WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE

Palmyra Tree, aboard the yacht mand to glance at the door, she sees a huge, fierce, copper-hued man with a ten-inch knife between his lips, The stowaway, Burke, and the brown man, Olive, go up on deck and tell stories of adventure which are not believed. Palmyra decides she loves Van. The

night the engagement is announced the Rainbow hits a reef. John Thurston rescues both Van and Palmyrabut Palmyra thinks Van saved her. A sail is sighted after three days on island, as a Japanese man-of-war is sighted and it would be dangerous to fear of the brown man. Now read on:-

ed to catch the sound again. Her actor, by tapping his breast with a And then, then she understood.

and the beak, strongly hooked at the back to her. end, a good five inches long.

fina! flop.

such a lighting place?

manner, communicated itself to the and brandishing the knife.

luminat ng. With the leisured velocity that wa so disturbing an attribute, he first cut from a small cane-like growth a section the length of a finger. Then he shaved another piece down to a She thought he might intend pinning something with it. But he turned to her stores and tore out some thin package paper. This he laid on a box. With the knife he pricked his left forearm so that the blood came. Then, with the blood and the skewer he began to write, presumably to make some sort of hieroglyphics.

While Olive finished his composition the girl watched in paralyzed anxiety. What did he write? What was in this message that meant more than life and death to her? She sprang up once to demand a sight, then remembered that she could not have understood. The savage now folded his paper

small, worked it into the hollow section of cane, closed the opening with a wad of leaf. He went to the gird, which seemed not to object, and tied Then he lifted if from the roost and stamping of the foot upon the sand; her now. Exulting, she discovered world of waters. tossed it into the air. Instantly as- and he had said, as plain as words, that the sound which had mocked her, Relieved of her apprehension, she of six or eight feet.

the effeminate name of Olive.

In despoiling Burke of the red-hair- nificance. the most dangerous to attempt-and sage! the most convincing.

to his aid.

or unmoved by, Palmyra's misery, sage at all? As soon as he had launched the bird, He had sent that message as a for- to swim the English channel. Was the too late and then swum away, or had the tidal sands.

her. Or if disaster had eliminated could have been so unemotional. death from thirst.

it seemed in the world, instinct within die? Was there that in his dark be- been swarming around her. her had taken a stand. Beast that liefs, traditions, to make such an act While she puzzled, she felt recon- believe it true. Burke was, he was at least better than exquisitely worth the sacrifice; a sup-noiteringly for the hostile foliage. It After all, though, what could it this savage. A man of her own race, reme manifestation, say, of hate for his proved to be a stiff sword-like leaf that serve. She tried to rise for a view there was always the chance some ap- tyrant; a degradation in this island thrust at her from the shadows. peal might reach through.

When Olive, having finished his man a mock? ed herself for flight. But he stopped, ger, toward the quarter whence the ness. The pin work could not be hur- other canoes but not from the swift meant to attempt an exchange of ideas. them, and then toward the sun to thought.

like, with which nature binds fast her with the motions of one who swims.

palm leaves. He folded it into a form roughly triangular and smaller end up. she was utterly at fault. By his in Rainbow, discovers a stowaway. She is He held it out, blew at it, moved it dications he and she were to swim disappointed in his mild appearance slowly away from him as he did so. He away together into the thousand miles and tells him so. Obeying his com- represented a sail; he referred to the of ocean. That, however, could not schooner itself.

Next, Olive, grinning successfully at ing. her perception, marked a semi-circle But the savage made plain that h head. Again she nodded.

