Rich in body and delicate as blossoms in its flavour

"SALADA"

(GREEN)

741

JAPAN TEA

'Fresh from the gardens'

Jungle Breath

by Ben Lucien Burman

THIS HAS HAPPENED:

Lincoln Nunnally, elderly chemist, meets, in Porto Verde, Brazil, his young friend, Vilak, who is concerned for the safety of his cousin, Elise Marberry, owner of a coffee plantation near Porto Verde. Several mysterious deaths have occurred and Elise has been warned to get out of the country.

Vilak, who poses at times as a barber and at others as Attorney Davis, believes Gaylord Prentiss, an enemy of Elise, may be involved in these deaths. He and Nunnally set out for Prentiss' house at night, which is guarded by barbed wire fences and a vicious dog. Elise follows and joins them. They are attacked by the dog. Next day Vilak is hastily summoned by Elise, who tells him her two-year-old nephew, an orphan, has been kidnapped. She suspects Prentiss.

NOW BEGIN THE STORY

CHAPTER XIV.

They began a steep ascent up a slope where the sides of the road were covered with red volcanic rock. The old man leaned over to Vilak. "I was . . er . . . glad . . . er . . . glad to hear you say it was Prentiss . . . yes, Prentiss," he whispered. "Er . . . . glad. After the things I've heard here . . . I was afraid it was something else . . . er . . . head hunters . . ."

He thought he had spoken softly, but Elise, whose senses were acute to the breaking point, nevertheless heard. "It isn't the head hunters," she answered drearily. "It can't be. There's only one tribe in all this region, and the chief of it is my friend. Last year he swore blood brotherhood with me and I gave him a good horse for catching some of my cattle that had run away. He wouldn't do this. He woudn't."

They reached the top of a hill, from which they could look down and see the valley in which Porto Verde lay spread out before them, the yellow rising river, the myriad tiny lakes above it, and everywhere else the green, black, inescapable jungle.

Directly in front of some flat rocks at the side of the road which afforded a natural resting place, the prints were confused for a moment, many and close together. "They may have dismounted here to smoke," Vilak said and leaped off his horse. "Always a good place to look for clues. Men are off their guard when they're resting."

He glanced about quickly. In a cleft of rock a glint as of gold caught his eye. He thrust in his long fingers and pulled out a small brass button of the embossed type seen in the United States only on the coat sleeves of small boys, but in many countries on peasant trousers and jackets.

"That's odd," Vilak murmured. "That's a button off the velvet jacket of Detto Cicerone, the chap with the missing teeth. I know that design of the acorn. The jacket's a rag, but the few remaining buttons on it are Detto's pride. There aren't any others like them in the town."

Elise's eyes brightened a little. "If it is Detto I'll be happy. He'll have taken Tinky just to get some money from me and what's money if I can get Tinky back?"

They rode on again. The highway narrowed to pass between two low cliffs of black rock, evidently part of the same volcanic strata which showed wherever a stone lifted itself from the tangled vegetation all about.

"Looks as if they're heading to Furnas Caves," Vilak said as the trail left the main highway and took a smaller road to the right. They turned into it and after half an hour stopped at a cross roads before a hole in some high rocks, almost sealed by bushes and interlaced vines.

"Logical place for them to come," Vilak declared as he surveyed the gloomy entrance. "All the crooks and smugglers in the neighborhood use it at one time or another. But apparently they haven't." He looked at the prints in the road farther ahead. "Hello!" he exclaimed. "Something's happened here. Here are the prints of four more horses coming down that side road and now our two horses go on ahead. Much faster. At a good gallop, I should say. I can tell that by the changed distance between prints, and the deeper impression of the forepart of the hoof. And the prints of these other horses seem to follow all along now."

The road dropped again and was bordered on both sides by dense swamp grass. Gray ant hills which the white termite ants, the scavengers of the jungle, had piled up until they were high as a man's head showed here and there against the green background like the fantastic dwellings of gnomes of some Eastern fairy tale. A swarm of tiny gnats swept down upon them, crawling into their eyes, their noses. The horses, harassed as much as their riders, kicked, stamped and whisked their tails frantically.

