

# The Man and the Hour

By KEITH GORDON

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Elinor for the first time in her life was looking the future squarely in the eye. Hitherto she had been content to nibble at life, munching away contentedly enough, satisfied with the joy of the moment. And she might have gone on so for an indefinite time had it not been for the occurrence of the 21 of June.

New Year's day is significant only because then, by common consent, time moves up a number. This particular June 3 made an indelible impression on Elinor's mind because on that day she began to be thirty-two—began at the very beginning, of course, but still she began.

"I shall say I'm thirty-one all this year anyway," she announced defiantly to that other self that receives our dearest confidences. "It's such bad form to say you're thirty-one years and two months old, or whatever it may happen to be. And if I have to write it I'll make it thirty-one in round numbers—not even thirty-one plus." All of which, as the reader can see, was very unscrupulous.

However, as she found, by far the worst thing about beginning to be thirty-two was the fact that you couldn't forget it. The harder you tried the better you remembered it.

"Well, what if I am?"

This was the remark that our heroine slung into space when, after a week of torment, she sat down with her chin resting on her hands to have the thing out. "What if I am? So are plenty of other girls—women, I mean. Alice is thirty, Mary thirty-one, Mabel twenty-eight."

She paused in her enumeration, struck by the thought that all these friends were married. Matrimony was a subject to which she had given the minimum of thought. She supposed she'd come to it some time, but she was in no hurry to enter that narrow pasture so long as there was pleasant browsing to be had outside.

When she had thought of it at all it had seemed to mean chiefly a tiresome round of housekeeping that resulted in three perpendicular lines just over the nose, a memorandum of worry that she secretly determined to avoid as long as possible. But now that she was beginning to be thirty-two the thing was different.

Could it be, she asked herself, that she had made a mistake after all and that those three incisive lines were as much of an honor as an officer's bars? Could it be that there was a point when one began to be thirty-two—for instance, when becomingness demanded that one should lay aside "Miss" just as it required that one should stop wearing pink?

She faced her plight with a stiff upper lip, realizing that she had no one but herself to blame. There had been a number of men—the mischievous dimple at the corner of her mouth danced into sight for a second at the thought of how many—who had done their best to stop her in what she now recognized for the first time her mad career. She had declined their offers kindly, but with a certain royal carelessness that recked not of possible dark hours to come. When did any woman born to the belief in the divine right of queens ever foresee dethronement?

"She had inadvertently 'lived over,'" she had once heard it quaintly phrased. There was no doubt about it, she was an old maid! She repeated it aloud in all its brutal truth, scorning such euphemisms as "spinster" and "bachelor woman."

"You're an old maid—just a plain old maid!" she said audibly. But it sounded like a joke—like one of those things too bad to be true. She would probably wake up after a bit to find that she had been married since her eighteenth year and had a son ready to enter college and a daughter about to make her debut.

No such happy awakening came, however, and with desperate philosophy she decided that since she was an old maid she would enter into the role for all it was worth. At least she would avoid the error of being kittenish.

Little by little her plainest gowns were brought into requisition. Certain little graces and frivolities of the toilet were one by one abandoned. She timidly asked Alice, her closest friend, to teach the children to call her "auntie," a thing which she had hitherto forbidden under the penalty of a sudden death to the cherub that should first be guilty of it.

"What is the matter with you?" gasped Alice, with a stare of amazement. "And what have you been doing with your hair, and why are you wearing that ugly old dress, with all the handsome things that you have?"

"I'm just wearing the things suitable to my age before the dear friends have a chance to point them out to me," was the answer, and that night her friend condescended to her husband, with thoughtful regret, that Elinor was becoming a regular old maid.

Another of her friends and comrades, Max Anderson, also noticed the subtle change. There had been a sort of brother and sister friendship of long standing. For years he had scolded and criticized and bullied her. The one thing that he hadn't done was to make love, and Elinor had long since given up trying to make him.

"Haven't you ever been in love, Max?" she had asked him once, with genuine curiosity in the gray eyes that had been more than one man's un-

doing. A girl had come up into his face, and he looked at her strangely.