Once more Olive pointed to the scar mand-into the sea. to indicate that the white man was! Palmyra cowered before Olive. His now the actor. As Burke, he yawned meaning was plain, all too plain. But an island. It is Ponape Burke, the drowsily, lay down and began to snore. his purpose? There lay the terror. stowaway! Burke abducts Palmyra. The girl took it that Ponape had gone For the first time his features offer-Burke has to put her ashore on an to sleep for the night. The islander ed a readable expression. He was next got up, pointed to the place he perplexed. He fetched his cocoanuts. have her aboard. Olive swims to the had lain as the white man, and then to He sat down before her, indicated island and joins Palmyra. She is in six other places in a row, snoring rein- that she was the object of the play forcingly as he made an inclusive gest- He bound two of the dry nuts by their ure. All, she saw, had been asleep.

eyes sought to weather and to lee square forefinger. Cautiously, peering The girl saw that Olive thus was and then her gaze became fixed. For to this side and that, pausing to look saying "life preserver". He meant to there, on the crossbar where Olive back and listen, he tiptoed away. With make her into a sort of raft. had fastened the fish, sat a large bird. | a fina! furtive glance, he raised him-It was the sound of the bird's alight- self, jumped as one going over the ves- spoke life, not death. The fanatic, ing that Palmyra had sought. The sel's side into the water, simulated about to drown one, did not provide goost was now swaying under the im- the movements of a swimmer. Palm- float. pact, the newcomer shooting in and yra read that, as soon as Burke and the With six of the nuts he buoyed he but its neck in a somewhat serpent- crew had turned in last night, Olive hips and with four her shoulders. like concordance. The creature was had eluded the viligance of the man on With a length of fibre, he wound her black, its feet disportionately small, duty, dropped overboard and swum skirt tight round her knees. Then he

The bird gazed back at the girl with ing again the sign of the scar, he bound her walst. some defiance of manner, as if it pretended to awake. He looked around | For an interval he left her, lying thought she might claim the fish. said "Olive?"; depicted surprise, ang- with upturned face, her eyes closed Then it lumbered along the pole and er. Drawing his knife ferociously, he against the glare. He threw into the seized the victim, which managed a kicked the imaginary sleepers into life, sea, so it would drift clear or sink, the bellowed an order. He blew into his food and cask of water, the severed Could it be that Olive had known he cupped sand, which was now sufficient leaves, the opened nuts; everything could attract a bird down by baiting to indicate the sail, performed the that spoke of his activity. Then, evolution of coming about; walked to- pausing for a last careful inspection, News of the arrival had, in some ward the girl, blowing into his hand his glance lighted on the pink

She held her ground, understanding raised it; offered it, with pleased look From his countenance she could not that the enraged pursuit returned to to the tug of the wind. Olive had a guess whether he had expected to find her. Ofive stopped, pointed to the sail. a bird on the cross-bar, or whether he sun and then to a spot somewhat Thus they departed into the thouwas pleased. Nor were his actions il- further along in the luminary's course. sand miles of empty ocean.

The girl stared. For the first tim be. He must have some other mean-

on his forehead. She was puzzled until did mean just that. He held out his she recalled the scar on Burke's fore- hand toward her invitingly. He waved her-at once an appeal and a com-

thong of husk to his ankle. Also Olive now indicated himself as the others, as he showed, about his waist.

Her agitation diminished. This be-

fastened his knife securely but immed-He went on with his drama. Mak- lately at hand, in the thongs that

parasol. He examined it thoughtfully.



She was clasped tight in a pair of great arms; held close against a naked breast. * * * It was the Beast!

interval appallingly brief.

Burke had said this strange being's A Burke, far away and beyond call, a reei. purpose was to demonstrate to all, by might seem the lesser of two evils, but One sharp struggle and those splen- ape Burke beat back to the first island his courage. that he could live down a Burke, rising over the horizon, as fast did muscles had carried them, buffet- in pursuit of Olive-(could it really

climax of his demonstration. He had Olive and here, within two hours, the reef between its higher rim and ed. He had also found her supplies chosen the one thing that would most would stand Burke. And that being the nearby shore. enrage the white man; was, therefore, so, what about the bird and its mes- At first Palmyra was aware of no- Olive's forgery of a boat's imprint on oil, too."

