The CONVICT COUNTRY: or, FIGHTING for a MILLION

BY CHARLES MORRIS BUTLER

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CHAPTER XXV.—Continued.

"You are, of course, a 'wanted' man; can hardly consider yourself free from arrest, if once outside this city. Would you be willing to undergo, say a year's imprisonment to become a free man—providing you would be left alone to enjoy the wealth you have accumulated?"

"I would."

"You do not hesitate to tell me this?" asked Louis.

"No," I know the drift of your questioning. I have never looked upon you as a criminal, so I am not surprised to find that you are not—for you are not!"

"You are right," replied Louis. "Well, then, if you are willing to do the square thing, how am I to know it?"

"Put me to the test," said Golden. "You know me well enough now to feel, I hope, that I am a friend of yours. You have saved my life—you need not fear that I will do anything that will betray you."

"You must know, then, Golden, that I represent a large body of citizens who are going to try to overthrow this government. The thing can be accomplished easier with your aid than without it. I want you to try and win over Rogers to my side—to spike the enemy's guns, so to speak. This is not to be a fight of right against wrong, but criminal against criminal. In the scuffle a few intend enriching themselves by acquisition of the gold stored in the vaults. Lend me your aid; win over Rogers and a few of the most influential, trustworthy of his ilk, and I can promise you a free pardon from the United States government. There are a few that I cannot promise pardons, whether on my side or not—but to you I can. What do you think of it?"

"You can depend on me! As I told you before, I am ready to do what is right."

The arrangements being complete, Golden was considered by Lang to be worthy of trust. Being told of Lang's plans and the necessity of quick action, Golden approached Rogers as soon as he had a chance.

"There is a well organized plan on foot," said Golden to Rogers in a guarded but determined manner, best calculated to impress the Chief of Police, "to cause a rebellion in Paradise. The ostensible plan is for a few to obtain control of the gold in the vaults while the main body of citizens are fighting among themselves. What do you think is the better plan, to fight to maintain the present state of things or jump in with the ring leaders and get a free pardon from the United States government, at the same time filling our pockets?"

"Get a finger in the pie!" answered Rogers. "Is that your idea?"

"That's my idea," replied Golden, bluntly.

"You must be pretty well backed up, Golden, to dare to make such a proposition to me!"

"I am," firmly replied Golden. "Freedom and pardon is quite an inducement to me. The same is open to you if you want it!"

"Then the state's government is at the back of this?"

"Of course. What do you care for these misguided men? You are not such a desperate criminal that you need to hide yourself away here. Every moment you remain here you are placing your neck further in the halter. Don't you think it would be better to live in civilization like a white man?"

"I presume so. There is no doubt of the success of the rebellion?"

"None whatever. The fall of Paradise is assured. You will join us, then?"

"Us. Certainly, if you are in it!"

"Well, then, show your loyalty by acquainting Sam Pearson with the state of affairs. Any one whom you can trust—good and loyal men whom you would like to see get a dip in the gold bags. Be leery, however, of men who have really committed capital crime, whom you know would have trouble to get a pardon. Understand?"

"Sure. Where do we meet to draw up a compact."

"At the haunted house," replied Golden.

"So Lang is in it?"

"Head and front!"

"I thought so. That man is a devil. There is no doubt we will win!"

By means of Golden, Rogers was won over; Rogers spoke to Pearson; Pearson spoke to Pintzer—in this way a large company was formed, comprising the most daring and intelligent men in the community. At the right time the conspirators met at the residence of Lang. Among those assembled in the cellar of the house, where the meeting took place, was Wilson and Black Jack, the instigator, the leader of the tunnel gang who had been liberated by the aid of Rogers.

The meeting was called to order by Lang as soon as all those invited had assembled.

"Gentlemen," he said, "by appearing here together, each one of us has resolved to become a conspirator—or in other words, a rebel—one who rebels against present government. The only difference I may add, between a rebel and a patriot, is the gaining of the victory. If we lose, of necessity we are traitors, and if we win, which is a foregone conclusion, we will become patriots or simply revolutionists. As each of you gentlemen has been informed, there is a conspiracy on foot to overthrow the government of Paradise. Where you find power there will you find a misuse of power—and such we think is the case here. There are two sides, of course, to this story. The men in the mines, about three hundred, I think, have resolved to have freedom at any cost—they are desperate enough, as I am informed, not to hesitate at dipping their hands in human blood to accomplish their ends. The conspiracy has reached that stage where nothing, I think, can check them from making a trial. The way to liberty is open; arms they have in plenty; all that is lacking now is the signal to go ahead with the slaughter.

"On the other hand, there are at least a thousand citizens who are reasonably satisfied with the present condition of affairs, or at least are satisfied that they may be worse off than they are now. When the convicts dash for freedom the others will defend themselves, and the laws as they now stand. The question before us to-night, then, is to consider the proposition of whether it is best to uphold the present government with Schiller at the head, join the convicts, or as I would suggest, while these factions are quarreling among themselves, step in and help ourselves to the gold locked in the treasury? That is, become guerillas. They say there is honor among thieves! Have you, gentlemen, found that you have not been robbed by your more influential following? Have you been treated fairly? I have no excuse to offer for making the suggestion—you know the treatment that has been accorded me here. I advocate the plan that we, while convict is fighting citizen, each trying to subdue the other, we dip our hands, not in human blood, but in the money bags, and make our escape before the loss can become known! We need not risk our necks in vain attempt to protect a worthless institution nor yet belittle our bravery by pouncing upon helpless women and children. 'A country divided against itself' will fall. One of these factions will win. Either or both can live without money, because money is not needed here. Then I maintain that we harm no one.

"Now, speaking of the financial side of the question. Suppose there are a million dollars in gold in the vault—which there is—besides bank notes of high denomination. If this sum only was divided between each man, woman and child in town it would give $500 per man. To ten this sum represents a collossal fortune; a hundred thousand dollars each! Is there any one here who thinks he could not live well upon this sum? Not one, I ween—because even to us, sensible men, this sum is almost incomprehensible. What joy to control that sum of money! But this is not all. The United States government has a standing offer for the counterfeiting plate from which our ten dollar bills are made, and free pardons for those who bring it in; there are at least fifty men here who are wanted 'dead or alive,' with a price upon their heads aggregating $200,000. Shall we let this generous offer go by?"

Then up spoke Golden.

"I thought, Lang, you were surrounded by a band already! I had no idea you were trying to organize one now."

"I am not," replied Lang. "I am at the head of a band. It is a band bent, however, on robbing the vaults. This town is doomed. There can be no doubt of that! But what I want is something more than ruins!"

"Suppose we should refuse," demanded Rogers, evidently chagrined at being "taken in."

"Do you suppose for a moment, gentlemen, that I would allow any one to warn the citizens, or that a single life would be allowed to stand between me and the accomplishment of my purpose? Not so, all here are not new to this phase of the scheme. Those who are new I ask to stand aside out of the scuffle—be saved! Those who wish to refuse—will refuse! I want to trust those who are here, because my purpose can be better accomplished with your help. Be warned! Money I must, and money I will have! And rather than face defeat I would slay with my own hands the man who now stands between me and fortune! It now becomes a case with me, gentlemen, of kill or get killed, and you know me!"

Then up spoke Black Jack: "The gentlemen present, if they were not blinded, could readily see what Lang says is the truth. He certainly is backed up by a powerful insurgent force. Take me, for instance. I am a life convict, doomed to work all my life in the mines. Then how am I here to-night? Some of you have seen me out upon the streets before this. Simply because Lang has a means of entrance into our prison, and at his call all the convicts and people in general who are dissatisfied with the present government will arm themselves, break their bonds, and throw themselves upon those who bar their way to liberty!"

This powerful argument was seconded by Wilson, who spoke.

"It has long been an understood fact to me that the majority of the people desire to divide the money that is in the vault. This mode of treatment would enrich no one, for no one needs money here; what matters the loss of a paltry hundred or so to those who really have no use for money? Such men as Golden and Rogers need not hesitate to throw off the yoke of allegiance to this false state of things. It is only a question of time, any way, when we must be driven from the stronghold we have made for ourselves. It is too late to turn back now. 'Those who are not with us are against us!'"

"I think it would be best to join this league," said one of the spokesmen in the corner. "In it for us there is to be no bloodshed. To remain with the government is to be compelled to put down the insurrection; to side with them is treason; there is no middle course but this."

"I don't see as we can do better," said Pearson. "It seems kind of dirty, but still we are bound to protect ourselves. I for one, am tired of living in a constant state of fear of assassination all the time."

"Then, gentlemen, if you are agreed, sign this paper," said Lang. "It binds you to obey me in everything concerning this insurrection. In return I give you my word of honor that we shall share and share alike in all things. Should I die, divide my share among you—should any one die we will divide his share. If there are any family men amongst us, let us pledge ourselves as brothers to see that not one of our brothers' families shall want for food nor drink while any of us have something to divide.

While the paper was being signed Lang gave some details of his plan "We have the town at our mercy!" he said, enthusiastically. "We are at the head of a band of over three hundred. All that is needed now is a few bombs placed around under the walls At a given signal from me, light the fuse and blow the walls to pieces; open up the prison and pour out the convicts; in the confusion I can lead you by a safe route to the treasury—and the gold is ours! Be ready when the signal strikes!"

(To be continued.)

"You must be pretty well backed up, Golden, to dare to make such a proposition to me!"

CHAMPION MEAN MAN IS FOUND

Hard to Beat Character Told of by Prof. Duenweg.

"The public goes in for the froth of dancing," said Prof. Duenweg of Terre Haute at the national convention of dancing masters in New York. "Young men are content with the simplest foot movements that give them a license to take a close, clinging grip on a young woman. As far as any real knowledge of dancing goes—well, they know as little of the art as old Mrs. Jane Grey of Merna knows of shopkeeping."

Prof. Duenweg, who is the inventor of a new waltz—a difficult, complex and graceful dance—smiled and went on:

"Poor old Mrs. Grey sells groceries and provisions, doing a good business for a town so small as Merna, but getting cheated right and left on account of her ignorance.

Only the other day a man from Lodi took advantage of her shamefully. He came in to get a pound of Swiss cheese and Mrs. Grey told him he would have to call later in the afternoon.

"'But why?' said he. 'There's a Swiss cheese on the counter.'

"'I know,' said Mrs. Grey, 'but my weights are all rusty and I have sent them away to be cleaned.'

"'Oh, well,' said the Lodi man, 'you've got something that will do for a weight, surely?'

"'Nothing but this here pair of tongs,' said Mrs. Grey, 'and they weigh two pounds. You don't want that much do you?'

"'No, but no matter. Put one leg of the tongs in the scales and let the other hang out. That will make a pound, old lady.'

"Mrs. Grey complied.

"'But it looks a large pound,' she said dubiously.

"'Oh, it's all right,' said the Lodi man, 'How much? A quarter? Here you are.'

"He paid and departed hastily."

Why the Tenor Was Fined.

The late Judge ("Biff") Hall of Chicago took great delight in telling the following story of "Punch" Wheeler.

Wheeler, at that time the advance agent of a minstrel company, had returned to New York before the close of the theatrical season, and a friend, meeting him on Broadway, asked him how he had found business.

"Very bad," said "Punch;" "so bad that the only way we could pay the members of the troupe was to fine them. It worked splendidly, too; and by the time we reached Texas the manager had squared up with the whole company excepting the first tenor, who was such a proper chap that there was no chance to find fault with his actions. At Galveston Mr. Tenor sang for his solo 'The Lighthouse by the Sea,' and for an encore responded with 'Over the Hills to the Poorhouse.' That gave the boss the opportunity he was looking for and he levied on the songster's salary for the entire amount—first, for telling the business we were playing to, and second, for giving away the route of the show."—Judge.

In the Boston Suburbs.

"Whither away, little boy?" inquired the well-meaning stranger.

"I go to swim, sir," replied the spectacled infant.

"And where do you swim?" persisted the stranger.

