



## MISS NAPOLEON

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CHAPTER XXVIII

## "MADEMOISELLE NAPOLEON"

Wilson Hall had just returned from a long day's fetching and carrying between the trenches and the hospital. He lowered himself carefully from the driving-seat and was hobbling away to his own tent, when one of the American orderlies called to him.

"There's a fellow waiting for you, Mr. Hall—he's been here for hours. A French soldier—says he's got a message; says it's important."

Hall quickened his limping pace. In his tent he found the messenger, a young infantryman with a corporal's stripes and the lock on his face, under the steel helmet, which told so plainly of a long spell in the trenches to those who could recognize the signs.

"You are Monsieur . . . ?"

"Hall is my name—Wilson Hall. I hear you have some message for me."

"Yes." The young soldier picked up a bundle which lay beside him, spread it out. The overalls of an airman, a leather cap and helmet . . . Hall looked up perplexed.

"I don't recognize these clothes," he said.

"But these were found in the pockets, and this note addressed to you."

"Ah! . . . ! At first sight Hall knew the note-book, the pencil-case, a silk handkerchief of which he himself had given to her this last Christmas. "Yes, I know to whom those things belong, and the writing . . . the note is from the same person."

The French corporal nodded gravely as Hall unfolded the sheet torn from the pocket-book, and read:

"If these cloths with the note are found, they will bring them to you, I hope. I leave them, because I am wearing something underneath more suited to my purpose, something which I brought from India and fetched from my steamer-trunks in Paris. You are the only person in France who would have recognized them, those cloths of mine, and remembered the Maharajah's ball at Khotalgarh. I could not tell you what purpose of mine; it would have sounded too fantastic . . . mad, perhaps. I do not think I could have carried it out if I had put it into words. Whether it fails or not, this is almost certainly goodbye, or perhaps as you said, 'au revoir.' I should like to meet you again . . . somewhere."

Hall read, re-read—looked up at the other man.

"Where were these found?" he asked.  
"In trench at Verdun—behind Fort Douaumont."

"Verdun?"  
"Yes. You know what the fighting

has been, Monsieur? But no—you cannot! No one could who was not there, in that hell."

"You were in it yourself, Corporal?"  
"Yes. I was at Douaumont from the first day of the attack, until the worst was over and we were relieved. Although the fighting may still be terrible—and doubtless it will—they will not pass, Monsieur."

"Put—the person who wore these clothes?" Hall kept his voice steady by an effort.

"We know nothing of him—noting at all. The clothes were there and your address, as you see, written on the note, Monsieur; that is why I have brought it. Nothing else and no body was found unidentified. I am sorry I can tell you nothing more concerning this friend of yours, but much, if you wish, of the fighting on those days when it would seem, he was there with us at Douaumont."

"Tell me," Hall found it difficult to speak. At least, he could be silent whilst the other told his story, and I might give him some clue, however slight. "I wish very much to hear."

"It is strange what I have to say. Most likely the world will not believe it. But we at Fort Douaumont, we know that it happened, we know that it is true, we know that when all was lost a miracle saved us."

"You need not fear that I shall do, what you tell me, Corporal," Hall said gravely.

"We had been fighting for forty-eight hours unceasingly—no respite—no food . . . And still they came on, flinging at us one fresh division after another, us who were so weary. We had counter-attacked again and again, but still we were driven back and it seemed that the Fort must go—and Verdun—and France. For that is what they told us would happen if we could not hold on."

"There were more dead than living in our trenches, and scarcely an officer left . . . and we knew that a fresh attack was preparing. The snow was driving along the trench with the smoke of the guns; it was dim, like an ugly dream, and we stared and stared through the dimness, to see them coming . . .

"François Bernard was beside me, a friend of mine; it was he who saw him first!"

"Saw who?" The pause was so long that Hall felt impelled to speak, but even so the Frenchman did not continue for a moment, remaining staring before him with an almost rap look on his face.

"He caught at my arm—he whispered: 'Look!' And then . . . I saw him too, monsieur! He was standing in the trench, quite close to us . . . He wore a trench coat and a little black hat . . . just as one knows he did. And he was looking at us; and he was smiling . . . and he spoke. It was the Emperor; it was Napoleon himself. I swear it. Bernard would swear it too, if he were alive." Again a pause; the corporal

leant forward, his voice dropped almost to a whisper.