Again, all was inexplicable. With once more on land. That was all-suf- greater verisimilitude by the placid All too plainly the message the man-the white brute hot upon the heels ficing. The island, by reason of her tide. o'war bird carried could have but one of the brown brute, there could be no hours in the water, seemed to rise and Burke must either detect the fraud destination: Olive proclaimed his dar- such waiting as she assumed, while a fall giddily as the sea itself. But she of believe some vessel, almost certainly ing: demanded that his clansmen come bird irresponsibly delivered its sum- could cling to a pandanus and feel the Japanese gunboat, had sighted her mons and rescuing tribesmen came safe. The brown man Olive was unaware across the sea. Why then, the mes- How many, many miles had they free to assume Olive had drowned in

he pulled down its perch. Then, with lorn hope. Yet he was showing none channel twelve or twenty miles across? been taken off with the girl, presumone of the uprights, he marched to of the strain which should have Something like that. But it was cold ably against his will. the lee beach and began marking on gone with so desperate a race. In- northern water and the swimmers She had no knowledge where Jaluit deed his very calm frightened her. merely European. Olive must have lay, or how far. But it was within The girl watched tragically. Until It was unnatural. He must expect, brought her infinitely farther. now there had seemed hardly a choice with a kmife, to fight for her possession The island, plainly, was inhabited. German base, there must yet be four as to her fate. If she had, with the against Burke, with the deadly re- As Olive had written, why could not or five white men and a dozen or so knife, succeeded in eliminating Olive. volvers, and backed by the crew. Fac- she? Burke would have returned to possess ing such terrible odds, no white man But—what of paper? She paused, American mission centers was closed,

world eternally to make of the white

work, turned toward her, she gather- Olive thrust out the square forefin- The appeal grew with tragic slow- flying start would save them from safely distant, and she divined that he Pigeon of Noah would descend upon ried, the condensation of wording took Pigeon of Noah. First, he pointed in the direction indicate the flight of time. Following the Lupe-a-Noa had gone. When which he crossed to the lee beach and Palmyra did not understand, he pick- stood in the brine. He beckoned to Lupe-a-Noa, from wrecked Yacht sea for an enemy. ed up a piece of the fabric, buckram- her, and then off across the water, Rainbow, 4 days' sail. His man Olive In one of these wakeful intervals

come? She recollected men had tried his effort to reach land, had arrived

confronted by the stonewall of circum- still native Christians. Burke, then terrible solitude, with Could it be that he had come here to stance. No need to cut her hand as She so wanted to go to Jaluit that await Burke's arrival and then, almost the brown man had done, for bright she could not fail to endow this savage But now, that messenger a mere within Ponape's grasp, to plunge the drops of pirate gore were already with the grace of taking her there. speck in the sky, the highest thing as knife into her breast—and he himself available. As she sat, mosquitoes had Absurd though the idea, it gripped her

by a thin, transparent film.

But, readably, the leaf said:

"Help! Abducted by Ponape Burke, on the jumping cance and scan the now steals me. Whichever gets me- she made, interrogatively, the sign of

death or worse. Miss Palmyra Tree, Boston, U. S. A. Passing at once from his Buddah-like

She must make the leaf noticeable, repose into the animation of discourse, Nothing else at hand she drew off one Olive pointed to the sun and then to of her wet silk stockings. She smiled a spot considerably further on in its drearily. Silken hosiery where hosiery line of march. Pursuit, it seemed, was was unknown. That should attract at- expected, but not as yet.

With the stocking she bound a frag- times unintelligible. The brown man, ment of coral to the leaf. Then, gaz- in his explanation, was hampered by ing apprehensively about, she began the limit of action possible in a canoe. to crawl forward. She must not try His story included himself and Burke, to go too far. And at the slightest the island, the knife, what seemed to sound she must drop the missive be- be a gun, the canoe, the Pigeon of Noah. Much of it, as it came, was fore Olive could see it. Within five or six yards the cover meaningless because sne did not grasp

ended. Beyond in the moonlight lay other parts upon which the meaning barren sand, foot trampled, a place in depended. frequent visitation. She would have There was a point which baffled her, liked to go further. But the danger where Olive whent through the mowas tremendous, the gain uncertain. tions of binding hands and feet; and forced something, crosswise, into his Then she flung the weighted leaf. From out there a clink of sound mouth. At first she thought he him-

reached back, brazen loud to her self had been tied and gagged, then straining senses as a gong. It seemed that it must have been Burke. But long impossible that Olive should not hear; afterwards, when the savage had again should not spring grinning from the sunk into stupor, the explanation flashthicket; should not, unerringly as a ed into her mind. She could now redog, nose up, snatch that precious mes- construct the scene ashore, in part sage, her only hope.