The old man coughed as one of the minute insects reached his throat. "Er . . . terrible little creatures . . . er . . . terrible," he murmured. "Er . . . exasperating. I hope we will soon be away from here. . . We are turning, aren't we? I thought I could tell by the sun."

Vilak slapped vigorously at a particularly vicious gnat which had settled upon his ear. "Yes, you're right. It's rather queer. The road we've been taking for the last few minutes takes us almost directly back to Prentiss place and Porto Verde. We're making almost a complete circle. If I remember this road rightly, it ought to come out near the railroad tracks where the bridge crosses the river."

A rise to the top of a low hill gave them a respite from the winged attackers. Two crudely made crosses, with two wreaths of florid artificial flowers at their base, marked the graves of two Porto Verdeans who had been killed by forest Indians. Another hill, another descent and they had come to the bridge over the swelling river, only a mile from the entrance of Elise's fazenda from which they had started. Here the number of travelers coming from the various crossroads had somewhat obscured the trail. Vilak jumped from his horse to study it, and walked a few hundred feet up the road in the direction of the camp of the railroad workers.

"One of our two men halted here very suddenly," he said to the others who had ridden up behind him. "There are marks where the horse slid when he was pulled up tighly. He dismounted here, too, and went into that clump of bushes. There are the prints of his feet again. The same prints that were in the ground at the fazenda. The bushes would indicate that he put something down here. Now he's back into his saddle and the two of them are away again as fast as they can ride, off through the woods in the direction of Prentiss' place. The prints of the four horses stop at the crossroads and go on to Porto Verde. Now what does that mean?"

The Mongolian slant of his eyes accentuated. He took out a pellet of betel and slowly put it on his tongue. "Looks as if there is a second trail of a man on foot wearing heavy shoes, leading from here to the railroad camp."

He was still absorbed, studying the soil, when an Indian came forward whom the old man recognized as the foreman of the railroad gang. He was an Indian who once might have come of stalwart aborigine stock, but which by promiscuous racial admixture had been degraded until almost all the original charactristics had vanished. His body was stunted, his lips thick and ugly, his chin blunted, his brilliant eyes shifting and uneasy. But the most prominent feature of his face was a great flat and mimpled nose, so large that it seemed almost a deformity.

He grunted a few words in a language which the chemist did not understand, though he had no difficulty in comprehending the signs which accompanied them as a request to come to the railroad camp. Vilak nodded acquiescence. They followed him swiftly.

As they stepped through the brush into the open where they had an unobstructed view of the camp, Elise, who had been riding in a sort of daze, gave a cry of joy and darted forward. On a blanket which had been carefully stretched on the ground was sitting a child of perhaps two years of age. It was dressed in a somewhat muddied white frock which contrasted sharply with its soft olive skin and black hair; its tiny red mouth was only revealed at instants behind the orange it was busily sucking. At the sight of Elise it gurgled with joy and waved a pudgy hand.

She caught it up and, radiant, ecstatic, smothered it with kisses. She gazed at it rapturously. "I'll never let you out of my sight again," she murmured. "Never, never, never."

The child gurgled a moment longer, then, as if trying to show that he had manifested sufficient emotion, dignifiedly returned to the chewing of the orange.

(To be continued.)

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

A TOWER OF STRENGTH

1929

New Assurances Paid for An Increase of $213,207,000	654,451,000
Assurances in force (net) An Increase of $504,322,000	$2,401,237,000
Total Income (net) An Increase of $28,110,000	172,857,000
Surplus earned during the Year	42,863,000
Payments to Policyholders and Beneficiaries	69,174,000
Surplus and Contingency Reserve An Increase of $5,869,000	72,807,000
Total Liabilities (Including Paid up Capital)	495,390,000
Assets, at December 31st, 1929 An Increase of $79,239,000	568,197,000

NEW HEAD OFFICE BUILDING

Rate of Interest earned on mean invested assets 7.02%

The high rate of dividends allotted to participating policyholders is continued and the special dividend on maturing policies extended and increased.

