SWALLOWED UP

By Mrs. Wilson Woodrow

Illustrated by R. W. Satterfield

BEGIN HERE TODAY

Hope Ranger is held prisoner in a sanitarium conducted by a group of criminals called the "Combine." Dr. Kelsey is detained in the same hospital because he knows of criminal dealings of the superintendent, Dr. Bristow.

Hope and Kelsey escape in Bristow's car. The two take refuge in an abandoned house.

While Kelsey sleeps Hope hears Bristow's voice and knows that he has followed them. Hope surrenders to Bristow and tells him that Kelsey has abandoned her.

Bristow goes to consult with his partner, Nurse Copley, and, with Alderman Higgins, the real head of the "Combine." Juarez Charlie, adventurer and friend of Ranger, is following on a motorcycle a clew leading to the sanitarium.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

Higgins considered this; but, having neither objection nor suggestion to offer, turned to another phase of the situation.

"How about this cockroach with the motorcycle?" he demanded. "What's he up to, since he got turned out of the calaboose?"

"Saving his hide, I fancy. He knows enough to have a very wholesome respect for that message you sent him. They say he went to pieces badly, when he saw it, and he told S'monds that this part of the country wouldn't see him soon again."

Bristow thought a minute.

"The whole point is this," he said finally. "What Juarez Charlie may know or suspect is immaterial; we can take care of him, if necessary. But what he may have told Ranger is another kettle of fish. I hold, though, that every indication points to his having said little or nothing."

Hobo Bill pondered this, thoughtfully rubing his great, protuberant knuckles.

"You want to be a Master Mind!" He poured out a stream of obscene abuse. "What did you do, when you ketched that Kelsey gettin' an earful on you? If I'd 'a' been here, he'd have been jolted off so quick, 'twould have made his hair curl. Anita saw it was the only thing to do. But you wouldn't listen to her. You was running things. You wanted to try an experiment and handle the matter on smoother, more scientific lines. A nice mess your scientific handling has got us into."

He choked, unable to go on. His face was purple, his great, sagging body shaking and quivering, his arms beating on his chair.

Anita Copley was at his side. Bending over him, she tried to quiet him. Bristow stood aloof, white-faced and very stiff.

The gust of fury subsided as suddenly as it had arisen.. Higgins, after catching his breath, lay back in his chair. The purple slowly receded from his face, and left it gray and impassive once more. His hands ceased shaking, and again rested motionless on the arms of his chair.

When he spoke at last, it was in his usual grating monotone; but the settled, impervious quiet of his voice was more alarming than his outburst of anger.

"We can't take no more chances," he said. "We'll end this Hope Ranger job tonight."

"You mean—?" Anita Copley asked sharply.

"There won't be no such person tomorrow."

CHAPTER XXV.

One could have heard a pin drop. There was dead silence in the room, but it vibrated with the clash of opposing wills.

Anita Copley had dropped her lids, but the glitter of her eyes showed beneath her lashes. She was watching Bristow.

They were waiting for him, Higgins ready to negative anything he said, Anita longing for him to expostulate, that she might have the satisfaction of deciding against him. But even in this pass, he took pleasure in thwarting them, in following the opposite tack from the one they expected.

"Ah? Extreme measures?" He spoke quietly, implying by his tone that Higgins had not given a final decree, but had suggested an expedient which was open for discussion. "Well, if that is the only recourse, I am for it. But to give up without a struggle at this stage, to charge off so promising an enterprise as a dead loss—"

Higgins' wrinkled hand fumbled up to his chin. He showed that in spite of himself, Bristow's arguments had given him pause to think.

"You talk like you had something already up your sleeve," he squinted shrewdly through his glasses. "Judgin' by recent performances, 'tain't probably worth hell room. But I'll listen. What's your big idea, Doc? Spring it."

Bristow laughed deprecatingly. "You could hardly dignify it by calling it an idea. Just a suggestion that's been floating around in my mind while we've been talking. It's scarcely formed yet. It will take you to put it in shape, and work out the details."

