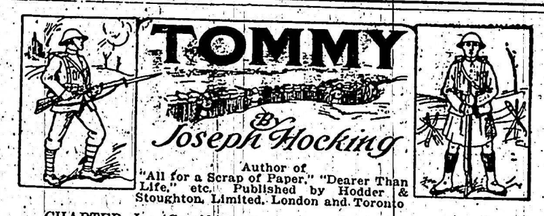

Author of "All for a Scrap of Paper," "Dearer Than Life," etc. Published by Hodder & Stoughton, Limited, London and Toronto

CHAPTER I.—(Cont'd.)

Yes, Alice looked pale and bloodless beside Polly Powell. Polly had no squeamish narrow-minded notions. Polly loved a good joke and a laugh, and was not tied down to Sunday-school rule. The daughter of the landlord of the Thorn and Thistle caught Tom's eye.

"I shall see you to-night, shan't I, Tom?" she said, looking at him languishingly, and then passed on.

Alice had become pale almost to the lips, and there was a look of steady resolution in her eyes. "You must make your choice, Tom," she said.

Tom looked at her for a second, then cast his eyes towards the spot where Polly Powell stood. He felt madly jealous of Jim Dixon at that moment. What right had he to be with such a girl as Polly? Besides, why should he give up all the fun of life? Why should he become strait-laced and silly?

Alice Lister held out her hand. "Good-bye, Tom," she said, "I see that your choice is made." And then she walked away.

Tom stood gazing after her for a few seconds, undecided what to do. Something, he could not tell what, urged him to run after her; to promise her what she wanted him to promise; to renounce the life which, although it might not be very bad, was still not good for him. He knew what she meant, knew too that she was in the right. No, he could not, would not give her up; he loved her too much. Then he felt a hand upon his arm.

"Ay, so you have got rid of her, have you? You must come back wi' me to tea!" Polly's hand was caressing, and her eyes burnt brightly; evidently she had been watching him, and had left Jim Dixon for him. He turned and walked by Polly's side.

That night as Tom walked back to Dixon Street his feet were unsteady and his voice was husky and uncertain.

"What's matter with thee?" said his mother as he entered the house.

"Nowt's matter wi' me."

"Ay, but there is. Thou'st bin drinkin agean."

"Weel, and what if I have? It's cost me nowt."

"Ay I know: thou'st been to the Thorn and Thistle after that Polly Powell lass. Ay, you ninny. I thought you looked higher nor that. What about Alice Lister?"

"She's got too much pie-jaw for me," said Tom sulkily. "I'm noan goin' to be a Methody parson."

"Thou'st goin' to be a bigger fool than I thought tha ever could be," retorted his mother angrily.

"Tha' tak's a bit o' doin'," replied Tom as he fumbled with his boot laces.

"Thou'st gi'en up a nice lass for a brazen-faaced 'uzzy; thou'rt an addle-eaded ninny. Can'st'a see?"

"Ay, I tak' after my mother," was Toms reply as he made his way upstairs. "Bein' fools runs in the family."

"It must or I should never 'a' reared thee," shouted his mother after him.

CHAPTER II.

What I have related took place on the first Sunday in June in the year 1914. Brunford, a large manufacturing town which stood well-nigh in the centre of the cotton district of Lancashire, had enjoyed what was called "a great boom in trade." Mills had been working overtime, and money had been earned freely. During the last five years poor men had become rich, while the operatives had had their share in the general prosperity. This fact was manifest in the general life of the town. The sober and thrifty part of the population had increased their savings. Hundreds of people had bought their own cottages, and had laid by for a rainy day. The thriftless were none the better for the prosperity which abounded, rather they were the worse. Big wages had only meant increased drunkenness and increased misery. Still all the people hoped that good trade would continue and that there would be plenty of work.