For an interval she hung on, wait- part from what her intelligence told ing. Then, in th unexpected silence, her what must have occurred. body and mind collapsed. She drag- Ponape Burke, then, had felt that, ged back to the waiting place, but she if they had not been rescued by some was unaware of it. The sand warmed vessel, they must have a canoe. And her, the earth rocked her as in a to make sure they should not get one The Day of the Extreme Tailleur is cradle, but-she was asleep.

For ages she must have laid in tor- canoes on the island brought together cry. She was clasped tight in a pair men with rifles, himself waiting near. of great arms; held close against a Olive, she surmised, had expectedly naked breast. No need for her to see secretly to obtain a canoe from a However, judge for yourself the merthat grinning face. It was the beast! friend and so sail without destroying its of the new mode. Here is the

fort to get free that success was hers. may, had found this impossible. As with white. The silk tuckin blouse is Surprisingly, indeed, she flung herself daylight must not discover them a- of lighter blue crepe. Note the three quite clear of those arms—and fell, shore, he had no alternative save to scallops in the lapel, with a strangling gasp, into water that take a canoe by force. rose above her head.

When Palmyra Tree thus flung her- somehow managed to surprise, had self out of the arms of Olive, the brown bound the guards and got away withman had been carrying her down out an alarm. He had hoped to preagain into the sea. The strong arms vent the chase thus made certain, by rescued her, yet she fought desperate- cutting the rigging of the schooner; ly. Ashore, she had been slow to trust but, for some reason, had had to dethose half seen figures about the fires. sist with little more than an hour or Having trusted, she could not bear to so of delay ensured. be snatched away before her appeal One detail of Olive's pantomime exhad been found. The moon was gone in a downpour of ed the canoes to any guard but his

rain. Sky and sea and land had lost own. He had been drinking heavily. form, dissolved. And yet in this melt- And so it was she responded with a ing world something had remained cry when Olive, at last, clicking his solid, for presently the girl received a tongue in chagrin, pointed astern. sharp bump between the shoulders. Twisting, she found an unstable shape tiny something against the sky to that intuition, rather than sight, iden- know that the Lupe-a-Noa was coming. tified as a canoe.

Olive sat her on the canoe, steadied her there, pointed. His hand seemed to fade into nothingness. He raised her own arm so she could feel the direction. No need for Olive to thrust his face close to hers and make the sign of the scar. It was the pursuing Burke.

She had just been struggling to free herself of the brown man, yet now, when she saw that success would have thrown her at once into the hands of the white, she was aghast. For with Burke present his timid creatures ceased to offer any chance; it was again with Olive's clansmen she felt her hope to lie.

But there was the leaf letter. She strove to make Olive understand they must go back. She pointed landward, gesticulated...

It was inevitable he should think Jack Frost had fun with our window wantz. she continued in resistance. He took her firmly, laid her prone, made her grip the framework.

With the paddle, strong, noiseless, the missive under one of its wings. A sweeping gesture, a grimace, a Olive swam briskly forward with Olive drove the canoe out into the

omishing pinions flashed out, a spread that here Burke would step within an this time at last, was no cruel decep- began to patch together the incidents tion. It was the trample of surf upon of their flight, into a revealing film. When the wind had revived to let Ponas a storm, regained all his vile sig- ed and breathless, through a cauldron be little more than twenty-four hours of cleft in the outer barrier. They came since the white man imprisoned her other day. ed goddess. Olive but reached the This much was plain: here stood to rest in a shallow of spent surf on there?)—he found the place abandon; gone, a thing implying a boat, and patient, "and you'd better look at the "Yassuh," replied Sam, "leastways thing beyond the fact that she was the sand, a counterfeit softened into

