

This Is Happy

By PEGGY DERN

XXX
 "IS the sight of me so repulsive, Happy?" Steve asked uncertainly.

"Of course not. D-don't be a goof! It's just that—I'm—so surprised," she stammered, and came on up the stairs to him and felt her hand enclosed in his.

"I've been sitting here since four o'clock," he told her, frowning. "It didn't know where you were working, so I couldn't walk into your office and sweep you off your feet. Just as well, eh? Maybe some boss, isn't it broad-minded and understanding as I used to be when you worked with me."

Happy was fumbling in her bag for her key, and Steve took it from her fingers and unlocked the door. Instantly a tornado of golden-yellow fur hurled itself upon Happy, and dropped back, startled at sight of a stranger.

Steve bent down and held out his hand tentatively.

"Hi, fella," he murmured politely. "Here—have a bite. Being Timmy, you can scratch me if you like."

Timmy sniffed at the extended fingers, hesitated a moment, and deciding that the stranger wasn't dangerous, allowed his head to be scratched gently.

"Hi—he likes me!" said Steve happily. "Or maybe he has decided he's getting nowhere fast by sulking me and is giving in!"

Happy said unsteadily, "Maybe he's bowled over with surprise, as I am." Steve, what are you doing in New York?"

"Checking up," said Steve cautiously. "I had the colossal luck to run into Mrs. Harrell on Hollywood Boulevard a day or two ago. We had a cocktail and a bit of a sip and she told me the—current news."

Happy turned away to dispose of her hat and bag, and over her shoulder she said in a voice that held hard to be believed, "Tell me about you, Steve. What have you

Marriage Rates Vary; Divorces Always Increase

I got back to the hotel, I telephoned a real estate man I'd met and he thought it could be had—and it was. What about it Happy?"

SHE drew a long breath and looked at him, her hands tightly clenched.

"But, Steve, you—you wanted me to marry George—remember?" she said very low.

He nodded, his lean face set.

"I was being noble if it killed me—and if almost did!" he admitted. "I had known all along I was crazy about you; and then George came along, and I saw Sundown and realized all that he could offer you, and—"

"Oh, Steve, how could you be so kind?" she whispered pitifully.

He looked at her swiftly, sharply, as though afraid to believe what was in her eyes.

"Was I so blind, Happy?" he asked almost fearfully.

She smiled through a mist of tears, her soft mouth tremulous.

"Terribly blind, Steve—but so was I at first. I was dazzled by Sundown; I thought—right work, until I saw you that day in Savannah. And then everything was so gloriously bright. I knew that if you didn't want me, then I'd be just Miss Brandon for the rest of my life."

She was smiling at him mistily, and suddenly she was in his arms and he was holding her close, as though he meant never to let her go again.

A long, long time afterwards, she looked up at him, her eyes bright, her face flushed and radiant.

"And when you go abroad, Steve—"

Steve kissed her to silence.

"I said that all depended on my private business," he told her firmly. "And since my private business has turned out so gloriously, I won't be going abroad again—not until you can go with me, and I feel it will be safe to take you. And, with all my heart, I hope it may be."

"I was your private business?"

He grinned at her.

"And what a business!" he said happily.

World conditions sharply influence the number of marriages in the United States, an Investors Syndicate survey shows, but the number of divorces continues to increase steadily. In fact, divorces increased fastest during the wartime slump in marriages. There were 2,308,000 weddings in 1946, and 622,000 divorces.

BARBS

BY HAL COCHRAN

ENOUGH silk and nylon stockings may be given as Christmas presents this year to make skirts shorter again.

Many authors should have been cheered by the news that a garbage man died and left a fortune.

Washington police arrested three high school boys for stealing an airplane. We'll bet they were surprised at where they landed.

The trouble with a bigamist is that he loves not wisely but too well.

An eastern pastor resigned because his congregation insisted on having church suppers. He probably doesn't like meat loaf.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Veteran Diplomat

HORIZONTAL

- 3 Erect
- 4 Manufactured
- 5 Near
- 6 Close
- 7 Go by aircraft
- 8 Registered nurse (ab.)
- 9 Peacock
- 10 Musical instrument
- 11 Irish province
- 12 Lariat
- 13 Any
- 14 From
- 15 Expire
- 16 Exist
- 17 Insane
- 18 Skittish
- 19 Golf term
- 20 Shoemaker's tool
- 21 Bargain event
- 22 44 Hour (ab.)
- 23 Stoth
- 24 Grape refuse
- 25 Mourn greatly
- 26 He is assistant secretary
- 27 48 Native metals
- 28 53 Symbol for erbium
- 29 Pauses
- 30 Exclamation

VERTICAL

- 1 Patterns
- 2 Liquid part of fat

Ranger Daily Times

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Make Furniture

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (UP)—The framework of next year's furniture may be nothing but sawdust.