"Yes," he answered shortly. "I have."

"Beautiful girl, isn't it?" he went on after a moment, and there was a touch of mockery in his voice that made the questioner wince. After that she asked him no more.

"What's up?" he demanded, surveying her cynically as she came down to receive him one evening, with renunciation speaking from every line of her plain gown and her smooth, parted hair. "Is it some sort of lay sackcloth and ashes? What particular sin are you mourning?"

"The great sin of omission!" she answered demurely as they sat down opposite each other. But he looked incredulous. He had not known her fifteen years for nothing.

"Commission, you mean," he said dryly, with an air of remembering things.

"No, omission! I'd tell you about it, only you're never any comfort to a person. You're just like a stone, Max. I don't know how I've endured you so long."

He turned his eyes lazily upon her with a look long, steady, inscrutable. Neither spoke, but after a moment Elinor, with a beautifully assumed air of perfect ease, sought refuge in a study of the pattern of the carpet.

"Possibly I may tell you some time," he said, with a nonchalant laugh, "but go on; let me hear what's the trouble. You always tell me eventually."

And so, in fact, she did. It was the beauty of Max that he made you like and hate him simultaneously. But no matter what you felt you wanted him, and you usually confided in him. That at least had been Elinor's experience, and it was being repeated for the hundredth time now. She wanted to tell him; she always wanted to tell him everything. She leaned forward suddenly, with a childish bid for sympathy in her eyes.

"You see, Max, I've omitted to get married. And now I'm thirty-one—"

"Plus," he corrected gravely.

"Thirty-one," she continued firmly, "and, though it's been great fun—well, all at once I realized that I'm an old maid. It's so unexpected. Why haven't I married? That's what I don't understand."

There was a pause in which it seemed to her that she suddenly heard the beating of her own heart. Before she fully realized what had happened her hands were held close and Max was saying:

"Look at me, Elinor, and see if you can't find out. I've waited years for you to finish sowing your wild oats."

### Unnatural

Small Nancy, aged four, had a doll to which she was devotedly attached. It could open and shut its eyes, and every night Nancy took it to bed with her, carefully closing its eyes before the light was turned out. One day the doll, as dolls from time immemorial have been known to do, met with an accident which placed the eye-slutting mechanism out of business and left it with not only widely and permanently opened optics, but badly damaged ones as well. At intervals during the remainder of the day Nancy pleaded to have her dolly "reured," but nothing was successful. At bedtime when she had donned her nightdress and started for her little bed her mother saw she had for her adored doll and reminded her of it, saying:

"But, Nannie, you've forgotten your baby. She won't be able to sleep unless you take her to bed with you, as usual."

To her mother's amused astonishment Nancy threw a half contemptuous look over her shoulder at the doll, recumbent on a chair, and said:

"Oh, what's the use? She can't sleep anyway. Who ever heard of anybody sleeping with their eyes wide open?"—New York Times.

### Crushed by His Wife.

"My wife is not always as considerate of my feelings as she might be," says the man who invariably means well. "I went home the other night, and I could see that I was not more than duce high with her on account of—well, no matter what, I was full up of a new theory a man had been imparting to me, and as I always believe in a man's regarding his wife as his intellectual equal I told her about it. The man told me that it is the brain that really nourishes the hair. He even went so far as to say that if you pull a hair out you pull out a bit of brain with it. It interested me exceedingly. My wife just snuffed."

"That's not new," she said. "I found that out long ago. It doesn't matter either whether the hair is pulled out or falls out naturally."

"That's what I get for trying to be good to that woman. Stung by my wife."

Here he raised his hat. He was as bald as a newly plucked egg.—Washington Post.