Bristow paused the wink of an eyelash, and then plunged. "My idea is, return Hope Ranger to her father."

If he had been seeking to create a dramatic effect, he could not have succeeded better. Miss Copley's lowered lids shot up. She expelled her breath in a gasp that sounded like a hiss. Higgins reared back in his chair.

His face was purple, his body quivering, his arms beating on his chair.

Bristow ignored it.

"Suppose then," he was talking directly to Higgins, "instead of working under cover, and following our original plan of getting all we can out of Ranger, and then putting the girl out of the way, we come boldly out into the open? We notify him that we have reason to suspect his daughter is held here as a patient. We give him and his wife the opportunity to identify and observe her. But we do not let her see or speak to them. We explain that the shock might be disastrous in her present condition. Meanwhile, we are doing everything possible for the girl. We enlarge her privileges, give her the tenderest care, distract her mind, buoy up her spirits, and eventually cure her. Don't you imagine that her parents will be so grateful, that no fee I could name would seem exorbitant?

"More than that, I can easily convince them that she will require constant, trained supervision to prevent a recurrence of the neurosis. Alderman, we can capitalize that girl into an annual income. I'd occupy the position of family friend and benefactor, with all the business and social opportunities that the term implies."

"All very nice," Higgins ran his fingers through his straggling, gray hair. "Got some points, too. But how the devil, Doc, are you ever going to explain her bein' here, or square this up with your passin' her off as Anita's sister?"

"Oh, that?" He examined his finger-nails. "Why, Anita will simply have to disappear. Go to Tokio, or Buenos Aires, or some other charming place, and enjoy herself. Then we can very plausibly say that we were imposed on by one of our nurses, who introduced the dazed girl here as her sister. Our suspicions became aroused; but before we could question the nurse, she got frightened and took French leave. We can frame up a suicide for her, if it's necessary."

The Copley woman's agitation, which had been steadily rising, suddenly broke all bounds. She flung herself forward to face Bristow, her features contorted, her eyes burning.

"So that's your beautiful scheme, is it?" The low, restrained speech which she so carefully affected gave way to her natural coarse shrillness. "I'm to be the goat, and shoulder all the blame, am I? I'm to be conveniently shunted out of the way, so that you can carry on your love affair? Well, not by a damn' sight, Harvey Bristow!"

"I ought to order you into a strait-jacket." He looked at her with cold scorn. "You're a candidate for the violent ward, with your hysterical delusions. It's all too absurd to answer. 'Alderman, I ask you," he appealed to the old man, "who was it that first proposed this abduction? Whose idea was it? We all remember the day Anita came home chuckling, because a salesgirl in a shop had mistaken her for Hope Ranger."

"Yes; and you set right to work to see how you could do me and the Alderman."

"No, my dear; it was you who did that. Do you think I haven't fathomed what is in that warped, calculating brain of yours? Loring Ranger and his wife," significantly, "might soon die—the weight of grief and all that. Then you could appear as the missing daughter, and lay claim to the estate."

The old man, scowling in his chair, had listened keenly to their exchange of asperations. Now he seemed to weary of it, and leaning forward, he banged down his fist.

"Shut up, you two," he ordered. "We've had enough of this. I'll settle what's to be done."

He glanced from one to the other, reflecting.

"What you'll do, Anita," he laid down his directions, "is dress the Ranger girl in your nurse's clothes—everything, mind you, shoes, stockings and all—while you get into hers, and take her place. Then she, passing off as you, will go out tonight on an automobile ride, and have a fatal accident, all smashed up beyond hope of recognition. Anita Copley will be dead, and Verna Copley, the crazy sister, will be left on our hands, with no relatives to look after her. We'll get in a new nurse that don't know neither of you to take care of her; but of course we can't keep a dependent girl in an expensive joint like this. And so in a day or two, we ship her off to a public asylum, where she—that is, you—can get well as soon as you please. Then let Loring Ranger, or anybody else come snooping around here, if they want to. There ain't nothin' to be found out."

