

Table Top

by Eden Phillpotts
CHAPTER XVI

The little Iguana enjoyed fair sailing on her long voyage east to Callao, and only one spell of rough weather was encountered.

Arrived, the travellers took respectful farewell of the master and his crew, promising faithfully enough that if they were again inspired to seek for adventure in the Pacific, Captain Costa should be the first to hear of it. Once more, Tom entertained the ship's company in port and gave every hand a handsome present. The Iguana was remaining to rest and seek for cargo before she went north, but Aylmer, Maine and Jane Bradshaw quickly set out for Lima to face such complications as awaited them.

Felice Pardo's mother now knew of his death, but the details would be set before her by Tom; while concerning the interview, he proposed first to see Jacob Fernandez and beg the old man for his advice. He also had yet to learn the fate of the mine, and there grew in him a strong inclination to keep it, unless Fernandez should prove

anxious to purchase and willing to pay the sum involved.

He was welcomed by his staff, and found a spirit of unrest, both at Lima and Mount Atajo, occasioned by the investigations and the rumours to which they had given rise. His first course was to inform Jacob of his return, and there came an invitation for him and his companions to dine with the old man upon the following evening.

Jane rejoiced in Lima and declared, as many had done before her, that she had never seen such a noble metropolis. Clad in a new dress of some little birds from the Marquesas, Jane drove with the men five miles out of Lima to a marble palace where dwelt their new friend. They laughed to see themselves in the garb of civilization, and all agreed that their ocean rags were much more comfortable.

Jacob made them exceedingly welcome, but asked after the fourth of their company and expressed sorrow to learn of his untimely end.

"Spare the sad details until after we have dined, young people," he said. "I did not know your fallen companion, but am glad to see that Tom and Angus and Jane are apparently none the worse. This is your future bride, I take it, Aylmer?"

Jane was introduced.

"Most kind of you to ask me too, Signor," she said, "and hearing from Tom of your glorious birds, and knowing how famous you were, I brought this pair of little island ones from the Marquesas for you."

Jacob was instantly interested.

"Now that was a beautiful thought," he said. "Yes, yes—I know all about them. They are exceedingly welcome and quite rare."

"I'd have loved to bring you some of the great yellow birds from Table Top," she told him, "but we didn't get a chance to catch any of them. I have the skin and bones of one. It may be new to science. You'll be sure to know. You must let it be set up, Signor, and I will tell you if it looks all right. How I got it is part of our wonderful story."

"The story will be interesting, Jane, I'm sure of that," he answered, and then gave her his arm to dinner.

The host addressed most of his conversation to Jane and talked about birds only. He asked after her parrot and congratulated her upon reading the bird's riddle, while she declared the praise was Jacob's own.

"But for you, nobody would have known he had a riddle," she said.

"You alone knew he wasn't talking his own language and told Tom to look into it. Everything turned out that way."

They chatted cheerfully about Jane's Gouldians and Jacob deplored the difficulties these birds presented.

"They are such bad fathers and mothers," he said. "They build excellent nests and lay plenty of excellent eggs; then their interest ceases and they absolutely decline to do their duty."

"So they do, but then you take their eggs to the nest of a Japan, Bengalese finch," she said. "You rob the poor Bengalese of their own clutch and let them hatch the Gouldians; and they rear them beautifully and do all the right things and, of course, think they are their own beautiful work."

Tom and Angus found Jacob infinitely more interested in Jane than in themselves, and even after they had dined and retired to an open-air chamber outside the house, he persisted in talking birds.

"To meet a fellow enthusiast, though one as yet hardly out of her childhood, is most attractive," said the Peruvian. "If you are spared to old age, Jane, you should know nearly all that can be called knowledge on your great subject."

"It is the loveliest subject in the world," she said.

"Have you read Michelet's

Tyne Valley Notes

The United Ladies Aid was held at the home of Mrs. Hart Lidstone on Sept. 24.

—Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ellis are

"L'Oiseau?" he asked, and Jane shook her head.

"Then I shall lend it to you. He has the French emotion—most beautiful. Michelet says this Jane."