### Timing Bananas.

It is generally known that bananas are shipped while yet green and unripe, but few persons are aware of the careful and elaborate time calculations required in setting out the plants and cutting off the fruit in order to insure the arrival of the bananas in proper condition at their destination. When a plantation is begun the young plants are set out at certain intervals, so that they will produce at regular prefixed times during the year. A certain number of days before the arrival of a steamer the green fruit is cut, and a close calculation of the time that will be consumed in the voyage must always be made, else the bananas will be spoiled. Fruit steamers carry steam heating apparatus to insure a uniform temperature throughout the voyage. The ripening is calculated to occur only after the fruit has reached the retail dealer.

### HORACE GREELEY.

The Gentle, Brusque and Welcome Farmhouse Intruder.

"When Horace Greeley was first married and brought his bride home on a visit," said an old acquaintance, "a sugar party was given in his honor on a neighboring farm. All the guests had arrived, and we were looking out watching for the beated bride and groom. At last we saw something appearing in the distance. As this same object came nearer we discovered it was the old white horse of the Greeyes slowly picking his way through the mud. On his back sat the bride in a brilliant yellow frock, with a green velvet belt, and behind her, wrapped in his famous white overcoat, sat the editor of the New York Tribune. It was the funniest sight I ever saw and set us off in fits of laughing. I remember that I simply lay down and rolled upon the floor in a spasm of mirth."

"Mr. Greeley came home every year and after a day or two on the farm would start out to walk miles and call on people. He was never known to knock at a farmhouse door. No matter whether he knew the inmates or not he would push open the door, walk right in, sit down by the fireplace and fall to discussing crops and other topics dear to the farmer's heart. Everybody was glad to welcome this gentle, brusque intruder."

### AFRICAN SANDSTORMS.

The Conditions Which Bring About These Deadly Blasts.

The sandstorms of African deserts are caused by the great power of the sun's rays, the extreme dryness of the air and the small conducting power of the sand. The superficial layers of sand in the deserts of Africa and Arabia often become heated to 200 degrees F. to a depth of several inches. The air resting on this hot sand becomes also greatly heated, thus causing ascending currents. As a result air flows in from all sides, and different currents meeting, cyclones are formed, which are swept onward by the wind prevailing at the time. Since the temperature of the air, originally high, is still further raised by the heated grains of sand with which it is loaded, it rapidly increases to a most intolerable degree. In the shade it has been known to reach 126 degrees. It is to the parching dryness of this wind, its glowing heat and its choking dust and not, as is sometimes supposed, to any poisonous qualities it possesses that its destructive effects on animal life are to be ascribed. The effects of sandstorms are most terrible, large caravans being frequently overwhelmed and destroyed by them. It was by their agency that the armies of Cambyses and Sennacherib were annihilated.

### DEEP SEA ANIMALS.

How Those Who Live Below All Vegetation Get Their Food.

"Naturally the fish of the deep portions of the ocean are carnivorous, no vegetable life being found below 200 fathoms," writes W. S. Harwood in Harper's Magazine. "In the Atlantic ocean the vast Sargasso sea, containing 3,000,000 square miles of surface—a great marine prairie as large as the whole of the United States exclusive of Alaska and dependent islands—affords vegetable food for uncountable animals, which in their due time die and are precipitated to the depths, their bodies in turn to be eaten by the animals which live far below all vegetation. So it is throughout the whole ocean; animal life is constantly falling from the surface waters for the support of the animal life of the abyss. A very large number of the deep sea animals are exceedingly tenuous or translucent in form—so to put it—having no special organs of nutrition, but taking in their nourishment through the walls of their bodies, appropriating from the water the food which suits them. Some of them have a bony structure, a skeleton, which they form also from the water, silica and carbonate of lime being the chief skeleton forming materials."

### Had a Derelict in Tow.

A naval officer one day noticed two sailors in earnest confab. One of them was imparting information to his companion of a very agreeable nature, judging from his beaming countenance. The officer in relating the incident says the manner of the speaker amused him very much. As he passed by the man raised his voice, with the unmistakable intention of being overheard, saying to his companion:

"I mean to give up this seafaring life when my time is out. I am going to marry a rich widow woman, the derelict of a butcher."

