us upon the likelihood that we shall soon have closer reciprocal tariff and trade relations with the great nation to the north of us."

And in a speech before the Republican club of New York city, delivered on February 13, 1911, Mr. Roosevelt gave emphatic endorsement of President Taft and reciprocity in the following words:

"I want to say how glad I am at the way in which the members of the club here tonight responded to the two appeals made to them to uphold the hands of President Taft, both in his effort to secure reciprocity with Canada and in his effort to secure the fortification of the Panama canal."

Explanation Does Not Explain.
In the face of this record Mr. Roosevelt now explains his antagonism to reciprocity by saying that he did not fully understand the proposition and endorsed it under a misrepresentation of its details.

Mr. Roosevelt's explanation is unworthy of consideration for two reasons. In the first place, a man in his position from whom advice and suggestion had been sought by the president of the United States ought not to admit having hastily endorsed reciprocity without knowing what he was doing. As a matter of fact, Mr. Roosevelt's letters and speeches above quoted are exactly in line with his record.

More than this, Mr. Roosevelt's explanation is an insult to the intelligent voter because in his letter to President Taft he says, "I firmly believe in free trade with Canada." This is going farther than President Taft ever went, because Mr. Taft's idea of reciprocity was to obtain valuable consideration in return for concessions granted. Roosevelt's free trade proposition if enacted into law would break down all the barriers between Canada and the United States and would cause tremendous financial loss to American farmers.

The fact is that Mr. Roosevelt was heartily in favor of reciprocity and of free trade with Canada until he made his tour of the west before the Republican national convention, when he found that reciprocity was unpopular. Then he shifted. His present attitude demonstrates his utter insincerity and shows that he is ready to do anything to catch votes. He is ready to endorse anything that he believes is popular and to condemn that which he thinks is unpopular without regard to his own convictions or wise governmental policies. The manner in which he has suddenly reversed himself in the hope that by so doing he would gain a few votes is an example of demagogism thoroughly typical to his character.

It is also important to remember that if a Democratic president should be elected reciprocity with Canada would soon be an accomplished fact. Inasmuch as the Democrats in the house of representatives voted for it and also voted against repealing the law which had been passed Democratic reciprocity is the kind that the Canadian newspapers are hoping Canada will secure, because it will mean that Canada will get everything from the United States and give nothing in return.

WILL GET MORE SALARY

Promotions and Increased Pay for 13,000 Railway Mail Clerks.

Still another evidence of Republican prosperity and President Taft's sincerity in endeavoring to benefit the toiler was manifested when he recommended to congress that the clerks in the railway mail service be classified and given an increase in wages. There are 16,700 clerks in that branch of the government's service, and the postal appropriations bill signed by the president carried with it the promotion with increased pay of 13,000 men on Oct. 1, 1912, and those not promoted on that date will receive more pay at the end of the current fiscal year.

The new law provides for three classes of railway postal lines with their transfer and terminal offices, the compensation ranging highest on the lines where the work is heaviest. Beginning with \$900 a year, all clerks who render faithful and efficient service receive annual promotions of \$100 until they reach the maximum of the successive annual grades, after which they may be promoted at intervals for specially meritorious service until

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ROOSEVELT AND RECIPROcity ISSUE

INSINCERITY AND DEMAGOGISM OF THIRD TERM CANDIDATE SHOWN.

WHY HE SHIFTED POSITION

How He Favored Reciprocity but Wrote President Taft That He Firmly Believed in Free Trade With Canada.

Although reciprocity is now a dead issue, it is worth while, for the enlightenment of those who oppose President Taft for his endorsement of reciprocity, to recall the position taken by Colonel Roosevelt upon that question. Mr. Roosevelt favors free trade with Canada and was an ardent advocate and supporter of reciprocity until he found that its endorsement would not help him in his third term race.

President Taft, while he was considering the question of reciprocity, naturally consulted with ex-President

Roosevelt. He knew that Mr. Roosevelt had been president, that he was familiar with the subject and that he was, at that time, a good and loyal Republican. When, in the course of a lengthy letter, he asked Mr. Roosevelt's advice, he reviewed both sides of the matter in impartial fashion. Mr. Roosevelt's reply was not only a full endorsement but he went so far as to advocate absolute free trade with Canada. Mr. Roosevelt wrote as follows:

Roosevelt for Free Trade with Canada.

"New York, Jan. 12, 1911.

"Dear Mr. President:

"It seems to me that what you propose to do with Canada is admirable from every standpoint. I firmly believe in free trade with Canada for both economic and political reasons. As you say, labor cost is substantially the same in the two countries, so that you are amply justified by the platform. Whether Canada will accept such reciprocity I do not know, but it is greatly to your credit to make the effort. Ever yours,

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Not only in his letter to President Taft, but also in speeches Mr. Roosevelt endorsed reciprocity. At Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 12, 1911, he said:

"Here, friends, in Michigan, right on the northern frontier, I have the peculiar right to say a word of con-

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