

THE HOLY TERROR!

Story of a World Dictator

By H. C. WELLS
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Rud had felt that something of the sort was coming. He had felt that for some days. He had already thought out his reply thoroughly and cunningly.

"It isn't impossible," he said. "I believe I might make something of a figurehead and something of a figurehead, but I shouldn't be any good, Chiffan, unless there were men in the ship behind me. And one man in particular. I have to need no ceremony to bind that fact, treaty."

They pursued their way and their several lines of thought.

"I doubt if I got hold of the women," Rud reflected.

Chiffan roused himself from profound calculation and gave his mind to Rud's question.

"The women?"

"I doubt if I got hold of them."

"You did exactly right about them, I wish I had your self-respect."

"I don't think I touched them."

"You didn't? And two I wanted. That's where we differ. I got my face slapped, I'm sorry but I did. It accelerated my departure. But you just impressed them. That's the difference between us. Why I shall never be a leader. I can't keep my hands off a pretty girl. It's a second-rate quality for all my will and wisdom. I have to admit it. You kept absolutely aloof from them. Exactly what a real leader has to do. You were contented on being a leader. All the world loves a lover," they say. Don't you believe it. Not in politics. Suppressing you had started to philander. I wouldn't have been so difficult. That yellow-haired girl—"

Rud had noted the interest of the yellow-haired girl, had felt it even when he was standing and speaking with his back to her, had dreamt about her; but he gave no sign.

"You'd have started a lot of jealousy and irritation among the girls. Even if they didn't want you for themselves, they'd not have liked a mother girl monopolizing you. And you'd have just come down to competition with the other men. Every man is more or less jealous of any man who gets a girl. Even if she isn't his girl. That's one of the Lord Horatio Bohun's disadvantages. He can't keep his profile and his aristocracy and his touch of sex appeal out of the picture. May be they won't let him. . . . Women disciples are dangerous animals. . . . If I hadn't felt you were a natural leader for ten other reasons, I'd have known it from your handling of those women. Cool. Sure. I was a bit silly out of school, I admit, but all the time I was being you. One or two of them said things about you."

Rud could not resist asking what they said.

"He's aloof," they said. "There's a sort of mystery about him."

And then Chiffan produced one of those reasons for his interest. Rud was beginning to find characteristic of him.

"A political leader," said Chiffan, "is he necessary and he is an appeal, a manifest, cuckoo or the faithful husband of some ugly unpleasant or woman. Run your mind through history. All history stands for it. Napoleon, for example. Caesar—all Cleopatra's bunch; Marcellus; Justinian; Oliver Cromwell. . . ."

Rud looked anything but elated.

"It's part of the price of greatness," said Chiffan, "and all that, it isn't as though you wanted them, Rud."

"No," said Rud, relaxing into his primitive self. "I wanted them."

"Everything would be different," said Chiffan firmly. "But you don't either show or use. Not even out of rivalry."

He regarded Rud, with his head cocked on one side for a moment, and then confirmed his impression.

"No."

CHAPTER XI

JIM FLAB

Chiffan went on for a time preoccupied with some train of thought of his own. "Philandering," broke out at last, "philandering. That's the matter with most of us intellectuals. We philander with women. We philander with ideas. We philander with violence. . . . Rud, the real world is a bloody world, a world of beatings and bruises and cuts and fights and dead men. And men not quite killed who're sick. . . . That Austrian said. These dying men who were sick in that room. You heard him? Gods! I can see it still! That's the raw meat of life. What are ideas alone? Ideas—ideas are shapes but no substance."

"That discussion on no-resistance, Rud. Did you ever have a better show of ideas versus Real. Elegant sentiments and then suddenly those actual things that cut like a knife."

"Ideals of Nothing serious in this world was ever settled by nice little rabbits putting their little vote-pieces into boxy-poxes and going home again. These dying men you have to get, Rud, on your way to leadership, is."

"Yes?"

"Well, I don't want you to get too much of it."

"What do you mean?"

"A broken knuckle, say—a tooth knocked out and a black eye—"

A glow of amused animation appeared upon Chiffan's countenance, a brightening of the eye, a shining effect on the face. It was his nearest approach to laughter.

"Bloody knuckles, black eyes and contumace, Rud. The way of the leader is hard."

"I suppose I've got to face up to it," said Rud after a slight pause. "It's all in the day's work I suppose."

Chest Wheezing Means Bronchitis

The principal symptom of bronchitis is a dry, harsh, hacking cough accompanied with a rapid wheezing and feeling of tightness across the chest.

There is a rising of phlegm, especially in the morning. This phlegm is at first of a light color, but as the disease progresses becomes yellowish or greenish, and is sometimes streaked with blood.

You will find in Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup a remedy to stimulate the weakened bronchial organs, subdue the inflammation, soothe the irritated parts, loosen the phlegm and mucus, and help nature to easily dislodge the morbid accumulation.

The T. Millers Co., Ltd., Toronto, Ont.

