

**The Signs in the Tea Cups**

By DOROTHY DOUGLAS  
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A VERY dainty maid deposited a not too dainty breakfast tray in Tommy's room and after arranging it on the table departed. Tommy finished his shave as the door closed and sat down to his color-coded suit with pride to enjoy his meal and cream, eggs and bacon and then his toast and marmalade.

Tommy always drank tea for his breakfast because the doctor had most emphatically ordered coffee out of Tommy's diet. And as Tommy poured his tea his mind was leaping ahead to the hopeful chance he had of putting through his big leather deal in Albany for his firm.

Twenty minutes later the maid entered his room to remove the tray and leave the table clean for Tommy's forty minutes' desk work. He was putting his papers back into his brief case and slipping his boat ticket for convenience into his cigarette case when a somewhat imperative knock sounded at his door. Having called permission to enter he turned to see the maid again, looking much disturbed.

"Excuse me, sir," she said swiftly and advanced toward Tommy with a look of alarm. "I'm sorry, sir, but I couldn't help coming up to warn you not to travel by water this day. I've read your tea cup for the day and there's danger by water. Oh, please, sir, don't go by boat."

Tommy grimmed but couldn't help seeing the very real distress in the altogether charming face of the little maid.

"I was just putting my boat ticket to Albany in my case," he said. "It is so hot today that I'm going by river instead of rail. What's the idea about the tea leaves?"

"Oh, sir, my grannie and my mother before her always read the tea cups for the day, and even as a wee bairn in Scotland I was thought to see the signs. I saw this cup on the tray, and so— the girl's cheeks were exquisitely pink by now with the stress of her plea—"I just came straight up to ask you please not to travel by water this day."

"Well," laughed Tommy, "if you see no more of me during the next few months you can suspect the worst."

It was kind of you, however, to come to warn me." Then Tommy did a quite unexpected thing for him. He took the pretty flushed face in his hands and kissed it.

A second later there was a stinging slap on his left cheek and the door closed with a sharp bang.

Tommy whistled. However, he had not much time to think of pretty maids but hustled out and changed his mind about the trip up the Hudson. He went by train. He had no reason to offer. Just something apart from the physical man turned him twisted.

The extras were all cut out by evening the same day. There had been a bad fire, followed by panic and a considerable loss of life on the boat that Tommy would have taken.

Tommy read each and every word, about it, and as he did so the vision of a very charming face troubled and pleading with him insisted on coming between his eyes and the paper. And Tommy somewhat unmercifully rubbed the cheek where the maid deserved a slap had been put into fact.

As a matter of fact, Tommy was tremendously sorry he had so suddenly kissed the girl and would have written an apology had he had any idea of her name. "One best he could do was to hope she would be at the hotel still when he again reached New York."

But it was many weeks before his secret disappointment he found that the girl had left.

He was eating one day in one of the elegant Bowery restaurants when he saw a crowd of heads all grouped around some one who was apparently a source of interest.

"That," said the waiter, satisfying Tommy's curiosity. "Heather. She's making a small fortune reading tea cups at all the big and little tea rooms in the city."

Tommy was a little uneasy about the feet as he made his way to the table indicated and some time later, as he watched the girl called Heather approach and said hello to the crowd, the maid of the hotel he left often most uneasily. He didn't know but what she would slap his other cheek when she saw him.

However, Heather did nothing like that. Instead she very nearly fainted upon seeing again one she had supposed was long past the need of tea and cinnamon toast.

"First," said Tommy, "I have no excuse except overwhelming desire to do so. You were so awfully lovely." Tommy broke into a smile and Heather, who had clasped three times to the left, then invert it in his saucer, and also to watch with triumphant interest the flame of rose that shot into her cheeks—but I have been sorry every day since."

Heather had now picked up the cup again and was intently studying the leaves therein.

"And what would the old wives in Scotland do if they had those signs in their early morning tea cups?" questioned Tommy.

"This particular sign wouldn't be in any wife's cup, was all Heather could say. But her eyes told Tommy many things.

**FORMER RESIDENT  
HERE FOR FIRST  
TIME IN YEARS**

Elmer Smith  
Of Sparta Visiting  
In Farmington At Tredway  
Home

For the first time in many years, Elmer Smith of Sparta, a former well known resident of Farmington community, is paying a visit to Farmington. Mr. Smith is spending some time at the home of his niece, Mrs. Stephen Tredway.

Mr. Smith left Farmington in 1883, moving to Northville, from there he went to Hastings, and then to Sparta, where he has lived for 40 years.

Mr. Smith is a brother of the late W. H. H. Smith, Civil War veteran who died some time ago. He was born and raised on what was known as the Wheeler Smith farm, now owned and occupied by Winter Davis, north of Farmington.