EXTRACTS FROM DIRECTORS' REPORT

New policies paid for numbered 161,391 for a net amount of $654,451,143.27, an advance of $213,206,752.36, or more than forty-eight per cent., over the previous year. This marked increase and the fact that the average policy, for the first time, exceeded $4,000, afford impressive evidence of the ever-growing popularity of the Company.

After deducting amounts reassured, the total assurances in force amount to $2,401,237,036.94, an increase of $504,321,102.37. This advance is notable not merely for its magnitude, but because when allowance is made for terminations by death and maturity, it represents a remarkably high rate of continuance, and evidences great satisfaction on the part of our policyholders.

The amount paid to policyholders since organization, together with the amount at present held for their security or benefit, exceeds the total amount received from them in premiums by $139,290,474.03.

The rate of interest earned on the mean invested assets has risen to 7.02 per cent. This figure includes a certain amount from bonuses and stock privileges accruing on many of the Company's holdings; but if these were entirely eliminated the rate would still be 6.60 per cent.

A net profit of $13,077,284.62 was realized from the redemption or sale of securities.

The surplus earned during the year, based on the values entered in the accounts, amounted to $42,863,578.59, but from this sum substantial appropriations have as usual been made to further strengthen the position of the Company.

An additional $10,000,000.00 has been deducted from the market values of our securities as a provision against possible market fluctuations, raising the amount thus set aside for this purpose in the accounts to $30,000,000.00.

A further $1,000,000.00 has been written off the Company's buildings.

$931,000.00 has been appropriated to raise the annuity reserves to the Rutherford table of valuation, with interest at 3½ per cent. This exacting standard requires reserves $2,656,000.00 in excess of those of the Dominion Government standard.

$1,200,000.00 has been set aside as additional provision for claims arising from total disability, death claims as yet unreported, and possible claims under cancelled policies on which a surrender value or reinstatement might be applied for.

$22,606,265.67 has been paid or allotted as profits for the year to policyholders.

The special amount entered as a liability to provide for unforeseen contingencies has been maintained at $12,500,000.00.

After making all these deductions and allocations, $5,868,899.96 has been added to the undivided surplus, bringing the total over liabilities, contingency accounts and capital stock, to $60,307,762.44.

In accordance with our usual conservative practice the securities owned by the Company have again been valued at figures much below the market quotations current at the close of the year. This undervaluation represents an important element of strength to the Company additional to the specific provisions in the statements.

Your Directors are pleased to announce that the high scale of profits at present allotted to participating policyholders will be continued during the ensuing year, while the Special Dividend on maturing policies, introduced last year, has been extended to include policies maturing after having been in force five years or longer and the scale of benefit has been increased.

The business of the Company has always been conducted under the exacting provisions of the Canadian Insurance law and the rigid supervision of the Insurance Department of the Government of Canada. Ever since we entered the United States in 1895, the Company has been under similar supervision there and is now subject to the regulations of thirty-eight States of the Union which require periodical examination of the affairs of all companies licensed in their territory. In the discharge of their regular duties a committee of twenty-two examiners, representing the States of Michigan, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Ohio, Tennessee, Washington, Virginia, West Virginia, Florida and the District of Columbia recently completed an exhaustive examination into every department of the Company's affairs. The report of this committee makes gratifying reference to the liberal treatment accorded to our policyholders, and provides authoritative testimony to the Company's strength. Even adopting the low valuations placed by us on our securities, the committee still reported a surplus at the close of last year $1,333,921.71 in excess of the figure claimed by the Company.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

Needless **Suffering**

The next time a headache makes you stay at home—

Or some other ache or pain prevents your keeping an engagement—

Remember Aspirin! For there is scarcely any sort of pain it cannot relieve, and relieve promptly.