For years this troublesome by-product of the furniture industry has plagued the manufacturers. Disposal was an expensive and messy job. The sawdust fouled the air and cost more to burn than it yielded in heat.

Six furniture manufacturers jointly finance experiments to find some use for the mountains of sawdust that accumulated. The experiments showed that sawdust when compressed, made a superior core stock, which forms the framework of furniture.

Women Are Necessary
 Boston C. C. Finds

BOSTON (UP)—The Boston Chamber of Commerce finally has conceded that women are necessary.

After the chamber voted to break a barrier of long standing preventing women from sitting on the board, Michael T. Kelleher, president, addressed the members. He said:

"I know of no venture program for complete community co-operation that achieves success without the support and help of women."

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FUNNY BUSINESS



"The guy upstairs has been dropping his shoes a little heavy lately when he goes to bed!"

BUY GAYNOR MADDOX

NEA Staff Writer

TANGERINES are the traditional Christmas stocking fruit. Growups like them, too. They are an excellent source of vitamin C and a good source of calcium.

Many families are eliminating heavy desserts from holiday meals, adopting the European custom of serving fruit and cheese, instead. These grain-saving desserts in this time of our history take on added importance.

Here's a perfect end for a holiday dinner—a platter of tangerines, the peel removed except for a small circle at the base so that the sections are held together. Clusters of raisins fill the center of each tangerine, and the fruit tray is served with cheese and crackers. It's not only good to look at, but refreshing after a filling main course.

Tangerine Fluff
 (Serves 6)

Two cups tangerine pulp and juice, 1/2 cup brown sugar, 3 tablespoons cornstarch, 1/4 teaspoon salt, 2 eggs, separated, 1 tablespoon butter or fortified margarine, 1/2 teaspoon grated tangerine or orange rind, 4 tablespoons sugar. Beat fruit pulp in double boiler. Mix brown sugar, cornstarch and salt and add to fruit, stirring until smooth and thick. Beat egg yolks slightly. Pour hot mixture over them; blend well. Return to double boiler and cook 2 minutes. Remove from heat; add butter or margarine and grated rind. Cool. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry. Add sugar gradually and beat until stiff and glossy. Fold into first mixture and pile into sherbet glasses. Chill.

TOMORROW'S MENU

BREAKFAST: Grapefruit, oatmeal, enriched toast, butter or fortified margarine, marmalade, coffee, milk.

LUNCHEON: Tongue and potato salad, toasted corn muffins, butter or fortified margarine, apples, tea, milk.

DINNER: Vegetable soup, melted cheddar cheese and tomato on toast (made from stale bread), buttered kale, parsley potatoes, rice bread, butter or fortified margarine, bowl of tangerines and grapes, coffee, milk.

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

THAT'S ALL, BROther!

WELL, IF IT ISN'T MY OLD FRIEND, LARD THE LUG!

HOW COME YOU AREN'T HOWLING AROUND BETHANY WITH THE REST OF THE WOLVES?

I CAN'T CUT IN ON HER UNTIL THE NEXT DANCE— I MEAN— UM—

GOOD OLD TAG DANCES! THE OBJECTS A GIRL GETS STUCK WITH WHEN SHE ISN'T WATCHING!

PARDON ME FOR LIVING!

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYBODY!

WHY THE BIG BLUES ACT CHUMP! YOU'LL GET PARANOMIA 'OUT HERE!

I HOPE I DO! ON MY DEATH BED, MAYBE I'D AT LEAST SEE SOMETHING OF MY DATE!— EVERY TIME I START DANCING WITH BETHANY, SOME LUG WHOPS ME ON THE BACK AND CUTS IN!

A COUPLE OF TAG DANCES A NIGHT MIGHT BE OKAY, BUT NOT ALL EVENING!

WHERE YOU GOING?

I'M GOING TO DANCE WITH MY DATE! AND FROM NOW ON, I'M MAKING THE RULES!

HEY, WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE PUSHING?

IM PUSHING YOU! ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO KNOW?

NOW, LARD, I'VE BEEN A GENTLEMAN ALL EVENING, AND WHAT'S YOUR ABILITY BEHAVING LIKE A GENTLEMAN!

I'VE BEEN A GENTLEMAN ALL EVENING, AND WHAT'S YOUR ABILITY BEHAVING LIKE A GENTLEMAN!

STAND IN LINE TO DANCE WITH YOUR OWN DATE! TAKE STEPS AND SOME MONKEY CUTS IN! PHOOEY!

I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY DO IN THE SOUTH. I DON'T GO FOR THIS SHARE-THE-DATE STUFF!

LOOKS TO ME LIKE SMITH NEEDS TAKING DOWN A PEG!

BY MERRILL BLOSSER

THE GUY UPSTAIRS HAS BEEN DROPPING HIS SHOES A LITTLE HEAVY LATELY WHEN HE GOES TO BED!

RED RYDER

ARE YOU TELLING LITTLE BEAHER SOME OF YOUR DORIES OF TONIGHT?

WELL, MAYBE I DO BEAHER'S JUST A MITE!

HELLO—DACHESSE—WHAT BEAHER'S WHAT BEAHER'S?

DID YOU THINK I'D FORGET MY FAVORITE PUPPETS DURING THE HOLIDAYS?

I BROUGHT A TURKEY FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER!

WHOO-HOO! MERRY CHRISTMAS, YOU BETCHUM!

WHEN YOU'RE AT EVERYWHERE—LIKE I HAVE—YOU LEARN TO APPRECIATE GOOD COOKING!

YUM-YUM! I'M READY TO BUST MY OUT ALL OVER!

FOLLOWING A HOLIDAY DINNER WITH RED RYDER, OLD TIMER, BEAHER'S TAKES—

I WENT TO SEA JUST ONCE! I SHIPPED CATTLE AND THE WIND AND DANG NIGH DIDN'T LIVE TO TELL ABOUT IT!

OFF TIERRA DEL FUEGO THE ENGINE'S QUIT COLD!

ABANDON SHIP, ALL HANDS! WE'RE LOST!

WAVES ROCKED THE SHIP AND CATTLE WERE BELLERING!

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, CAPTAIN! I'LL GET YOU OUTA THIS!

WHAT'Y'NAIL, THERE WAS ANOTHER SHIP CLOSE BY AND I TRIED TO SIGNAL, BUT THE WIRELESS WAS DEAD!

BY FRED HARMON

THE GUY UPSTAIRS HAS BEEN DROPPING HIS SHOES A LITTLE HEAVY LATELY WHEN HE GOES TO BED!

ALLEY OOP

WHEN WHEN YOU TRIED TO INTERFERE WITH COOLA AN' HER KIDNAPER, SHE SLUGGED YOU!

YEEZZ! AN IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, JUST LOOK AT THE BUMP ON MY HEAD!

THERE, YEEB!

YEH! SEE, SHE REALLY LAID ONE ON YOU, NO JOKE!

WELL, YOUNG LADY, I GUESS NOW WE CAN RESUME OUR TRAVELING!

SORRY TO LEAVE YOU PARTLY TRIPPED UP, BUT WE'VE GOT SOME PRETTY TOUGH GONING UP AHEAD.

AND I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO GET HURT!

AM I A DOPPEL WITH COOLA A PRISONER RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE, I LET HER KIDNAPER KNOW MY HEAD OFF!

BUT HE AIN'T GONNA GET AWAY WITH IT—NO SIR! NO GADRIY! NO GADRIY! NO COOLA NEITHER FOR THAT MATTER!

AM SURE YOU BEBATH AN COME ON OVER, IT'S YOURS IF YOU'RE MAN ENOUGH!

BY V. T. HAMLIN

THE GUY UPSTAIRS HAS BEEN DROPPING HIS SHOES A LITTLE HEAVY LATELY WHEN HE GOES TO BED!

FEED

A. J. Ratliff

PHONE 109

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

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SOCIETY

Masquers Have Dance Mon. Eve.

The Masquers Club of Ranger Junior College was entertained Monday evening with a formal dance at the Teen Canteen. Decorations of the building carried out the Christmas theme. Past members of the club and students of the college were guests of the club.

EMPLOYEES 14 Employees Party At Coffee Shop

Employees of the Paramount hotel and Coffee Shop and employees of businesses housed in the hotel, Western Union, Gafner's Barber Shop, Jewell's Beauty Shop, and Ranger Jewelry Co., were entertained Tuesday night from 10 to 12 o'clock with a Christmas party in the coffee shop. Gifts were exchanged by about 30 guests present.

Formal Party Honors Peggy Lee Russell Monday

Mrs. Lee Russell entertained Monday evening, December 22, from 7:30 to 9:30 with a formal Christmas party honoring her daughter, Peggy Lee. Games were played and carols sung. Gifts were exchanged from the Christmas tree. Refreshments were served from a table laid with a damask cloth and lighted by red candles in crystal holders. White mums formed the centerpiece.

Those present were Dena Pulley, Cecil Lynn Robinson, Nancy Beth Quinn, Cecilia Mooney, Bertha Gallagher, Mary Ann Wallace, Patricia Ann Fleckenstein, Mary Russell, and the honoree, Peggy Lee Russell.