On the following day Tom went to work as usual, but he felt that a new element had come into his life. He was not given to self-analysis, but while on the one hand he felt suddenly free, he knew on the other that he had sacrificed something which meant a great deal to him. Still he would not think about it. After all, all the time he had been keeping company with Alice he left like a man tied to the end of a rope. He would now have his liberty. He was glad to be free from a girl who made him uncomfortable when he drank a glass of beer or went out to enjoy himself.

Tom was by no means a hero. There was a great deal of good in his nature, but there were coarse elements which affected him strongly. If Polly Powell had not appeared, it is possible, such was Alice's influence over him, that he would have remained true to his former ambitions, and probably have risen in the social scale. He was intelligent, and possessed a large degree of what the Lancashire people called gumption. On the other hand he was the child of his surroundings and of his order. The coarse life of the town had gripped him, and his home influences had not helped him toward the ideal which Alice Lister had helped him to strive after.

"Ay, Tom, I 'ear as Alice Lister has give thee the sack," said a youth a few days after Tom had parted from Alice.

"Maybe 'twas t'other way around," replied Tom.

"Why, yo doan't main that you chucked 'er?"

"She wur too goody-goody for me," replied Tom. "I am noan bean to be a saint, I am going to enjoy myson."

"Weel, tha' won't be a saint if tha' has much to do with Polly Powell. She's noan a saint," and the lad laughed meaningly. "Still her feyther's got a bit of brass. I reckon he will have all thine, Tom; Jim Parkin told me that tha' spent four shillings at the Thorn and Thistle last night."

"Well, what if I did?" asked Tom.

"Ay, it's noan my business, but I think thee'rt a fool. If a lass like Alice Lister took up wi' me, I would not throw myself away on Polly Powell. Thou'lt ne'er mak' much on 'er. She'll lead thee a dog's life, tom, and tak' all tha' brass."

"Well, I reckon it's my business," retorted Tom.

"Then it's a fool's business," replied the other.

This kind of thing made Tom uncomfortable, but it didn't turn him aside from the path on which he was walking. There could be no doubt about it, Tom's character was deteriorating, and during the next two months he not only declared that he had chucked religion altogether, but that he meant to enjoy life. Tom spent most of his evenings at the Thorn and Thistle, and as a consequence his studies were neglected. Not that there was much outward difference in him; he still remained fairly sober, although on more than one occasion he was seen leaving the Thorn and Thistle at closing time with staggering footsteps; it never caused him to lose any work, however.

Meanwhile dark clouds began to arise in the nation's sky. People had given only a passing thought to the news of the murder of the Crown Prince of Austria, but presently when Austria sent her outrageous ultimatum to Serbia, and the people read what Sir Edward Grey said about it, they began to talk seriously. For there is no part in England where politics have such a keen interest for the working-classes as they have in Lancashire. Almost every man there is a politician, and there are but few, especially among the older men, who have not an intelligent grasp not only of home, but of international affairs.

"I'll tell you what," said one manufacturer to another as they stood on the steps of the Mechanics' Institute, "those Germans mean war; they have been preparing for it for years, and they are trying to force it."

(To be continued.)

Home Bank Enjoys Steady Progress

Has Added $5,000,000 to Its Assets in Past Fiscal Year—Thrift Campaign Resulted in Gain of Over $2,000,000 in Deposits—Large Increase in Earnings. Earned 11.14% on Capital Against 7% Last Year.

In its annual statement for the fiscal year to May 31st, 1917, the Home Bank shows that rapid progress has been made during the past twelve-month period.

The Home Bank has for some time past been strengthening its organization and the benefits it has derived therefrom are shown in the growth and expansion of the general business of the bank, a healthy growth in deposits and an ability to carry out its entire share of all Government financing brought out during the year. In addition, it is evident that with its present effective organization and connections, the bank will be able to play a still more prominent part in the financing of Canada's industrial requirements in the post-war period.