These tablets give real relief, or millions would not continue to take them. They are quite harmless, or the medical profession would not constantly prescribe them.

Don't be a martyr to unnecessary pain. To colds that might so easily be checked; neuritis, neuralgia; to those pains peculiar to women; or any suffering for which Aspirin is such an effective antidote.

You need not hesitate to take Aspirin. It is *safe*. It is always the same. It never depresses the heart, so use it as often as needed; but the cause of any pain can be treated only by a doctor.

BAYER ASPIRIN

TRADE MARK REG.

Canada and the Empire

Geoffrey F. Bell in the Nineteenth Century (London): Canada's real contribution to the society of nations is in its interpretation of England to the United States and of the United States to England. It alone can understand both. Canada has mainly English institutions and a political system like ours, while at the same time she is daily mixing with American ideas. By sentiment and sympathy she is attached to England, but she is more akin to her big neighbor in current ideas and outlook. She knows both of the main branches of the English-speaking world, and yet she is distinct from both. She is as much a separate people from ourselves as she is likely to remain separate from the United States. She has an individuality distinct from both, and is not likely to be swamped by either.

Victus

When Beauty seeks to win thine eye,
I gaze my fill and fondly sigh;
When Wit delights to woo mine ear,
Then do I hold my breath to hear;
When Virtue pays her sweet address,
I long to prove my worthiness.
Each in her turn might win me—yet
Let each be absent, I forget.

Is swift assailed by all three—
But when my heart's security
The gods must surely pity me!!
—Esca in the Glasgow Herald.

Minard's Will Kill Corns.

All-Day Occasions

Charming Feminine Type Smart Folk Are Wearing for Street

By ANNETTE

234

A black silk crepe with lingerie collar of white lace which also appears in cuffs of fitted sleeve.

An applied band that starts at centre-neckline of bodice at front, merges into flare of skirt. This was indeed a clever idea of the designer to minimize the width, thus making this lovely model equally muited to the woman with mature figure as well as slim youthful type.

It fits very snugly through the hips and places its circular flounce of skirt quite low sa as to retain its slim lines.

Style No. 234 is designed in sizes 16, 18, 20 years, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust.

It's such a wearable dress and is always in good taste wherever it goes.

Canton crepe in navy blue with eggsell silk crepe collar and cuffs is very effective.

Printed silk crepe with plain crepe in blending tone is decidedly chic and economical choice for it can be worn through entire Spring.

Royal blue crepe marocain orangey-red flat silk crepe, Lanvin green crepe Elizabeth, black chiffon and beige Alencon lace make up interestingly for afternoons and Sunday night wear.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

The Mining Exchange

Toronto Star (Ind.): Such a state of affairs has been revealed in Ontario—and more by accident than by good government so far as this province is concerned—as clearly calls for the creation of a Royal Commission to investigate trading on margin as it has been carried on here and entire operations of many firms which have done a huge business using methods which bear the appearance of having been dubious in character.

A: "Do you always keep your word?" B: "I have to. No one will take it."

Minard's—50 Year Record of Success.

Liquor Profits

Victoria Colonist (Cons.): The funded debt of Quebec has risen from $39,457,869 in 1917-1918 to $81,052,695 in 1927-1928. It is significant that, despite the receipts accruing from liquor control, the public debt has gone on increasing, just as it has in British Columbia. The Quebec Government has anticipated that liquor receipts would go a long way towards liquidating the public debt, but this has not worked out at all in practice. Wherever liquor control prevails the proceeds have not meant either reduction in public debt or reduction in taxation. It is full time that such a monopolistic trade were translated into terms of benefit in the way of reduced taxation for the people who made it possible.

WRIGLEY'S

Life—like good golf—is made up of many little things each one of which helps the score.

Better digestion—steadier nerves—clearer brain, are all factors that count and are gained from the use of Wrigley's.

CR12

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