### The Useful Shark.

The smiling shark may eat a man now and then—though scientists doubt it—but if he does man gets even. He makes tinned soup and jelly of the smiling shark's fins, extracts fine machinery oil from his liver, makes handsome leather of his skin, walking sticks from his backbone and many useful articles from his jawbones and teeth. Do you wonder that the shark takes a nip at a man's leg now and then?—Duluth News-Tribune.

### Good Cause For Sorrow.

An uncle who has just lost his only nephew is in despair and cries continually: "What kills me is the knowledge that no one now will be sorry when I die. It's horrible, horrible, to think of!"—Paris Journal.

### Naughty Willie.

Dorothy—Mamma, Willie Primly keeps staring at me all the time in church. Mother—Where does he sit? Dorothy—Right behind me, mamma.—Chicago News.

### Happiness and Mercy.

Happy is the man who sees his own faults, is conscious of his own infirmity and secret sins. Such a man has little place for harsh, bitter or censorious judgments of other men. Possessing a merciful disposition, we share one of God's attributes and so become more like Him. Whatever mercy we show to another God will take care to show the same to us.—Rev. William J. Russell, Christian Church, Pittsburg.

### Simplicity.

Simplicity is not synonymous with either wantonness or imbecility in kind or matter. The simple and commonplace carpenter shop at Nazareth became the dwelling place of God, and the most commonplace sermon in life may be fit for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It is not wise to turn away from either contention to say, "It is too commonplace."—Rev. M. E. Harlan, Church of the Disciples, Brooklyn.

### True Happiness.

True happiness is not far from every one of us. God means to have us happy. There are three things that satisfy and give joy. First, life in a full stream. The moments of deepest and fullest life are the moments of greatest happiness and most exuberant joy. Secondly, growth. The sense of the increase of life or mental or spiritual power brings peace and exaltation. Thirdly, faith. Uncertainty brings fear and torment.—Rev. J. F. Loba, Congregationalist, Evanson, Ill.



In July, 1883, I began to break out with Eczema on my head, legs and arms, and began treatment with local doctors, but did not get much relief. They said the disease had become chronic. I then quit them and tried various ointments and soaps for another two years, but as soon as cold weather came I was as bad off as ever, so I finally decided to let medicine alone, and for twelve or thirteen years did nothing towards curing the Eczema, except bathing. This seemed to do about as much good as anything I had tried.

During the time I lost about one-half of my hair. I began to S. S. doubt of a cure, because the disease had run so long, but soon discovered your medicine was doing me good, and continued to take it. I used seven bottles, when I was completely cured, not having a single spot on my body, which before was almost completely covered. F. C. NORFOLK, 1017 Hackberry St., Ottumwa, Ia.

The head, feet and hands are usually the parts affected, though the disease appears on other parts of the body. While external applications allay the itching and burning temporarily, it is the acids thrown off by the blood that cause the irritation and eruptions upon the skin. The acids must be neutralized and the system cleansed of all humors and poisons before the cure is permanent.

S. S. is guaranteed to be entirely free of Potash, Arsenic, and other mineral salts. Book on the skin and its diseases sent free.

Medical advice furnished free.

The Swift Specific Company, Atlatia, Ga.

### SPECIAL MASTER'S SALE.

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF A FINAL decree of foreclosure and sale rendered by the 10th day of March, A. D. 1905, in and for the Fourth judicial circuit of Florida, in and for St. Johns county, in chancery sitting, and in the case of W. N. Camp, R. F. Brewer, O. T. Green and George D. Munsing, complainants, and Federal Trust Company, respondent, wherein Federal Trust Company, complainant, and Welpumka Fruit Company, a corporation, is defendant, as special master appointed therein, I will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the front door of the court house of said county, in St. Johns county, on the first Monday in May next, being the first day of May, 1905, at 12 o'clock noon, the following lands situate in Marion and St. Johns counties, State of Florida, to-wit:

In Marion county, the following lands, with all buildings and improvements thereon: Lots one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, and twenty-two, and the eastern half of lot forty-one, as shown upon a plan entitled "Map of a portion of the northeast quarter of section 29, township 14 north, range 21 east, H. J. Campbell, engineer, recorded in the public records of Marion county, which lots are severally described by metes and bounds in said decree, and also a mortgage given by Welpumka Fruit Company to Thomas S. Pierce, foreclosed in said suit, recorded in Marion county Public Records in mortgage book 33, pages 362 and 363, and in St. Johns county Records in mortgage book No. 1, pages 24 to 28, also two and 27-100 acres in the southeast corner of lot 14 of said plan heretofore mentioned.

The foregoing lands sold out of said sections with the buildings and improvements thereon: The southeast quarter, the south half of the northeast quarter, the south half of the north half of the northeast quarter, and lots one and two of section 21, and lot one of section 28, township 13 south, of range 21 east, H. J. Campbell, engineer, recorded in the public records of Marion county, which lots are severally described by metes and bounds in said decree, and also a mortgage given by Welpumka Fruit Company to Thomas S. Pierce, foreclosed in said suit, recorded in Marion county Public Records in mortgage book 33, pages 362 and 363, and in St. Johns county Records in mortgage book No. 1, pages 24 to 28, also two and 27-100 acres in the southeast corner of lot 14 of said plan heretofore mentioned.

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### NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE undersigned intend to apply to the Governor of the State of Florida, at Tallahassee Florida on the

10th day of April, A. D. 1905, for letters patent, on the proposed charter hereinafter attached, original of which is now on file in the office of the secretary of state of Florida, at Tallahassee, Florida.

W. N. CAMP, CLARENCE CAMP, R. F. BREWER, GEO. D. MUNISING, O. T. GREEN.

The undersigned do hereby associate themselves together as a business corporation under the provisions of the statute laws of the state of Florida, and do publish the following articles of incorporation:

ARTICLE I. The name of this corporation shall be the Florida Power Company.

ARTICLE II. The general nature of the business to be transacted by this corporation shall be:

1st. The purchasing, construction of, leasing and selling of water power rights, including the construction of dams for the purpose of generating electric power, and also conveying the said power to factories and machine shops for the purpose of running machinery, electric lighting, including lighting of cities.

2d. The business of this corporation shall be the purchasing, leasing and selling of real and personal property of all kinds and descriptions, including lands improved or unimproved, situated anywhere in the state of Florida, the purchase and selling of general merchandise, bonds or borrow money, with the power to mortgage any and all of said property to secure said loans to construct, lease and build docks, wharves and elevators and make any improvements for the purpose of navigation in any stream, river, gulf, bay or ocean, in or bounding the state of Florida, to manufacture any article of commerce, including machinery, and to build, equip, operate and maintain mills for such purposes, to mine any kind of mineral in the state of Florida.

3d. Also in connection with the said electric power aforesaid, and carrying on the business of this corporation, to own, construct or purchase any and all of the following: telephone lines, electric light lines, electric light plants and railroads, including terminals to said railroads and said electric lines, including the power to purchase, lease and construct on the same provided that the said corporation shall not have the right to exercise any franchise or other duties and liabilities of a public carrier in the construction, maintenance and operation of the properties above mentioned.

ARTICLE III. The amount of the capital stock authorized shall be \$500,000 divided into 5,000 shares of the par value of \$100 per share, the same to be assessed and to be issued when the money therefor is paid into the treasury.

ARTICLE IV. The term for which this corporation shall exist shall be ninety-nine years.

ARTICLE V. The business of this corporation shall be conducted by a president, secretary and treasurer. (Both of which offices can be held by the same person) and a board of five directors (of whom the president and secretary shall be members) all of whom shall be stockholders, and shall be elected by the stockholders at the annual meeting to be held on the first Monday after the tenth day of January of each year.

ARTICLE VI. W. N. Camp, president, Clarence Camp shall be secretary and treasurer, and with O. T. Green, Geo. D. Munsing and R. F. Brewer, shall constitute the first board of directors. All of the said officers shall be continued in office, conducting the business of the corporation until the qualification of their successors at the next election to be held under the provisions of this article.