The confidence the Canadian public have in the Bank is reflected by a gain of over $2,000,000 in deposits, these now reaching a total of over $12,600,000 compared with $10,133,735. At the same time there has also been a very large gain in deposits by and balances due to the Dominion Government, as they have advanced to $3,360,355, as against only $500,000 the previous year.

With the larger business which the bank has handled, there has been a gratifying increase in the net profits which amounted to $217,059.57, equivalent to 11.14 per cent. on a paid-up capital as compared with $133,406.26 in the previous year. After the payment of dividends and subscriptions to Red Cross, Patriotic and other funds, a balance was carried forward of $140,238, against $42,790 in the previous year.

The potato bug stands convicted of high treason.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE AT HOME.

Third Lesson—Inorganic Salts.

The chief salts found in food are sulphur, iron, sodium, magnesium, phosphates, potassium; they constitute about five per cent. of the body's weight.

The process of digestion does not change the nature of these salts because they are largely absorbed in the form in which they are eaten. Chlorides and soda, which are essential for the body fluids, are derived from animal foods. Phosphates, potash and lime are necessary for the solid tissue of the body and they are found chiefly in vegetable foods and water.

Salts are used in the body to regulate the density of the body fluids, to promote digestion, to harden ossious tissue, to give tone and vigar to the muscular tissues and to supply acidity and alkalinity for the digestive juices and other secretions.

Mineral salts are necessary for health. Disease results from an insufficient supply of them. Mineral salts have no food value. Some of them enter the body as essential constituents of organic material but they become inorganic after the organic matter is oxidized. Many other salts enter and leave the body in inorganic forms. Therefore it is necessary for us to eat foods that are rich in these vital life-giving elements if we wish to enjoy good health.

Sodium is needed for digestion and is a necessary constituent of the blood. Potassium gives life to the nervous system and it assists the heart in the performance of its duties. It also keeps the tissues soft, flexible and active.

Iron combines with oxygen. Therefore if iron is in the blood it carries the life-giving elements through the body.

Magnesium, phosphate and calciums are required for bone and tooth structure.

Meat is deficient in mineral salts, particularly lime, which is extremely important for the vital processes of the body.

Mineral salts abound in vegetables, fruits, whole grain, legumes, milk and eggs. This is not a condemnation of a meat diet, but a reasonable argument for a larger and better diet of whole wheat bread, corn, peas, beans, fresh vegetables and fruits, milk and eggs.

Tested Recipes.

Cherry Meringue.—Line a pie tin with good pastry and fill the plate with stoned and cooked cherries. Bake in a moderate oven for twenty-five minutes. When cool cover with a meringue made of one white of egg and four tablespoonfuls of sugar. Put in oven to brown.

Corn Muffins.—One and one-quarter cupfuls of white flour, three-quarters of a cupful of corn meal, five teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one teaspoonful of salt, four tablespoonfuls of shortening, one egg, one and one-quarter cupfuls of milk.

Raspberry Custard.—Two cupfuls of milk, five tablespoonfuls of cornstarch. Dissolve starch in milk and bring to a boil. Cook for three minutes. Remove from fire and add: yolk of one egg, one-half cupful of sugar, one-quarter teaspoonful of salt. Beat well, then pour into individual molds. Set aside to cool. To serve, turn from molds and cover with crushed and sweetened raspberries; garnish with a meringue made from the stiffly beaten white of one egg and three tablespoonfuls of pulverized sugar.

The Womanly Woman.

To-day there exists, as there always will exist, a woman who is striving to reach the highest pinnacle of success as a home-maker. She has never wavered from her true course of duty or swerved in life's purpose and plan. She is not a myth, this little womanly woman, but she is as actual and as real to-day as she ever was. She is the woman to whom we are willing to trust the welfare of the nation, for she has not run after false gods, or been lured by the siren voice of the outside world, but she has gone back to nature and has listened to the call of a man and the voices of little children, and she admits that there is nothing as satisfying or worth while, in the whole wide world, as the making the home and rearing of children.

Keep The Child Busy.

