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GREENMANTLE

BY JOHN BUCHAN.

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CHAPTER XIII.—(Cont'd.)
We returned by the long street on the crest of the hill. There was a man selling oranges on a tray, and Blenkiron stopped to look at them. I noticed that the man shuffled fifteen into a cluster. Blenkiron felt the oranges, as if to see that they were sound, and pushed two aside. The man instantly restored them to the group, never raising his eyes.
"This ain't the time of year to buy fruit," said Blenkiron as we passed on. "Those oranges are rotten as med-lars."
We were almost on our own doorstep before I guessed the meaning of the business.

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clean outside your ordinary life. I've never tried that. My line has always been to keep my normal personality. But you have, Major, and I guess you found it wearing."

"Wearing's a mild word," I said. "But I want to know another thing. It seems to me that the line you've picked is as good as could be. But it's a cast-iron line. It commits us pretty deep and it won't be a simple job to drop it."

"Why, that's just the point I was coming to," he said. "I was going to put you wise about that very thing. When I started out I figured on some situation like this. I argued that unless I had a very clear part with a big bluff in it I wouldn't get the confidence which I needed. We've got to be at the heart of the show, taking a real hand and not just looking on. So I settled I would be a big engineer—there was a time when the women were many bigger in the United States than John S. Blenkiron. I talked large about what might be done in Mesopotamia in the way of washing the British in the river. Well, that talk caught on. They knew my reputation as an hydraulic expert, and they were tickled to death to rope me in. I told them I wanted a helper, and I told them about my friend Richard Hanson, as good a German as ever sipped sauerkraut, who was coming through Russia and Rumania as a benevolent neutral; but when he got to Constantinople would drop his neutrality against the wall where it is held in place with a hook. The outer end is supported by a stout leg that is hinged to the under side of the board so that it drops down into position when the board is lowered for use.—Mrs. S. M. C.

"Is your morning's work finished?"
"Our morning's work?" he asked innocently.
"I said 'work,'" I smiled blandly. "I reckoned that I've some figuring still to do. Give me half an hour and I'll be at your service, Major."
That afternoon, after Peter had cooked a wonderfully good luncheon, I had a heart-to-heart talk with Blenkiron.
"My business is to get noos," he said; "and before I start in on a stunt I make considerable preparations. All the time in London when I was yelping at the British Government, I was busy with Sir Walter arranging things ahead. We used to meet in queer places and at all hours of the night. I fixed up a lot of connections in this city before I arrived, and especially a noos service with your Foreign Office by way of Rumania and Russia. In a day or two I guess our friends will know all about our discoveries."
At that I opened my eyes very wide.
"Why, yes. You Britishers haven't any notion how wide-awake your Intelligence Service is. I reckon it's easy the best of all the belligerents. You never talked about it in peace time, and you shunned the theatrical ways of the Tenthon. But you have the wires laid good and sure. I calculate there isn't much that happens in any corner of the earth that you don't know within twenty-four hours. I don't take much stock in your political push. They're a lot of silver-tongues, no doubt, but it ain't oratory that is wanted in this racket. The William Jennings Bryan stunt languishes in war-time. Politics is like a chicken-coop, and those inside get to behave as if their little run were all the world. But if the politicians make mistakes it isn't from lack of good instruction to guide their steps. If I had a big proposition to handle and I set about opening up my lines of communication, and I hadn't been two days in this metropolis before I had got my telephone exchange buzzing. Sometimes I'll explain the thing to you, for it's a pretty little business. I've got the cutest cypher. . . . No, it ain't my invention. It's the Government's. Any one, babe, imbecile, or dotard, can carry my messages—you saw some of them to-day—but it takes some mind to set the piece, and it takes a lot of figuring at my end to work out the results. Some day you shall hear it all, for I guess it would please you."
"How do you use it?" I asked.
"Well, I get early noos of what is going on in this cabbage-patch. Likewise I get authentic noos of the rest of Europe, and I can send a message to Mr. X in Petrograd and Mr. Y in London, or, if I wish, to Mr. Z in New York. What's the matter with that for a post-office? I'm the best in the world in Constantinople, for old General Liman only hears one side, and mostly lies at that, and Enver prefers not to listen at all. Also, I could give them points on what is happening at their very door, for our friend Sandy is a big boss in the best-run crowd of mountebanks that ever fiddled secrets out of men's hearts. Without their help I wouldn't have cut much ice in this city."
"I want you to tell me one thing, Blenkiron," I said. "I've been playing a part for the past month, and it wears my nerves to tatters. Is this job very tiring, for if it is I doubt I may buckle up."
He looked thoughtful. "I can't call our business an absolute rest-cure any time. You've got to keep your eyes skinned, and there's always the risk of the little packet of dynamite going off unexpected. But as these things go, I rate this stunt as easy. We've only got to be natural. We wear our natural clothes, and talk English, and sport a Teddy Roosevelt smile, and there isn't any call for theatrical talent. Where I've found the job tight was when I had got to be natural, and my naturalness was the same brand as that of everybody round about, and all the time I had to be going down to business and taking cocktails with Mr. Carl Rosenheim, and next hour being engaged trying to blow Mr. Rosenheim's friends sky high. And it isn't easy to keep up a part which is

Woman's Sphere

SAVING KITCHEN SPACE.