"Yes, he spoke, monsieur. He said, and his voice was not loud, but very clear, 'Courage, comrades! All is not lost. I will lead you to Victory!' Imagine it, monsieur! These words—at that moment! Not a sound came from any of us, but our hearts were speaking." And then—he leapt upon the parapet. Hundreds saw him just as they—the others—saw him at Arcoli—at Auverlitz—at Jena! And suddenly we were shouting together—who began it, I cannot say. "Vive l'Empereur! Vive Napoleon!" Then . . . we were over the parapet, we were following him, we were amongst the grey devils as they swarmed up the slope. Amongst them—upon them, I tell you—driving them back, fighting them with our bayonets, with our fists! ah! if you had seen them turn and run—if you had heard them scream. For they could do nothing against us—against him. The Emperor was there; it was enough."

The young soldier leant back, panting, wiping his forehead. He went on more quietly.

"They did not attack there again or some hours; when they did we were ready for them. And now, as I say, they will not pass!"

"And did you see—him again?" Hall asked.

"Once—in front, in the thickest of the fighting; he had gone—but he had done what he came for. He returned to earth to save France, to put himself once again at the head of the army. You may remember, monsieur that those were his last words at Saint Helena, hundred years ago."

Hall nodded without speaking.

Into the silence which followed the voice of the French soldier broke again, this time almost imploringly.

"Monsieur, you believe me? You do not doubt that it was indeed the spirit of the Emperor which returned?"

Hall forced himself to speak though his voice seemed strangled in his throat.

"I believe . . . that it was indeed the spirit of the Emperor which was there."

"And it moves you, Monsieur, as it moves me . . . ? Ah! One can see that. You will be glad, too, to think that your friend was perhaps there, fighting for France, with us, with him, the Emperor."

Hall sprang to his feet; stood in the tent door with his face turned away, raised to the sky, struggling to regain control before he attempted to speak again, trying to remember that it was what she would have wished, this end. And there in the dark blue of the fort-clear heavens shone a single great star, like a silver lamp before the Altar. Hall found his voice.

"Vive l'Empereur," he said softly, and in his heart added: "And her too . . . Mademoiselle Napoleon."

The End.

### Highlights in New Three-Nation Plan

Canada, United States and Britain in Trade Agreements.

Highlights of the new three-nation trading position as affected by the treaties signed in Washington Friday between Canada and the United States and the United Kingdom and the United States;

The six-cent-bushel duty on foreign wheat entering the British market is removed, putting U.S. and Canadian wheat on equal footing.

United Kingdom has made a seasonal reduction in the raw apple duty. Canadian apples will continue to enjoy a substantial preference.

Entry is provided into the United Kingdom market of those kinds of lumber of which the U.S. is an important supplier on terms as favourable as those on which Canadian lumber is admitted into the U.S. market.

There are 202 items in the U.S. tariff affected covering 83 per cent. of Canadian exports to the U.S. in 1937 and valued at \$327,504,484.

Practically every kind of fish produced by the Canadian fisheries is represented in the list of U.S. concessions. Reduction is made in tariff on both seed and table stock potatoes below the level prevailing since 1921.

Maximum reduction is made in the U.S. duty on heavy cattle and the tariff quota is enlarged.

Confirmation is made in the maximum reduction in the U.S. duty on lumber, the tariff quota on Douglas fir and western hemlock is abolished, lumber is exempted from requirements of marking, and more favourable treatment is accorded red cedar shingles.

There are 447 items in the Canadian tariff affected, with duty on 230 items reduced and 146 "bound" at the previous rate. Value of imports from the

U.S. under the 447 items was about \$280,000,000 or about 58 per cent. of the total value of imports from that country.

Canada undertakes to remove the special excise tax of three per cent. at present levied on duty paid value of all imports into Canada under tariff other than the British preference.

Concessions by Canada on agricultural and fisheries products parallel important reductions in U.S. duties on Canadian exports of natural products.

Reductions in Canadian duties on canned fruit and vegetables, canned fruit juices, glass tableware, cotton fabrics and various types of silk and woolen clothing materials is made.

Confectionery, tobacco and spirituous liquor tariffs are reduced and other reductions are made on pulp, paper and stocks, chemical drugs and paints, various metals and their products.