A child must be kept busy. It is his very nature to be busy and it is our duty to provide him with something that will keep him busy. As soon as the child knows the name of familiar objects, and can walk, he can be taught to do little things for mother, such as bringing her thread or thimble, dust pan, rubbers, etc., and these duties should enlarge as the child grows older. The child enjoys doing this, and it is training him to know he is not living for himself alone.

Bestow plenty of praise; children like to be told they have done a thing well, and it stimulates them to greater effort. Be careful not to praise work that you know has been carelessly done. The child knows that he has not put forth effort, and generally your look of disappointment is not forgotten, and the careless work is not repeated. But his activity should not be all work. The child needs more hours for play than for work, and it is our duty to furnish him with toys and books suitable to his age and taste.

A ROGUE BISON.

Exciting Adventure With the Dreaded Savage Beast of India.

Next to a man-eating tiger there is nothing that the natives of India dread more than a rogue bison. One of these beasts frequented a hillside in the Western Ghats near which Mr. Edwin L. Arnold, who tells his experiences in the Cornhill Magazine, had camped. The bison slept in the woods during the hot hours, and came out to feed only at morning and at night. One day it chased and nearly killed the wife of a native.

"Unless the sahib helps us we shall all be killed," the people complained, and Mr. Arnold, determined to kill the bull, set out at dawn the next morning. He followed the jungle path up the hill for a mile, and there climbed a lookout point and sat down to wait for daylight. Half an hour had gone by when he looked to the north, and there, not a quarter of a mile away, standing on a rocky bluff, a huge form was silhouetted against the sky. Just below where the hunter was sitting ran a shallow stream, and two hundred yards down its course grew a clump of bushes.

Sliding into the watercourse, the hunter crawled on hands and knees until the bushes were between him and the bison. Then, scrambling up the bank, he ran to the clump and peeped through the bushes. The bison had gone. Thinking that his quarry must be on the other side of the bluff, Mr. Arnold ran to the summit; but the bull was not in sight. For several minutes the hunter lay breathless looking this way and that. Then he turned round and saw the huge bison glaring at him only thirty yards distant.

The hunter fired hastily. The bullet struck high between neck and shoulder, and the next minute, with a tremendous bellow, the bull charged full tilt. He came down in a storm of dust and rattling stones; as there was no possibility of cover, the man waited until he was nearly within arm's reach and then jumped aside. Unfortunately his foot slipped, and, as the animal went blundering by, he fell heels over head. The beast shot past fifteen yards or more before it could pull up. The man came to a stand first, and opening the breech of his rifle, slipped in another cartridge.

Again they stood facing each other. Then, catching his breath, the man fired. The shot struck fair in the breast and the animal fairly reeled. But he charged again with extraordinary swiftness. The hunter stepped aside and the beast lunged at him with his horns as he passed. As the bull floundered by, another shot struck point-blank behind his ear. He went down with a tremendous thud, turned over, kicked once or twice and was dead.

That evening there were great rejoicings in the village, no end of chattering round the big fir tree, and a great amount of drum beating and garland weaving.

ANCIENT CANOPUS FOUND.

Excavations in Egypt Uncover Ancient City of Ptolemy.

The site of Canopus, one of the most ancient cities of Egypt, has been found, according to Daninos Pasha, who claims the honor of making the discovery. For many years he has maintained that its site lay somewhere in the region of Aboukir Bay, and apparently his contention is now proved to be correct.

Before the foundation of Alexandria, Canopus was the commercial capital of the country and the most important religious centre in lower Egypt.

Excavations have already brought to light a great public bath of the Ptolemaic period, about 150 feet in length. It is divided into twenty chambers, of which the largest is about 24 feet long and of the same width. There are rooms for various forms of baths, such as hip and mud baths, and a large hall which was evidently used for massage purposes and the preparation of aromatic oil.