Small kitchens are a blessing in the steps they save, but there is little room in them for a table or chair. I solved the problem of conserving space in my tiny kitchen, where the family like to eat breakfast, by purchasing at a secondhand store an old gate-legged table. This I enameled white and installed in a suitable place beneath the window. When not in use I can drop the leaves and it occupies very little space. I use it as a work-table also, raising one side to work on. Instead of the ordinary kitchen chairs, I bought three folding chairs that retire to a small place in the corner when not in use. These I dress up with slips on the backs, made like pillow slips, of unbleached or white muslin, which I embellish with a wreath or initial embroidered in blue. An ironing board hinged to a very narrow shelf, placed at the proper height on the wall, is another space-saver. This board when not in use is raised up against the wall where it is held in place with a hook. The outer end is supported by a stout leg that is hinged to the under side of the board so that it drops down into position when the board is lowered for use.—Mrs. S. M. C.

A BACK-PORCH SHELF.
I recently saw a handy back-porch shelf for the preparing of vegetables. The shelf was low enough so that the worker could be seated. In the centre of the shelf a round hole was cut and under this were hooks for holding a garbage bucket. The shelf was covered with oilcloth so that it was easily kept clean.
Here during summer all vegetables brought from the garden are cleaned and prepared for use without being carried into the kitchen. When the work is completed all refuse had been dropped through the hole into the waste bucket and there is no litter to clear away or pans of waste to empty.

AN ATTRACTIVE NEGLIGEE.



4425. Foulard is here portrayed with girldle and bindings of satin in a contrasting color. This model is good also for crepe, printed voile, or crepe de chine.
The Pattern is cut in 4 Sizes: Small, 34-36; Medium, 38-40; Large, 42-44; Extra Large, 46-48 inches bust measure. A Medium size requires 4 1/2 yards of 40-inch material. The width at the foot is 2 1/2 yards.
Pattern mailed to any address on receipt of 15c in silver or stamps, by the Wilson Publishing Co., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto. Allow two weeks for receipt of pattern.

OLD STANDBY PICKLE RECIPES.
Sweet Cucumber Pickles—One peck small cucumbers, two cups salt, vinegar, one ounce of cloves, one ounce of stick cinnamon, two pounds brown sugar. Wash cucumbers well, cover with boiling water and salt. Let stand over night. Drain in the morning and cover with vinegar. Add cloves, cinnamon, brown sugar. Let just come to a boil and seal in sterilized fruit jars.—Mrs. W. K.
Mustard Pickles—One quart small green tomatoes, one quart small cucumbers, one quart small onions, one quart cauliflower. Put these in brine and let stand over night. Then scald in the brine until tender.
Dressing—Two quarts vinegar, one cup flour, one cup sugar, six tablespoons mustard, two tablespoons turmeric (wet with vinegar). Put pickles into this mixture and can.
Spice Pickles—Wash cucumbers clean and place in crock. Make a strong hot brine and pour over pickles while hot. Cover and let stand for twenty-four hours. Then pour off brine and put pickles in cans with layers of mixed spices between. Then heat vinegar to boiling point and sweeten to taste with saccharine and pour over the pickles and seal. Pickles will be found very crisp and good after two years.

Minard's Liniment Heals Cuts.
The Portrait.
Casey decided to go into business, so he bought a small livery stable and had a sign painted showing him astride a mule. He had the sign placed in front of the stable and was quite proud of it.
His friend Finnigan came along and stood gazing at the sign.
"That's a good picture of me, isn't it?" asked Casey.
"Sure, it looks something like you," said Finnigan; "but who the deuce is the man on your back?"