The United Kingdom gave concessions on a wide range of manufactured products, including office and electrical machinery and appliances, automobiles, chemicals and silk stockings, and received, in return, reductions, amounting to 25 per cent. in some cases, on textiles, whether of cotton, flax, hemp, silk, wool and on leather and leather manufactures and pottery.

In some cases the tariff revisions between United States and Britain were balanced by concessions made by the United States in the agreement with Canada.

The United States reduced the duty on a variety of British cutlery items and English walled shoes and received concessions on ladies' shoes.

### Mercy Flight in the North, Despite Peril

Gogama, Nov. 19.—Another chapter in the saga of Northern Ontario's mercy flights was written here yesterday when Pilot Phil Sauve, of Austin Airways, completed two perilous trips over ice-crusted lakes to bring out to Gogama a sick miner from Lake Oppepsway, thirty miles west of here in Osway Township.

On both trips it was necessary to break channels in the lakes before the porto-equipped Fairchild freighter could land and take off.

Receiving word that Fred Cusson an employee of Hollinger Gold Mines, had been stricken with pneumonia, Pilot Sauve flew Dr. B. R. Sussman, of Gogama, to Lake Oppepsway. Mine employees had opened up a passage on the lake, and after the plane had circled over the property to inform the men that help had arrived, Dr. Sussman had landed at Mining Corporation camp. Although seven miles from the mine it was the nearest point at which the plane could safely land.

Colonel Scobell has been bereaved by the death of his brother-in-law, Mr. Arch. Geikie, of Fort William. Mrs. Geikie was an engineer, and was one of those who surveyed the C.P.R. line through the Rockies.

The Young Men's Club held a meeting on Friday night in their club house. This band of young citizens is to be complimented on their initiative and endeavor, in being able now to report after months of work that their building is paid for and that they have sufficient funds in hand for payment for work remaining to be done and for wiring the club house. John Jackson and Mike Kostynyk were appointed auditors for the books of the club. A committee was also appointed to direct work on the outdoor skating rink they are building. This rink is primarily for their own use but is open for other groups also. A dance committee will look after an event coming off soon—a jitterbug contest. An athletic group will play basketball at the high school on open night (Tuesday) and another athletic group has built a shack out in the bush as a ski-hiking rendezvous. We understand that the club is protecting their property by calling for tenders for insurance. Next meeting will be on Nov. 27, at 2 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Huot and Lillian returned on Friday from Val d'Or, where they witnessed the wedding of their only son, Joseph Edward, to Mary Ellen Smith, of Toronto, at the Roman Catholic Church in that town. The Rev. Father Mougot officiated. The wedding took place on Tuesday, the bride wearing a gown of the new du bonnet wine shade with accessories to match, the gown being of silk brocade. She wore a small hat and veil, and a corsage of talisman roses. Her bridesmaid, Miss Lillian Huot, wore an ensemble of henna shade with accessories to match and talisman roses.

The bridegroom was supported by Mr. Jack Day, the bride, being given away by Mr. August Béland. Mrs. J. Smith, mother of the bride, was present at the wedding. After the ceremony a wedding breakfast and reception was held in the dining room of the hotel at Val d'Or. The young couple, to whom we offer the heartiest of good wishes for married bliss, will reside in Val d'Or.

The first municipal political meeting was held on Saturday night in the Finn hall, when an audience with Ukrainians and Finns predominating listened to a musical programme, featuring juvenile orchestras—the Ukrainian mandolin and guitar orchestra of South Porcupine and the Croatian Juvenile orchestra from Schumacher. Mr. Mike Kostynyk acted as chairman at a well-conducted meeting and played also with Mr. V. Aquino in a musical number. Mr. Emil Helno in a speech signified his intention of running in the forthcoming municipal campaign, and Reeve Evans, who received a burst of applause when he appeared on the platform gave out some statements regarding his attitude toward the township, the tax question and the mines, and a statement regarding the wages of the town workmen, all well received by the audience.

Campfires then assembled and the bazaar was discussed. The meeting was brought to a close with "Taps."

Dora Knell, Ola Holland, Joan Pye and Peggy Strongman were passed in their skipping by Gladys Langman.

We would like to thank Mrs. Morris for taking the meeting while Mrs. Dawsorth was away.

Will all the Guides please bring their toys for the Boy Scouts to the Guide meeting on Wednesday?