ARTICLE VII. The highest amount of indebtedness of liability which this corporation can at any time subject itself shall be \$500,000.00.

ARTICLE VIII. The names of the subscribers to these articles are as follows, and their place of residence is set opposite each name, together with the amount of stock subscribed for by each:

William N. Camp, Ocala, Florida, 265 shares, Clarence Camp, Ocala, Florida, 10 " R. F. Brewer, Ocala, Florida, 10 " Geo. D. Munsing, Roanoke, Va., 10 "

Signatures of subscribers and subscription.

W. N. CAMP, 265 Shares, CLARENCE CAMP, 10 " R. F. BREWER, 10 " GEO. D. MUNISING, 10 " O. T. GREEN, 10 "

State of Florida, Marion County, I hereby certify that before me personally appeared W. N. Camp, Clarence Camp, R. F. Brewer, O. T. Green and George D. Munsing, each of whom are to me well known as the persons who subscribed to the articles of incorporation of the Florida Power Company, and each of whom acknowledged that he signed the said articles of incorporation as one of the subscribers and incorporators; and each of the said subscribers and incorporators acknowledged for himself that he had subscribed for the amount of capital stock set opposite his name and that he intended to pay the same under the laws of Florida and that my commission expires May 15, 1906.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal, this 28th day of March, 1905. A. D. [SEAL] FRANK DRAKE, 310 St. Notary Public State of Fla. at Large.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE. SIX MONTHS FROM THIS DATE, JAN. 2, 1905, on the 30th day of July, 1905, I will review my accounts and vouchers to the county judge of Marion county, Florida, and ask for settlement and discharge as administrator of the bonis non of the estate of J. Lynn Feaster, D. H. IRVINE, Administrator de bonis non.

NOTICE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALFRED HOWARD purchaser of tax certificates No. 1126, 1125 and 1152, dated the 3rd day of October, A. D. 1904, and certificate 986 dated the 1st day of July, A. D. 1901, has filed said certificates in my office, and has made application for tax deeds to issue in accordance with law. Said certificates embrace the following described property situated in Marion county, Florida, to-wit: Southwest quarter of section 2 and northeast quarter of northeast quarter, section 10, township 14 north, range 21 east, H. J. Campbell, engineer, recorded in the public records of Marion county, which lots are severally described by metes and bounds in said decree, and also a mortgage given by Welpumka Fruit Company to Thomas S. Pierce, foreclosed in said suit, recorded in Marion county Public Records in mortgage book 33, pages 362 and 363, and in St. Johns county Records in mortgage book No. 1, pages 24 to 28, also two and 27-100 acres in the southeast corner of lot 14 of said plan heretofore mentioned.

The southeast quarter, the south half of the northeast quarter, the south half of the north half of the northeast quarter, and lots one and two of section 21, and lot one of section 28, township 13 south, of range 21 east, H. J. Campbell, engineer, recorded in the public records of Marion county, which lots are severally described by metes and bounds in said decree, and also a mortgage given by Welpumka Fruit Company to Thomas S. Pierce, foreclosed in said suit, recorded in Marion county Public Records in mortgage book 33, pages 362 and 363, and in St. Johns county Records in mortgage book No. 1, pages 24 to 28, also two and 27-100 acres in the southeast corner of lot 14 of said plan heretofore mentioned.

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The southeast quarter, the south half of the northeast quarter, the south half of the north half of the northeast quarter, and lots one and two of section 21, and lot one of section 28, township 13 south, of range 21 east, H. J. Campbell, engineer, recorded in the public records of Marion county, which lots are severally described by metes and bounds in said decree, and also a mortgage given by Welpumka Fruit Company to Thomas S. Pierce, foreclosed in said suit, recorded in Marion county Public Records in mortgage book 33, pages 362 and 363, and in St. Johns county Records in mortgage book No. 1, pages 24 to 28, also two and 27-100 acres in the southeast corner of lot 14 of said plan heretofore mentioned.

The southeast quarter, the south half of the northeast quarter, the south