Then Jacob quoted from memory. "The winged order—the loftiest, the tenderest, the most sympathetic with man—is that which man now-a-days persecutes most cruelly. What, then, is required for its protection? To reveal the bird as soul, to show that it is an actual person."

To be Continued

spending a pleasant holiday with their three daughters and their families in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred MacDougall, accompanied by Mr. and Thos. Grigg, Ellerslie, motored to Stanley Bridge, Sunday Sept. 27.

Mr. Leeman Campbell left Sept. 21 for Labrador where he will be employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan MacLean were visiting friends in Bedeque on Sept. 23.

Mrs. Eroy Ramsay entertained a number of children on Friday afternoon Sept. 25, the occasion being the birthday of her son William.

The funeral of the late Miss

Maude MacAusland was held Monday, Sept. 28 was interment in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Tyne Valley.

Mr. Emerson Barlow was confined to the Health Centre, Tyne Valley for a few days suffering an attack of pneumonia.

Rev. Mr. MacKay pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Summerside, was the speaker in Tyne Valley Presbyterian Church on Sept. 27.

Mr. and Mrs. Don MacDonald spent the week-end in Tyne Valley.

Mrs. Eroy Ramsay entertained a number of children on Friday afternoon Sept. 25, the occasion being the birthday of her son William.

Mrs. Margaret MacNeil has gone to Montreal where she will be em-

ployed for the winter months.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster Sharp and Mrs. G. S. Sharp attended the christening in the United Church in Summerside on Sunday of their grandson David Robert, infant son of Mrs. Helen Sharp and the late Flying Officer Robert Sharp.

Mr. H. MacDonald, New Glasgow, N. S. has taken a position in the Royal Bank at Tyne Valley.

Miss Priscilla MacArthur has resigned from The Royal Bank, Tyne Valley and will take a position with the Perfection Dairy, Summerside.

The Women's Institute held their meeting at the home of Mrs. Ernest and Mrs. Preston Grigg on Sept. 29. Roll call was answered by what "I would like to see the In-

CLERMONT SCHOOL REPORT

The following is the report of Clermont School for September:

Grade IX—1. Francis Shields; 2. Gavin Curley.

Grade VIII—1. Theresa Coen; 2. Mary Shields.

Grade VII—1. Lynn Murphy; 2. Shirley Mill; 3. Hoggood Rayner.

Grade I—Nancy Mill.

Highest average in senior grades—Frances Shields, 93.2.

Highest average in junior grades—Lynn Murphy and Nancy Mill (equal), 96.1.

Perfect attendance: Francis Shields, Laureta Mill, Theresa Coen, Sally Rayner, Erma Stafford, Mary Stafford, Jimmy Shields, Allison Stafford, Hoggood Rayner.

Teacher: George H. Riley.

Alvin Curley; 3. Laureta Mill.

Grade VII—1. Sally Rayner; 2. Frances Curley; 3. Ona Mills.

Grade V—1. Erma Stafford; 2. Paula Curley.

Grade III—1. Jimmy Shields; 2. Mary Shields.

Grade II—1. Lynn Murphy; 2. Shirley Mill; 3. Hoggood Rayner.

Grade I—Nancy Mill.

Highest average in senior grades—Frances Shields, 93.2.

Highest average in junior grades—Lynn Murphy and Nancy Mill (equal), 96.1.

Perfect attendance: Francis Shields, Laureta Mill, Theresa Coen, Sally Rayner, Erma Stafford, Mary Stafford, Jimmy Shields, Allison Stafford, Hoggood Rayner.

Teacher: George H. Riley.

The fine carved oak roof inside Westminster Hall in London, England, dates from 1399.

Loses Sight of Eye in Hiking Accident



Receives \$5,000

While on vacation recently, a young salesman from Toronto had a bad hiking accident. Ducking his head to avoid a branch of a tree, he brushed into another branch that severely damaged his left eye. He suffered complete loss of sight in that optic.

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POWER INTERRUPTION WARNING!



There will be an interruption of electric power on our Weymouth circuit in the City of Charlottetown and vicinity, on Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 7th, between the hours of 1:00 and 5:00 p.m., weather permitting, for the purpose of allowing the City to safely remove a large defective tree.