Do Your Christmas Shopping Early.

### Watch Out for Worthless Mexican Bills Hereabouts

Other towns in the North have recently reported a number of Mexican bills in circulation. These bills are absolutely worthless, but in size, colouring and general appearance bear very decided resemblance to the Canadian \$5 bill. In other towns they have easily passed for the \$5 bills. Timmins merchants and others would do well to watch all money, and in case any Mexican money makes its appearance to promptly notify the police. It is not likely that those distributing this worthless money will give Timmins the go-by, so it would be well for all to keep a close watch on the money that is being tendered.

The campaign for "National Fitness," is having difficulty in seeing the blackboard, do not hesitate to mention this to your teacher who will only be too pleased to change your seat and thus avoid eye strain. Reading with out sufficient light is false economy which will cause irreparable damage and cost much more than extra lighting which is necessary for the safety of your eyesight. Too often people develop the bad habit of rubbing their eyes with their dirty fingers, public towels and soiled handkerchiefs. Lack of sanitary care is apt to cause infection which will rob you of part of your vision.

The CARE OF THE EYES

(By One Whose Sight Was Lost Through Carelessness of Others)

If all that read this article could have the opportunity of talking with some of those who have lost their sight, the impression that they would receive would make them "eye conscious" for the rest of their lives. If they could also have the opportunity of conversing with men and women whose lives have been ruined because of defective vision in their childhood and youth, this lesson would imprint indelibly on their minds the need for unrelenting care. There are countless cases of individuals in our Dominion—people who are misfits of society harboring ill will and spite against their parents and their school teachers because their visual defect caused them to be considered mentally incapable in their earlier years. In most instances these individuals were mentally normal but the ramifications of the eye defects were not known in their childhood and as a result today they are thwarted unhappy. His teachers and instructors are familiar with the value of eyesight and the care that must be taken of it. Regardless of how much care others are willing to take of your eyesight, you and you alone, must assume the responsibility for your own eyes.

The principal rule in the care of the eyes is "consciousness of their value."

If you are aware at all times that your eyes are the most delicate organs in your body and must be protected because they cannot be replaced, you will then take the major steps in eye protection. You will have your eyes examined at least once a year and if glasses are prescribed, they should always be checked with the original prescription and changed whenever stipulated by your doctor. If one is experiencing severe headaches possibly the eyes are the cause of the discomfort. When reading always be sure that the light rays—either natural or artificial—are not reflected directly into your eyes. If as a pupil in school you

## Special Need for Care and Thought for the Eyes

Another in the Series of "National Fitness" Articles, Sponsored by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation. Value of Eyesight Cannot be Over-Emphasized.

The campaign for "National Fitness," is having difficulty in seeing the blackboard, do not hesitate to mention this to your teacher who will only be too pleased to change your seat and thus avoid eye strain. Reading with out sufficient light is false economy which will cause irreparable damage and cost much more than extra lighting which is necessary for the safety of your eyesight. Too often people develop the bad habit of rubbing their eyes with their dirty fingers, public towels and soiled handkerchiefs. Lack of sanitary care is apt to cause infection which will rob you of part of your vision.

Another important step in the preservation of one's eyesight is the protection of yourself from those with whom you come in contact. The files of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind are filled with cases of eye injuries leading to either partial or total impairment of vision through accidents caused by others. The careless, unthinking individual is so inclined to foolish "horseplay" that he endangers those with whom he comes in contact. Boys and girls in schools and men and women in offices have lost their sight because of the harmless projection of paper clips, a piece of orange peel or tinfoil on an elastic band. Many have lost the sight of one of their eyes in ordinary school showers and locker-rooms because of the snapping of towels. Others have been injured by sharp instruments—knives, scissors, etc.—and still more have been struck by arrows and lead pellets from air rifles in the hands of some unthinking child. In all these instances there was no intent to damage or harm—a mere accident. These accidents have not only injured the eyes but have often warped the lives of the individuals injured. These misfortunes can be avoided if you are willing to protect yourself at all times.

No one would intentionally lose his sight and yet statistics gathered by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind for the past twenty years show that approximately 50% of the blind people in Canada need never have been blind had the proper care and protection measures been used. This means that 4,500 Canadians are needlessly living in a world of darkness.

Why lose your sight? Exercise extreme caution, protect your sight and your eyes will protect you!

### If You