Mr. Smith says that all he can recognize of the "ancient landmarks" in Farmington is the east end of the Town Hall.

**8 Around the Home**

By MARGARET BRUCE  
WNC Service

**An Interior Awning**

Endless are the attractive window drapings nowadays, when our homes are lighted by windows of many different sizes and shapes, from small diamond-paneled curtains to tall arched library sashes. Endless, too, are the styles of colorings of curtains and drapings, and if each of us is willing to depart from the conventional treatment which makes homes look as if they had been finished from a copy book, it ought not to be hard to have our windows display charming and amusing originality.

Recently, when visiting a beautiful country club house, which had been decorated by a committee of resourceful, up-to-date women members, I saw a series of windows worked out in the most interesting way. They were very high windows occurring at intervals around three sides of a great living room with a high ceiling. During the summer these windows were shaded by awnings outside, which hid the upper part of each sash and lowered the apparent height of each window. In the winter, however, these awnings were taken down, and the result was that the windows looked a bit too lofty, with their straight sides hanging.

When the question came up of a balance for windows arched like these, one woman on the committee had a bright idea. Instead of a flat valance across the top of the window she conceived the plan of a small interior awning of bright-colored chintz to match the cushions in the great, wicker, chairs which stood in front of the windows. This was built out over each window and cut out from the wall-line about 12 or 14 inches. This framework was covered with the chintz, which hung down slightly below the wooden support and was scalloped around the edge.

Below this improvised awning straight folds of drapery fell to the floor. The effect was that of a summer outdoor garden facade, rather than an ordinary interior room. Of course, such treatment could be used only on a window with an arched top, to get the true effect of a gay, curved awning.

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**Exchangeites  
State Club Meeting**

Five members of the Farmington Exchange Club and their wives attended the session of the Michigan Exchange Club's summer outings at Port Huron Sunday and Monday. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Olin Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hargreaves and Mr. and Mrs. John Schulte.

The party spent Sunday night at the summer home of Judge and Mrs. Schulte not far from Port Huron.

Officers for the coming six months will be named at the meeting of the club next Wednesday. A golf tournament is being planned by the club also matches with the Birmingham and Walled Lake clubs.

**Gullen Property On  
Grand River Exchanged**

An interesting real estate transfer of property, probably the largest that has taken place in this community in some time, was completed recently when the Gullen property on Grand River avenue went into the hands of Detroit owners.

Mrs. Lloyd Gullen, who owned the tracts, consisting of more than 700 feet of the main highway, exchanged it for a 10-family apartment house in Detroit.

The Gullens retain their home located some distance back of Grand River avenue.

**ESSAY CLOSING DATE  
SET; AWARDS JULY 2nd**

All Farmington High School students participating in the Oakland-Pontiac Sales essay contest are advised by C. H. Dutham, director, to have their essays in by June 28. Prizes will be awarded on Tuesday, July 2. Winning essays will be published in the *Enterprise*.

Prizes to be awarded are gold pieces of \$10, \$5, and \$2.50 de-

monstration.

Professor Floyd Field, mathematics teacher and dean of men at the George School of Tech, has bought a new Model A Ford automobile after the exceedingly serviceable career of his old Model T. He drove his old car which T. for 150,000 miles, a distance equal to six trips around the world. He burned 10,000 gallons of gasoline and wore out 17 sets of tires.

Plumton and Loomis have a new awning on their barber shop.

**NEW FRONT ON SHOP**

A new front being built on the Auto Shop, operated by A. W. Wadsworth, will be reported by it for display of merchandise. New plate glass windows have been put in, and a new entrance built.

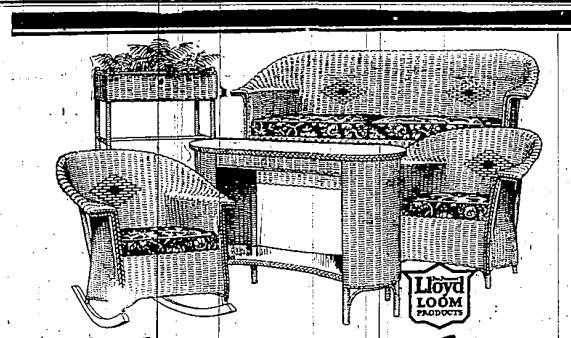
An enjoyable evening was passed in the dance hall. A bountiful supper was enjoyed.

**HELKERS ARE FETED**

A surprise party was given by the 35 friends and neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Helliker, it being both Mr. and Mrs. Helliker's birthday.

An enjoyable evening was passed in the dance hall. A bountiful supper was enjoyed.

Mrs. M. Locke was entertained at a theatre by Frank Nichols.



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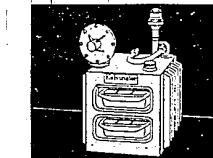
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