"I swim, sir," the infant made answer, "in the shallower purlieus of excessive dampness." — Cleveland Plain Dealer

AGRICULTURE

Fungus Attacks on Telegraph Poles.

The length of service of a telegraph or telephone pole is determined in a section of the pole not more than a foot or a foot and a half long. In a standing pole this section extends about six or eight inches above and below the top of the ground. This is the universal point of attack upon the life of the pole, and is called its breaking point. Decay is the arch-enemy of these poles. It sets in at the ground line and reaches both up and down the pole, but only so far as the conditions exist which promote the growth of wood-destroying fungi. A few inches below the ground there is lack of the necessary oxygen and heat, while at about the same distance above ground the requisite moisture fails. The exact time at which decay begins its work depends upon the climate, the character of the soil and similar conditions. In a hot, moist climate it ordinarily sets in with great rapidity. But at best, in a very few years after the pole is set the struggle has commenced. The decay soon girdles the pole and gradually eats into it deeper and deeper until it is so weakened that it breaks under the weight of its equipment.

The strain upon the pole from wind pressure and the weight of its cross-arms and wires is calculated for the ground line. When the diameter of this ground line is constantly decreased, the strength of the pole is proportionately reduced, and it becomes only a question of time when the pole must fall. Chestnut and white cedar have been found, among available woods, most successfully to resist decay; but the life of the former is only from twelve to fifteen years, and of the latter ten to twelve years. The co-operative study of the bureau is for the purpose of extending, if possible, this time.

The experiments already made by the United States Forestry Bureau show conclusively that poles can be subjected to a preservative treatment which insures materially lengthened service. This treatment consists in impregnating the wood with antiseptics which prevent the growth of the fungi that cause decay. The treatment of telegraph and telephone poles, when attempted at all in this country, generally has been applied to the whole pole, requiring the use of air-tight cylinders 100 feet long or more. In these the poles are subjected to live steam for some time, when a vacuum is created. Creosote is then run in and pressure applied to force it into the wood. Manifestly this is a laborious process. Yet for telegraph and telephone poles only about one foot of the entire length needs to be made immune from fungus. If this foot at the fatal ground line can be preserved from decay, the rest of the pole will take care of itself. Experiments will now be made in treating the butts of the poles for a distance of about eight feet, thus carrying the antiseptics just beyond the zone of decay attack. The creosote method will be used and dead oil of coal tar forced through the butt of the pole.

The telegraph companies have made little use of preservative treatment. They employ millions of poles on their various lines, and it would be a tremendous economy to add even a few years of service to the life of each pole. But there will be another large saving both to them and to the forest through preservative treatment. To provide a good margin against decay, poles are now much larger than demanded by the strain upon them. It is expected that decay will quickly eat away a furrow around the pole at the ground line, and the diameter of the pole at that point is gauged to allow for this weakening process. When it is known that decay, in a certain number of years, cuts the diameter from perhaps 12 to 8 inches, and that below 8 inches the weakened pole falls, the course to be pursued is obvious. Antiseptics prevent, for the time of their effectiveness, the starting of decay, and thus permit at the outset the selection of an 8-inch diameter rather than a 12-inch. The 4 inches saved represent a tremendous difference in the size and age of trees used for poles. Both the companies and the owners of forests will be great gainers by this economy, with its shortening of the length of time necessary to grow a pole.

Coal Ashes as Mulch.

I have believed for many years that coal ashes make a good mulch, and I still hold to the opinion, but with some modifications. It is true that the ashes will for a time prevent the growing of weeds, especially during the early part of the season. But in the ashes weed seeds will ultimately grow up and develop enormously. I might say that if ashes are put on a piece of ground in the summer the weeds will probably not appear during that year, for the reason that the seeds of weeds will not have time to fall upon the ashes and sprout before cold weather comes. But the next year, look out.

Last winter I put ashes between my rows of currant bushes as well as between my rows of strawberries. The ashes were spread on fully six inches deep, so deep that I thought it impossible for any weed to push through. During the first part of this summer the weeds did not appear, but after midsummer showed a sudden vigor. The ashes then seemed to help instead of hinder them. I was away from home for some time in the middle of the summer, and when I came back those weeds were five or six feet and I had to pull up the stalks to make the presence of the weeds in my currant patch less obvious to the neighbors.

In my strawberry patch the result was the same. The weeds grew up and in addition every strawberry runner that got onto the ashes sent down a good system of roots and developed plants right amid the ashes. I am going to follow the matter further and see how deep I will have to pile the coal ashes to prevent the growth of weeds. I am sure, however, that coal ashes are a great help for a few weeks, but they will not accomplish much as a permanent destroyer.—Albert Bates, DuPage Co., Ill., in Farmers' Review.

Real Estate Exchange

Of Whitehead & Mitchell at the Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of farms, city and village lots and real estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list:

5.

Elegant house and lot 66 feet front and 20 rods deep on Maple Ave. East, (half an acre). Fine barn and every modern convenience. Furnace bath, closet, etc. Can be bought for what the buildings cost. Will exchange for improved city property for portion of the purchase price.

10.

Large, roomy two-story house on Townsend St. in Birmingham, good barn, city water and all ordinary conveniences, 120 ft. front and 100 ft. deep. Small fruit and good neighborhood.

12.

The Bayley farm in the town of Troy, 127 acres. Good farm house and farm buildings; flowing well at the barn which is the wonder and pride of Troy; 20 acres good beech and maple timber, 4 acres fine grafted orchard. Circumstances render it advisable to sell at once, and the man who comes first will secure one of the best bargains in the country. Look it up.

38.

Two story house and lot on south side of Daines St., two doors from electric road on Saginaw St., 80 ft. front, 110 ft. deep. Hot and cold water on both floors, water closet, bath, furnace and every modern convenience. Terms $800 cash, balance on long time. Price $2,800. If you are curious or interested, just ask us for fuller particulars. If you are only curious it will be curious if we can't interest you.

42

Brick house, good barn and seven acres of land suitable for platting on south side of Maple Ave. east, Birmingham, opposite the Poppleton subdivision. Price $3,500 and it is worth every cent of it. If you don't believe it, ask us about it and we will prove it.

44.

Fine Stock Farm—the celebrated Collier Farm—185 acres in township of Southfield. Buildings are well painted and in good condition: Large 12 room frame house, with cellar divided into three compartments. House surrounded with large handsome elm trees. Horse barn with stalls for six horses and separate carriage room. Bank barn with granary, overhead track, cow stables underneath with cement floor and 5 or 6 additional stalls, sliding doors, good windows, window guards, stone foundation, etc., etc. Horse barn with 10 box stalls and paddock. Horse barn with 4 box and 8 other stalls and paddock enclosed with high board fence. Straw shed. Tool house, enclosed with sliding doors. Office with large stallion or foaling box stall attached and paddock. Bull box stall with paddock secure and strong for this purpose and isolated from other buildings. Outside closet for house. Outside closet for stables. Fruit: Large and bearing apple orchard well trimmed and in good condition, Baldwins, Greenings, Kings, Steeles Red, Jonathans and Russets; 500 pear trees, 50 peach, 25 cherry, 25 plum, all of best varieties, 8 apricots, 2 quince, currants, grapes, strawberries, etc. 5 acres timber or wood lot. Water. Good well with iron pump at house; good well with iron pump at stables; branch of River Rouge runs across entire south end of farm and is NEVER DRY. Farm is well tiled. Fences all in first class shape, many of them entirely new. Condition of soil: Farm has carried an average of 40 head of stock during past five years. No feed of any kind sold and entire farm heavily manured. No commercial fertilizers used. Better inquire about this farm it may pay you.

55.

Village lots on Saginaw street, bounded north by land of Mollie G. Smith, east by D. G. H. & M. R'y, south by Bower street, west by Saginaw street, 108 ft. front on Saginaw street, 178 feet deep on north side and 148 feet deep on south side; all in the village of Birmingham, Mich. One of the finest building sites in the village. 860

56

Lots 48 and 49 Randall's Addition, price $135.00 for the two lots (which is very cheap). Will exchange for small house and lot in Birmingham.