She considered his proposal, eyeing him doubtfully; and then nodded her assent.

"I'll take it on," she said; 'but, if you two are double-crossing me, God help you."

"There's only one point that bothers me," Higgins debated. How're we going to get this girl out to the automobile, so it looks like she goes willingly of her own accord?"

"Oh, I'll fix that!" the woman promised. "I'll tell her she's going to drive with Dr. Bristow.' She threw him a glance venomously triumphant. "She'll go like a lamb."

(To be continued.)

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ISSUE No. 41—'28

Belgian's Monarch After a Visit to African Subjects

KING RETURNS FROM BELGIAN CONGO

King Albert and Queen Elizabeth of Belgium going ashore at Antwerp. The queen brought back a bifurcated Zouave-like skirt which she is to introduce to her country-women.

Economical Baby Garments

A slip made to be worn under baby dresses 22 inches long can generally be worn without alteration until the child is three or four years old. Then, if there is anything left, it can easily be lengthened by stitching to the buttonhole side of the shoulder strap a neat piece as wide as the shoulder and of the same material. Point each end of the new strap and make a new buttonhole to correspond with the button on the slip.

When baby begins to creep his dresses are often in his way. As a result, they wear out rapidly, due to constant strain. The busy mother will find it a great help to put three large snaps on the under side of the hem of each dress so the skirt may be snapped together between the legs. The fasteners do not show, so the dress may be worn snapped together or not as occasion demands.

Simple Creepers

Creepers for the baby that are easily made as well as easily buttoned and unbuttoned, washed and ironed, are cut from a plain kimono or butterfly pattern and finished with a narrow hem at the bottom. Of the same material make a pointed strap about 4 inches wide and 10 inches long when finished and adjust it to the middle of the front of the dress so the strap will come up between the legs and button at the back of the garment. Make three buttonholes on the strap at the back, one at each point, and sew on buttons to correspond.

These are much more convenient than bloomers both in the making and ironing. When the child walks, the strap may be removed and applied as two pockets over the most worn spots, if necessary. This gives him a short play dress and the entertainment that a pocket always affords little folk.

Rompers that are thin and outgrown so it is impossible to wear underclothing beneath them, often make splendid nightgowns for summer without any alteration whatever. Such little garments of nicer material and in good condition may be cut off at the top of the curve at the crotch and finished with a narrow hem or a binding of color to match the material, to form a smock if the child is a little girl, or to tuck into jumpers or suspender pants if a boy With a little care in the selection of material and style for the trousers, one may get together remarkably attractive suits at practically little or no expense.

Utilizing Discarded Items

When the baby grows too large for his basinette it is often a problem ho wto use his sheets to advantage. One mother uses these in couples for slips for the older girls and nightgowns for the smaller children. The latter are cut from the kimono pattern and have a seam at the shoulder. The portions cut out under the arms furnishes material for cuffs on the sleeves or for lengthening the sleeves, and a straight band for a loose collar at the neck of the tennis-flannel gowns.

By the way, if these kimono-style garments are put together at the underarm seem by a strip of straight goods about an inch wide, they can be worn until the cloth is in shreds without being torn across the armhole. The straight piece takes all the strain that otherwise comes at a sharp cut in the material.

To apply such a piece, cut off the underarm edge of the pattern about ½ an inch on both front and back portions and stitch both to the straight strip, one on each side of it. On nightgowns and underwear the strip may be sewed to form a flat seam and if the selvages are used as much as possible when cutting or tearing the strips, only one side of each strip will have to be folded down to give a smooth finish.

Farthest North

Alaska Adds Buffalo Herd to Growing Big Game Preserve

Seattle.—Introducing a new game animal into Alaska, thirty head of buffalo were shipped recently to Fairbanks, where they will be turned over to the Alaska Agricultural School for experimental purposes.