Bronze coins found in various rooms bear the effigies of Ptolemy Soter, Ptolemy Energates and Queen Berenice. Of the several statuettes unearthed, the most interesting is that of a Chinese figure, which shows, it is contended, that in the dim past relations must have existed between China and this ancient capital of Egypt.

The worst kind of failure is the failure that is the result of only half trying.

Get Your Boy A

"NUGGET" Outfit

Teach him to take care of his shoes. No muss or dirt and in three minutes "Nugget" gives a shine that will last all day.

"Nugget" outfits in handy cardboard boxes 40c., in neat metal boxes 50c. If your dealer cannot supply you send us cost of outfit and we will mail same post free.

THE NUGGET POLISH CO., LIMITED
9 DAVENPORT ROAD TORONTO, ONT.

Not His Name.

In Dublin a zealous policeman caught a cab driver in the act of driving recklessly. The officer stopped him and said:

"What's yer name?"

"Ye'd bettther try and find out," said the driver peevishly.

"Sure, and I will," said the policeman, as he went round to the side of the cab where the name ought to have been painted; but the letters had been rubbed off.

"Aha!" cried the off[illegible] "now ye'll git yersel' into worse disgrace than ever. Yer name seems to be obliterated."

"You're wrong!" shouted the driver, triumphantly. "'Tis O'Sullivan!"

Have you running water in your home, or is your wife always running to the well or spring for it?

Never wash a sieve with soap or ammonia will clean it much better of a brush.

JUST POUR IT OVER YOUR JELLIES AND PRESERVES

That is the end of the sealing process when you use Parowax. No papers or strings to bother with—no irksome labor with jar tops. Just pour

Parowax

PURE REFINED PARAFFINE

over your jellies and they will be kept absolutely air-tight. No mold—no fermentation—and no trouble.

FOR THE LAUNDRY—See directions on Parowax labels for its use in valuable service in washing.

At grocery, department and general stores everywhere

THE IMPERIAL OIL COMPANY
Limited
BRANCHES IN ALL CITIES

Redpath SUGAR

2 and 5 lb. Cartons—
10, 20, 50 and 100 lb. Bags.

has sweetened half a century with the same crystal purity that makes it the favorite to-day. Buy it in original packages and be sure of the genuine.

"Let Redpath Sweeten it."

Made in one grade only—the highest

MEDALS FOR BRAVE WOMEN

WAR MAKES GREAT INCREASE IN DECORATIONS.

Military Medal Conferred Upon Nurses and Other Women as Well As On Soldiers.

The war has brought about a great increase in the number of Brave Conduct medals, crosses and other military decorations which may be won by women.

The new Military Medal for women was originally instituted for commissioned officers and was a reward for distinguished bravery in battle. It now conferred upon nurses and other women who have displayed conspicuous courage and devotion under fire.

There is the Royal Red Cross, aptly termed the "Nurses' V.C." It may now be bestowed upon women irrespective of rank who have shown great proficiency in their profession, or who have displayed conspicuous devotion to the sick and wounded, or who have rendered exceptional service to the cause of Humanity. The Order of St. John of Jerusalem is open to women, and there are many decorations for nursing sisters, civil and military, and even Red Cross medals for women.

Decorations

Exclusive of the Imperial Service Order, which is open to women, there are many decorations for women in the gift of the Crown, such as the Royal Victorian Order, the Order of the British Empire, the Order of St. Michael and St. George, the Order of Merit, the Order of Companions of Honour, the Order of Knight Bachelor, the Order of the Bath, the Order of the Star of India, the Order of the Indian Empire, the Order of St. Patrick, the Order of the Crown of India, the Order of the Crown, the Order of the Rising Sun, the Order of the Sacred Treasure, the Order of the Crown of Italy, the Order of Leopold, the Order of the Crown of Prussia, the Order of Wilhelm, the Order of Merit for Prussia, the Order of Merit of the Duchy of Saxe-Ernestine, the Order of Merit of the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha