

BOTH OVER 21

By

Samuel Hopkins Adams

"Wahsee don't here!"
"Night inspection of passengers,"
explained Wallis glibly. "To see
whether they're all right, you know.
I'm afraid you're not feeling too
well, yourself."

The power of suggestion contri-
buted to the other's growing dis-
tress. "You're dead right, I'm not
feeling so hot," he agreed. "I'm
feeling terrible."

"This way," the sympathetic
aide piloted him across the sill,
draped him on the rail and left
him to his own adjustments.

"Diplomat," Maida welcomed
Wallis back with a flattering smile.

"Still qualifying for the role of
whip's darling, I see," he commented.

"Now I don't think that's nice of
you," she returned with petulos,
"when I just came up for air. Do
you make a habit of being in the
right spot at the right time?"

"Oh, I've got better habits than
that."

"Is one of 'em mystery? Do you
know, I've quite a curiosity about
you."

"No mystery. My life is an open
book."

"Mr. Metzger gave me a lead.
Or was it warning? He tells me
that you are a swell guy and that
to know you is to love you."

"Metzy does me no more than
justice," replied the young man
modestly.

"What a comforting opinion of
oneself to have! I've never met a
real man-about-town before. How
do you get to be one?"

"Oh, you knock around. Drop in
at places, you know."

"What kind of places? I suppose
you go everywhere," she surmised
with a look intended to evince in-
genuous admiration.

"I've got the entry to the best
house in New York," he averred.

"And the night life of the city?
That's second nature to you, I'm
sure."

"More than I have of it would
wreck my health."

"Isn't a man-about-town sup-
pose to keep a yacht? I love yacht-
ing."

"Sorry. Just at the moment I
haven't a yacht in commission."

"A stable, though, surely."

She mistook his grin for a smile
of complacency. One of my entries
took a blue this winter."

"At the New York show?"

"Yes."

"Really?" (She was enjoying this.
But how far would he go?) "What
was the name?"

"Nightmare out of Indigestion by
Mince Pie."

"Oh, yes? Drive yourself?"

"I always do."

"Isn't that too marvelous! I
can't tell you how impressed and
thrilled I am, Mr. Kane. It's a
real privilege to meet a high-pow-
ered imagination like yours."

"Imagination?" He looked injured.
"D'you mean I'm a liar?"

"Why, Misi-er Kane! Who could
possibly think of such a thing?"

"If everything isn't a hundred
per cent true," he asserted with
impressive deliberation, "I'll pay
for the next Wondertrip myself."

"With Mr. Metzger as chaperon."

"Metzy is doing the best he
knows. He's a good sort, if you
make an allowance or two. Don't
let him fret your nervous system."

"There's a bit too much 'Do' or
'Don't', though. I thought I was
taking a vacation."

"Yes, you mentioned that. But
you didn't specify from what."

She pondered. "From life, I ex-
pect. I've never had that kind of
vacation. Have you?"

"Nobody ever has."

"Now you're trying to discour-
age me. Never mind, I'm declaring
a moratorium for myself. For nine
days nothing counts. Whatever
happens is wiped off the slate for-
ever afterward. You and Mr.
Metzger and Mr. Aymon and the
ship with everyone on it." She
made a gesture of sweeping dis-
persal.

"And, like an insubstantial dood-
ad faded."

"Leaves not a whoof behind,"
she declaimed. "Shakespeare, in
case you don't recognize it."

"Thanks, I think I get your idea.
Interlude without aftermath."

"Interlude without aftermath,"
she repeated slowly. "I like that
... I like you, Wally."

"Think I'll last nine days?" he
asked anxiously.

"If you're nice to me, I think I'd
better go back and dance now."

"Through the window he watched
her floating in the arms of a suc-
cession of partners. From what was
she escaping, to what returning
after the interlude of the nine-day
Wondertrip which she was sav-
ing with so avid an appetite? He
surmised that the large and violent
passenger who had so abruptly in-
jected himself into the proceedings
at the last moment figured some-
where in it.

To be continued

BANDITS GET \$30,000

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—
Three men held up an outlying
branch of the Hamilton National
Bank today and escaped with about
\$30,000.

Chipman Krit
HOSIERY
FAVORITES
with
ALL THE FAMILY

I LOST MY FEAR OF

Child Birth



Most mothers are sceptical about the possibility of having a baby without pain or anaesthetic. This week The Standard lets a young mother tell in her own words the marvellous results she obtained by following the Read Method of Childbirth—a safe easy method that's practically painless and requires no anaesthetic — a Special Feature Article in The Standard Magazine.

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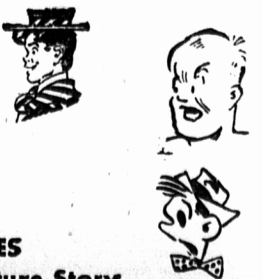
Spring Fashions

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BLONDE**



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