The City area involved in the interruption will be the general section bounded by Queen St., Elm Ave., Cumberland St., and Longworth Ave.

Maritime Electric Co. Ltd.

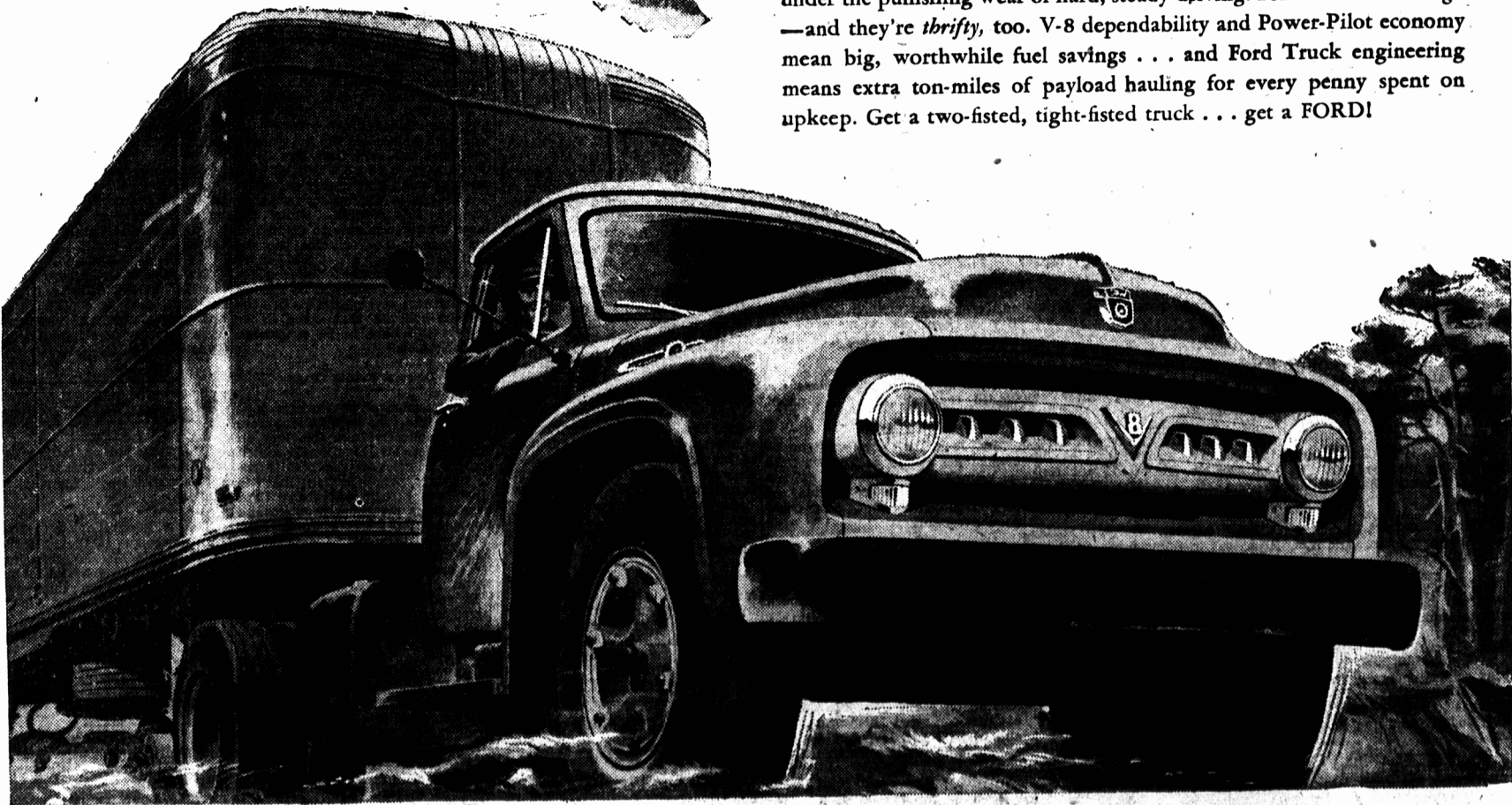
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