distress signals. In that event, he was

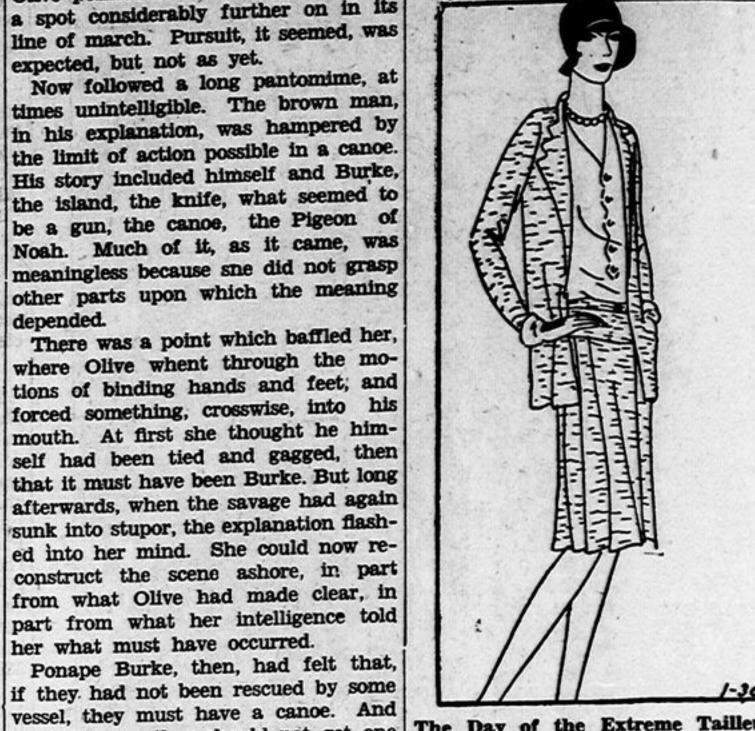
reach; her only hope. As the former of Japs; and if this one of the two

till she could not for the moment. but

astern, but dared not stand. She saw The leaf, she found, was surfaced no sail, yet knew her letter, the canoe theft, had made a chase certain. Their

> Now and then her companion himself would rouse to stand with ease

the scar which had come, in their conversation to signify the white man. **Fashion Fancies**



in the dark hours, he had had all the

Under cover of the rain he had

plained perhaps why Burke had trust-

No need for her eyes to seek out a

(Continued next week.)

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

In the good old days which the oldsters

The good old days that they boast

The coal was stored in a shed outside

and oh, brother, wasn't it grand

days that our parents talk about,

And the jolly times that we used to

When we woke to find that the water

pipes were frozen good and tight.

panes and he painted them treble-

and the snow grew six feet high.

"Will you take gas?" he asked.

the ashes we carried out?

have after many a zero night

To trudge out there through two feet

mourn and so vainly sigh to see

about, the days that used to be.

Leading couturiers are predicting por. Then, suddenly, she awoke with a and had set over these a guard of two that the tailored suit for Spring will so remains to be seen, for the simple

Desperately she put all her strength Burke's possible belief in the fictitious "feminized" tailleur. It is in lightinto a lunge. So unexpected this ef- ship. But the brown man, to his dis- weight wool in French blue flecked



of snow, with a scuttle in either Black With Accents of Red Takes Paris The all-black costume, up to this moment the smartest in fashion's hor-In the good old days, the good old izon, is giving way more and more to black with vivid accents. Paris uses Oh, brother of mine, can you recall, touches of vivid red, and very effect-

ively, too. The model sketched here shows the popular short jacket of black breitschwantz over a black satin dress. The scarf neckline, large flat necklace and blow-band on the turban are of red. The turban itself is of black breitsch-

A Fair Enough Trial

Sam, impanelled for jury service at a With solid ice he plugged our drains murder trial, had seemed a little too Oh, those were the days, says the old anxious to serve.

folks now, "the good old days of "Do you know the accused?" he was asked.

But I think of the cares we used to "Yassuh-dat is nossuh," he replied, know and I'm glad that they are no realizing that if he made an affirmative answer he would be debarred from serving.

A dentist says that he had an ab-"Have you made up your mind as sentminded motorist in his chair the to his guilt or innocence?" "Oh, no, suh."

"You think, then, that you could "Yeah," replied the absent -minded give his case a fair hearing?" ez fair ez de ole scamp deserves.'

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