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MAKING BATIK
Japan and China like to embroider colors on materials; Sumatra dyes the threads and weaves them in; India stamps the material, and the South Sea Islands paint it. But Java, writes Miss Minnie Frost Rand in Asia, has a method all its own. Batik, as the process is called, is a science, an art, an industry, a religion, a mystery, an inheritance and a treasure peculiar to that tropical island. Batik makers draw their design in hot wax on white cotton cloth and then color the uncovered parts of the pattern by dipping the waxed cloth again and again into vats of vegetable dye.
The batik maker draws by letting the hot wax flow from the miniature spout of a small copper cup, or tjanting, which is fastened securely to one end of a short bamboo handle. The Javanese invented the instrument, but whether batik was original with them or was introduced from abroad is not clear. All we know for certain is that the patient Javanese have been making this lovely cloth for centuries on centuries.
Uses English Cotton.
The Javanese batikker of modern times, no matter what her social station, insists on having only the very finest weave of English cotton. She wants a closely woven material on which she can write as if on paper, and on which the wax will form a superficial layer instead of penetrating between the threads. Having bought the goods, she tears them and hems the edges with a fine hem. She needs neither pattern nor scissors. If the batik is to be a headress for her husband, it must measure each way forty-two inches; if it is to be a sarong, or skirt, for herself or for her husband, it will be eighty-four by forty-two inches; if it is to be a breast cloth for herself or a sling for binding her baby to her, it will be eighty-four by twenty-one inches. Having hemmed the piece she is ready to make it mateng, or ripe.
The ripening process, which prepares the goods for absorbing the dyes, consists in soaking and drying it from five to ten times a day usually for a period of from six to twelve days. The dip used is a mixture of peanut oil or castor oil and lye made from the ashes of rice stubble. The treatment, which in one part of Java lasts as long as forty days, gives the pesty-willow, velvety feeling of Java batiks and changes the original fabric, so that it no longer resembles calico but suggests the texture of silk, cotton and velvet combined. Now the batikker starches the cloth with sago, cassava or rice flour. Then she irons it and begins to lay out the design, using horizontal, vertical and diagonal guide lines applied with a stick, or merely folding and creasing the goods as the pattern requires. If the design to be applied is one that she has not yet learned by heart, she has on the new material on the old batik and by means of the light that shines through the two pieces of cloth as they hang over her bamboo rack traces in wax the outline of the principal figures. The details she fills in free-hand. When the drawing is complete on one side she turns the goods over and by means of the light shining through traces the design in wax on the reverse side. Thus there is no right and wrong side to a batik.
Long Tropical Hours.
The batik maker, even with steady application during the twelve light hours of a tropical day, must squat for many days to finish a painting of fairly intricate design. Of course she waxes her pattern and holds out the wax and re-waxes the pattern for every additional pure color.
In middle Java, where the most typical batiks are made, the dyeing process consists of three steps: the indigo bath, the soda bath for the warm red-brown colors and the cream tinting of the wax-free goods. The task of dyeing is as tedious a task as preparing the goods. It may take weeks. The result, however, is color that is everlasting.
Batik is a long process, but when it is finished the Javanese has a garment that after five years of constant wear will still be beautiful and, if donned only on festive days, will retain its magnificence for a lifetime. It is not unusual to see a Dutch girl in Java wearing a batik that, though it appears to be in a newborn glory, was worn by her mother and her grandmother before her!
How Pigeons Find Their Way.
Until recently there was a general impression that pigeons found their way home by instinct and not by sight. This theory has been disproved, however, as the following incident shows. A pigeon, released from a balloon a mile and a half above the ground, was unable to see the earth below on account of a thick blanket of clouds. The bird flew around for some little time, then, giving up all hope of finding its way home, settled down comfortably on the balloon.
After a time a rift appeared in the clouds. The pigeon swooped from the balloon through the gap in the vapor, and two hours later had delivered its message.
Letting a man go wrong because he is your friend is as foolish as spoiling a child because he is yours.

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STABLE DISINFECTANT
The following excellent article on disinfection in the Canadian under the authorship of field, of Charlotteville, Island.
Strictly speaking, disinfection is only one and very much bigger subject—milk hygiene should regard stable one of the most important anything wrong with chine does not work. It is only a question of it can run before it is completely for repair.
There are many disinfectants. They may be divided into three groups, Sanitary, Disinfectant, and Stables.
Sunlight is a good disinfectant. It is so effective that it is often used at one disposal. It kept constantly in the construction of dairy by any kind where maximum window area good construction for, and where there is usually, with side of the barn area other side. This fact of the officials who score card in all numbers of points whose barn was windows. A minimum feet of window area should always be present.
Closer Stables—the entrance of sunlight is always disinfection afforded by the doubtfully result in kept in cleaner condition rendered visible to be promptly removed which slowly but in the dark corners.
The dirt itself is harmful or dangerous frequently does, all ing place or a breeze some producing germs.
There are three producing bacteria Food, moisture and ature, usually that.
Heat—With only necessary disinfected body temperature is quired, but they atmospheric temperature limits. Those ones that bring active and fermentable forms. The portable matter is usually a liberation of gases have objectionable odors should never near any place who float in its various disinfectant at our that we should visible. We are deposed a disinfectant of the carcasses of an animal from an infectious that we should not ing water, or even of live steam. Even by a process of air for a given length of time, the general principle of temperature is quired to be disinfection.
For example, bacillus in milk temperature 140 degrees to 176 degrees Fahrenheit.
Chlorine—This group, according state, namely, green.
Glycerine—Glycerine, of which is a disinfectant, is used in the disinfection of the premises, most entirely only outside the is a difficult to stable and the tightly wadding the stable is usually a disinfectant. Solids, solution must be less suitable to exert that. Therefore in be able disinfectants are we limited. Besides the physical itself, we consider its the particular Care with disinfectants and must be able caution, a bicarbonate of