Special Holiday Excursion Rates

MONTREAL, Dec. 15 — Low round trip excursion fares for Christmas and New Year holiday periods will be in effect on the railways of Canada between all stations according to C. P. Riddell, Chairman Canadian Passenger Association for the Christmas period. Tickets will be 2-1/2 at the regular one-way fare and one quarter for the round trip, with return good to midnight of January 7.

leave destination any time up to midnight of December 27. Tickets will also be sold at the same fare for the New Year holidays, good going from December 30 up to 2 P. M. of January 2 with the return movement good to leave destination up to midnight of January 8.

For the travel period covering both holidays tickets will be sold on a longer time basis at the rate of regular one-way fare and one third for the round trip. These tickets will be good going from December 20 up to January 2 inclusive, with return movement permitted from destination up to midnight of January 7.

For teachers and students at educational institutions tickets will be sold at the rate of regular one-way fare and one quarter for the round trip covering both Christmas and New Year vacation periods.

These are now on sale and will be sold up to and including January 2 with the return movement permitted as late as January 31.

RARE DISEASE FATAL

MELBOURNE, Aus.—A fish cleaner died here of Wells disease, the first case on record in Melbourne. The rare malady is contracted from rats.

Fur Officials See Lower Price For Silver Fox Pelts

TORONTO, Dec. 14 — (CP)—Officials of the Ontario Fur Farmers' Association, meeting at the annual fur show here, said today that silver fox pelts will be 10 per cent cheaper this year than last if early season sale of pelts is a sound indication. More than \$45,000 worth of fox and mink pelts are on display at the show.

"The later pelting season occasioned by the winter fall is largely responsible for the decrease," Col. George Cousins, Georgetown, show manager, said. "This does not mean the quality of the pelts is not as good as last year. Officials of large Canadian and United States companies said these pelts are the best collection of furs they have ever seen."

Col. Cousins said that mink pelts, according to early indications, would be nearly 20 per cent higher this year than last, because of the greater demand for mink furs. Approximately 60

Conquest
COUGHS-COLDS
Twice as quick
WITH
BUCKLEY'S
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Box and mink rangers have fur on display at the show.

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



THE DUNCE CAP

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With Major Hoople

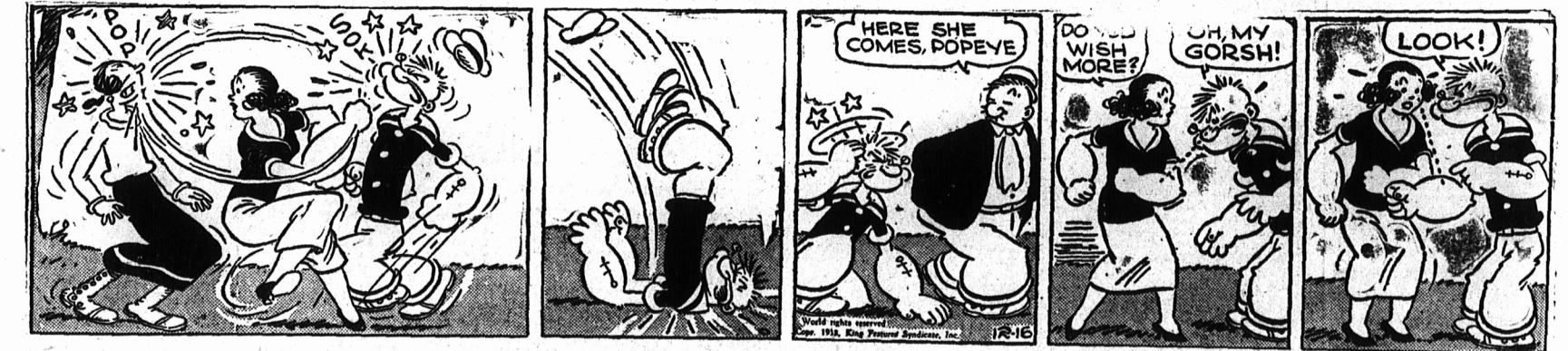


BRINGING UP FATHER

By George McManus



Thimble Theatre, Starring POPEYE -- Now Showing-- "Forearmed is Forewarned"--Tomorrow-- "Muscling in on Olive's Territory."



TIPPIE and "CAP" STUBS

By Edwina



TILLIE THE TOILER -- A PERFECT EXPLANATION.

By Westover



Mexico Seeks Barter Accord With Japan

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 14 — (AP)—Mexico was reliably reported today to be negotiating a \$1,000,000 Barter oil deal with Japan in a vigorous drive to find foreign markets for the rushing wells she expropriated from foreign companies March 18.

While it was denied at the government's Petroleum Department that a deal was pending, other sources said negotiations had been underway for weeks on a basis that would provide Japan with \$1,000,000 worth of oil annually.

It was proposed to make the deal on a one-year basis, it was said, on such terms that the contract might be continued indefinitely.