Personals

Mr. and Mrs. Garvin Chastain and son Sparkey, have returned to their home in Fort Worth after spending Christmas with Mr. Chastain's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Chastain.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jolly and son, Richard Earl, of Graham are the guests of Mrs. Jolly's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Neal of Houston who were recently married in Galveston are the guests of Mr. Neal's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Steven Neal.

Mrs. T. B. Bass of Abilene is the holiday guest of her daughter Mrs. M. L. King and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Murphy of Dallas are the guests of Mr. Murphy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Murphy.

Mr. and Mrs. Dusty Rhoads and children of Ozona have returned home after spending Christmas with her mother, Mrs. Mamie Ruth Hamrick.

Miss Wanda Browning of Fort Worth is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Browning.

Miss Jacqueline Edwards of Dallas is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Edwards.

Alvin Johnson returned to Borger today after spending Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ratliff and Mr. and Mrs. James Ratliff and son, A. J., II have returned from San Angelo where they spent Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Adams and daughter of Abilene were the Christmas guests of Mrs. Adams' parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Tunnell.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Ducker left today to return to their home in Kansas City, Mo. after spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. John W. Ducker and Carolyn Ducker.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Robertson of Station are expected to arrive today or tomorrow to spend the remainder of the holidays with Mrs. Robertson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray McHenry.

Lt. and Mrs. Anthony Daskevich of Camp Hood are spending the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Daskevich, and Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Gallagher, and families. Another guest of the Gallagher's has been Lt. De Lyle Seda who has returned to Camp Hood.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Gordon have as their guests over the holidays and until Sunday, all their children, Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Drury of Beaumont, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Derr of Beaumont, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Gay, Jr. and son, Bill of Waco, and Byron Gordon of Midland. The Gays are also visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Gay, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rawls and son, Jackie, of Monahans, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Rawls of Cuero are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rawls.

Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Lowe and Mrs. Ervin Lowe and sons, Bill and Jerry of Borger, and Mr. and Mrs. P. Matinos of Los Angeles, California, are spending the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Gertrude Lowe and their sisters, Mrs. Linda Forney and Mrs. Charles Hummel.

Heartsease

by Elsie Glenn

Serenity
Isn't it a lovely word?
Doesn't it bring balm to your soul?

It does to mine . . . it's like the mementic that follows after prayer.

Serene: clear and calm, unclouded; placid, unruffled.
Serenity: the state or quality of being serene; calmness of mind; equanimity of temper; coolness, composure.

It seems to me that somehow, these days, the quality of serenity is greatly missing and it leaves a bareness within my heart.
Do you feel that a certain quiet-

ness . . . a peace . . . a serenity is missing in the people you know . . . the homes you visit . . . in the people you meet? Do you find much clear calmness in faces nowadays?

Of course I know that the signs of the times do not lead to a feeling of serenity, but even during the war years, I noted a difference in attitude . . . one could call it serenity, of course . . . but there was a quietness . . . call it determination . . . composure that I do not find in the larger sense of the word in most people I know.

And serenity is such a vast part of living.
And the lack of it is a danger signal.

Do you realize what the lack of serenity in you, in your friends in me . . . means?

It means uneasiness . . . dissatisfaction . . . restlessness.

A woman who is truly gentle in spirit . . . maintains a serenity . . . a serenity that has, since the world began . . . helped to keep the world sane.

An serenity in men meant lack of fear . . . and strength . . . though it be a quiet strength.

I'm not saying that American people should hide their heads in the sand.

I think every American man and woman should be alert to current events.
But I miss a steadfastness in

Carbonyl, the alloy used in making high-speed metal cutting tools, is almost as hard as a diamond, according to the World Book Encyclopedia.

Army And Air Force Authorized To Take Applications

The US Army and US Air Force Recruiting Service is now authorized to accept enlistment applications for full duty in the Continental United States. It was announced today by Sgt. James Hendrick of the Eastland Recruiting Station.

Men with prior overseas service may enlist for a three year assignment to one of the following units in the Zone of Interior: 2nd Infantry Division, Ft. Lewis, Washington; 2nd Armored, Camp Hood, Texas; 82nd Airborne, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina; 2nd Engineer Brigade (Special), Ft. Warren, Washington; 3rd Armored, Ft. Knox, Kentucky; 4th Infantry, Ft. Ord, California; 5th Infantry, Ft. Jackson, South Carolina; and the 9th Infantry, Ft. Dix, New Jersey.

Enlistees are guaranteed a minimum of three years in the unit of their choice and will be sent directly from the place of enlistment to the unit without further processing or training.

Anyone with prior service with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard who is interested in this assignment is advised to contact the Eastland Recruiting Station as soon as possible for full information on enlistment policy.

Five Presidents have been elected from the state of Ohio and elected from other states born in Ohio.

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