It is the intention of the Alaska Game Commission, through funds appropiated by the last territorial Legislature, to perpetuate a great herd of American bison in the Yukon and Tanana River Valleys, where grass is abundant for summer and winter feeding. The buffalo were shipped here from Montana by the biological survey of the Department of Agriculture. The animals are two and three years old. Alaska now has a herd of Tibetan yak, great herds of caribou, many moose and vast droves of domestic reindeer. In addition to the general species of wild game the territory ranks with Africa in big game.

"Gertie: "I hear you're engaged to Jack, and he is such a shocking gambler." Jean: "Ah, but he has such winning ways."

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Orange Culture Spreads Across Plains of Judea

Palestinian Jews Plant New Groves in Costal Area to Supply European Markets

Jerusalem.—The economic position of Palestine, according to the report just submitted by the British government to the League of Nations on the administration of that mandated country, points to an all-around improvement during the last year. The trade returns show a reduction in imports of £410,000, while exports of home products show an increase of almost £600,000 over last year's figure. There were fewer business failures, an increasing number of workers were absorbed by industrial enterprises and many undertakings had to run to full capacity both in day and night shifts to cope with home and foreign demands.

A striking feature is the development of the new industries established by Jewish immigrants and Zionist capitalists domiciled abroad. Cement exports amounted to four times the quantity given in the previous returns; table oils to eight times last year's figure, and a substantial increase was registered in exports of leather goods, hosiery and cigarettes.

UNEMPLOYMENT DECREASES

Up to the present this trade improvement appears to have been consistently maintained, so that there is every hope of the Holy Land entering upon a new period of economic prosperity.

A shortage of workers is already noticed, for the majority of those without employment are either unskilled, or building operatives, or physically unfit. The Manufacturers' Association complains that progress is being held up in the leather and knitted goods trade, the clothing and other industries, owing to a lack of qualified labor; a new tannery, for instance, has been forced to import Italian and Greek labor from Egypt.

But the factor mainly contributing to the improved situation in the labor market, and bringing in new capital, is the impetus that has been given to the orange growing industry. A boom in orange culture, the most important branch of Palestinian agriculture, has spread over the whole coastal plain of Judea and Samaria. Thirteen thousand dunam (3,250 acres), were laid out in new orange groves this year, and for additional acreage negotiations are still pending. The area so far yielding crops is about 30,000 dunam, while another 30,000 have been planted in the last five years.

FOREIGN JEW CAPITALISTS

American, Canadian, Hungarian, German and South African Jews are rivalling their fellow Jews in Palestine in this industry, impelled by two weighty considerations: the will to rebuild the Jewish homeland, and the enticing prospects of substantial profits (about 20 per cent. net on the investment) to be derived from this rapidly developing orange production.

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New Color in Stockings

Apparently the public has shown signs of tiring colors which has held sway for several seasons. At any rate drastic changes are appearing.

Blues and greens matching the tones of popular dress materials are offered for afternoon wear, and a color called valerie for red dresses. A subtle pink, named petale, is in vogue for white and silver slippers, as is also a delicate stocking dayed in opalescent ombre tints. Soiree, a pale mauve, is suitable for all frocks in the purple scale. A yellow green is offered for evening dresses of chartreuse and willow.

Any Woman Can Look Stylish

By MAE MARTIN

Most stylish looking women know simple ways to make last season's things conform to this season's styles. Thousands of them have learned how easily they can transform a dress or blouse, or coat, by the quick magic of home tinting or dyeing. With true, fadeless Diamond Dyes, anyone can do this successfully. The "know-how" is in the dyes. Diamond Dyes don't streak or spot like inferior dyes. New, fashionable tints appear like magic over the out-of-style or faded colors. Tinting with Diamond Dyes is easy as bluing, and dyeing takes just a little more time. Only Diamond Dyes produce perfect results. They have been perfected by over 50 years' experince. Insist on them and save disappointment.

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