First Down and Geraldine

By JOHN SMITH

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IT IS to be doubted if Phil Berkley recognized the biggest day of his life as such when it dawned. Rather it is reasonable to suppose that the rising sun, shining in through the broad windows of the luxurious quarters accorded the team by the entertaining university, awakened him to a feeling of despondency.

What chance had he, left tackle on the third string, of getting more than a sideline participation in the great gridiron contest of the year? And, equally to be deplored, what chance had he of competing with the team's popular captain for the favor of a certain glorious person named Geraldine?

In other words, it looked to Philip as if four years of grueling application to the science of football and four years of dogged courtship were equally doomed to failure.

Geraldine had risen an hour earlier for the sole purpose of taking no risk of not arriving at the game in due season. Her dark blue roadster stood ready at the curb while she finished a leisurely breakfast.

"Your luck will be murmured since," "Trying to be in the game, of course," and not the ghost of a chance."

She threw down her napkin and rose. Perhaps tonight would find her engaged to Sperry, captain of the team. That such was his desire she knew from a letter received that very morning, and the thought was pleasant to dally with as she turned away to prepare for the four-hour cross-country drive to the great game in the college town.

The westering sun that day lighted her upon her car of dense, colorful spectators, whose eyes were glued to a handful of sweater-clad men who alternately scattered and bunched, only to scatter and bunch again. Tied was the score—had been since the end of the first period, when each side had a touchdown and goal to its credit.

Draped in a blanket, Phil Berkley sat with the subs and beat morose eyes on the field. They were being outplayed, dogged it!

Suddenly the referee's hand shot upward and action ceased. Time out. Man hurt! Phil could not see through the group surrounding a prostrate figure, but down his spine ran a premonitory thrill. Just suppose that t was Cox, left tackle on the second squad, who but a moment before had replaced the knocked-out tackle on the first. It if was—

He threw off his blanket and dogtrotted hopefully up and down. Yes, it was actually Cox who limped from the stands. And there signaled the coach's gesture which beckoned him, Berkley, to the fray.

Followed a quick sequence of important events, bringing to Berkley the great moment of his life. Recovering a fumble, he found himself, much to his own amazement, running with the coveted pigskin clenched close to his side, and even as he plunged madly, dodging and twisting and all but leaping the combining interference of his opponents, his brain played wildly with the phrase, "First down and Geraldine! First down and Geraldine!"

Summoning his ultimate ounce of energy, he thrust aside one clutching giant after another, pushed blindly on, stumbled, recovered and went down beneath a pile of brawny fighters who shut from his ears the thundering clamor as one-half the stadium went mad in shouting, hat-flinging delirium. First down on the ten-yard line! Berkley! Berkley! Berkley!

The inevitable touchdown which followed was in the nature of an anticlimax, and Berkley, by making it a foregone conclusion, had already won the game. The question with him now was—had it helped him with Geraldine?

That he wouldn't know for many hours seemed probable. For Geraldine had agreed to dine with Captain Sperry. Consequently, when the hero of the afternoon wandered into the garage where Geraldine kept her car he had no expectation of anything beyond a glimpse of the little roadster belonging to her.

Yes, there was her car and—why, surely that familiar little figure was none other than Geraldine herself!

"Philip!" she cried as she caught sight of him. "Isn't it fine Sperry's men won? I heard the newsboys shouting the score. Had such tough luck! Broke an axle and only arrived this moment. Spose you didn't even get a look-in. Never mind! I'd hate to marry a football hero—too likely to be spoiled."

Philip stood as a man in a trance. Geraldine had not been present! She didn't know of his wonderful luck! And what had she said about marrying a football hero?

"Geraldine!" he cried.

Geraldine dropped her head, then lifted it bravely. "Philip, dear," she said, "when I saw you coming in the doorway I knew it was you I loved."

Philip, who had escaped the attentions of his classmates by sheer subterfuge, took one look around and saw that the gathering darkness obscured their particular corner of the garage. "My darling," he whispered, drawing her to him, "this is the crowning glory of the biggest day of my life. You loved me before you knew of my little triumph!"

Tucking her slender hand into the crook of his arm, he led her possessively out among the rollicking crowds.

Editor: "It seems to me that some of your verses are not original. Do you ever borrow?"

Poet: "Well, sometimes. Could you let me have $5?"

For want of a better word, they called it advertising. For the want of a better method, they advertised.

Frances M. Blake, Attorney for Mortgagee, 1123 Griswold Street, Detroit, Michigan.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE—Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Grace Clark Dutton and Said Mae Collins, his wife, of Mt. Clemens, Michigan, as mortgagors, to The Farmington Exchange Bank, of Farmington, Michigan, a corporation organized and doing business under the laws of the State of Michigan, as mortgagee, (which said mortgage by the act of its stockholders on April 1st, 1927, was assigned to the Farmington State Savings Bank, of Farmington, Michigan) dated the 29th day of January, 1926, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Oakland County, Michigan, on March 19th, 1926, in Liber 2129 of Mortgages, on page 515, which mortgage was assigned by said mortgagee, Farmington State Savings Bank, of Farmington, Michigan, to The United Savings Bank of Detroit, Michigan, a corporation organized and doing business under the laws of the State of Michigan, on the 15th day of April, 1927, by an assignment which was recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Oakland County, Michigan, on the 27th day of October, 1927, in Liber 288 of Mortgages, on page 455; on which mortgage, interest is claimed to be due and unpaid, at the date of this notice, principal and interest of Thirty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty ($36750.00) Dollars; for insurance paid by said The United Savings Bank, of Detroit, Michigan, and hereby making a total sum due and unpaid upon said Mortgage, Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Seven and 50-100 ($6177.50) Dollars.

And no suit or proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted for the recovery of said amount or any portion thereof; now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale in said mortgage contained and of the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that the said The United Savings Bank of Detroit, assignee of said mortgage, will sell the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due thereon as aforesaid, to the highest bidder at the public vendue, at the front door of the Circuit Court House in the City of Pontiac, Oakland County, Michigan, that being the place where the Circuit Court for said County of Oakland is held, on Monday, the 27th day of May, 1929, at 10:00 o'clock, Eastern Standard Time of said date. Said premises are described in said mortgage as follows, to-wit: All those certain pieces or parcels of land situate in the Township of Farmington, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, and described as: The Southeast quarter (¼) of the Southeast quarter (¼) of Section Thirty-five (35), Town Two (2) North, Range Nine (9) East, except the West 33 rods of the South 80 rods thereof, also the West half (½) of the Northeast quarter (¼) of the Northeast quarter (¼) of Section Two (2), Town One (1) North, Range Nine (9) East, except the South 80 rods thereof, also the West 33 rods of the South 80 rods of the East half (½) of the Northeast quarter (¼) of the Northeast quarter (¼) of Section Two (2), Town One (1) North, Range Nine (9) East