57

Farm of 40 acres, being the s e ¼ of the s e ¼ of section 2, Farmington, Oakland county, Mich., in the finest farming locality of the county, with 8 fairly good buildings. There is no incumbrance on the property and it is less than a mile from the Farmington electric road. 3 acres of timber, elm, basswood, etc., and the price is only $15.00 per acre and you can have your own way about the terms of payment as long as you have cash enough to secure it. A postal will get you fuller particulars.

58

Good little farm in the township of West Bloomfield, Oakland county, 90 acres—80 cleared, 10 of oak timber, 4 acres of orchard, house and barn of but little value. Nice little lake on the farm, good neighborhood and soil of the very best. Wait a minute! The price is the thing to make you consider. It can be bought for $45.00 per acre. There!

59

House and lot, No. 1420 Fourteenth Ave., Detroit, a little over a block from the Boulevard; paved street; house piped and furnace; small barn; some fruit; buildings valued at $2,700; insured for $1,000. Will trade for Birmingham village property or for a small farm of not more than 5 acres.

61

House of 11 rooms on lots 5 and 18 Castle's plat, fronting on Merrill and Martin streets, Birmingham. Good cistern and ample cellar. There are things about this place which we want to talk to you about and the price is so low that we are ashamed to tell you right out loud. If you will call and see us about it we will whisper.

77

One lot on Saginaw street, just south of land owned by John German, 50 feet frontage. Anyone wishing to purchase will find this a bargain. For particulars inquire of Mollie G. Smith or at the Exchange Bank.

87

House and three lots on the corner of Townsend and Henrietta streets—an excellent location. One of the best built and most comfortable residences in the village, with 120 feet front on Townsend and 103 feet deep. Modern ten room house with closets, cellar, well, woodshed and summer kitchen. Now this is strictly "on the dead" and must not be repeated—but if you really have any intention of buying a home in this village within a year, you can't afford to overlook this place, because the price is only $2,600 and more than that—but that's a state secret and you can't find out a thing further, until you see Whitehead and ask him about it. Cross-my-heart-hope-I-may-never-see-the-back-of-my-neck-if-'taint so!

Price $95.00 per acre. Want to know more about it? A postal will bring full particulars.

89

Lot on the east side of Baldwin Ave., in the Randall Addition. Fine building site. Price only $100.00.

90

Finest farm we know of, 154 acres, one mile south of the village of Birmingham. Nine good buildings, 20 acres of timber, 4 acres of orchard, finest orchard in the country, one mile from the postoffice and one mile west of the electric railway. Flowing well. House heated with furnace.

94

One of the best farms, without exception, in the township of Southfield, 125 acres and no waste land. Well fenced and thoroughly tiled, 10 acres excellent orchard, 10 acres good heavy timber. Two buildings valued at more than $3,000 and the place can be bought on easy terms for $65.00 per acre. There, if that don't get you to thinking we won't try any more. A cent's worth of postal cards will tell you all about it by return mail.

96

Yep! Here's your chance at last. Will exchange for Detroit city property. Farm of 160 acres in Southfield township; very productive soil, in a high state of cultivation, not a foot of waste land on the place, flowing wells, excellent buildings, best wire fences, farm thoroughly drained, 75 grape vines, 25 apple trees, 50 raspberries, two barns, fine dwelling, one swine house (capacity 100), icehouse and milk house combined, everything ready to do the finest and most profitable dairy business in the country, but failing health makes it advisable to dispose of this desirable property. Price $65.00 an acre.

100

Farm of 77½ acres on the Twelve mile road, 1½ miles east of the Electric Railway on Woodward avenue, two-story house, good barn and buildings which are insured for $1,300. Dark loamy soil, admirable for truck gardening; plenty of fruit of all kinds. Price $6,500.

101

Farm of 31 acres in sections 22 and 15, Southfield; 2 acres best grafted fruit, 5 buildings insured for $2,100; all plow land, well drained and under a high state of cultivation. Price $3,000.

102

Two story brick residence in the village of Franklin, Mich., and one of the finest in the country, with beautiful surroundings, nestled among the hills and valleys of the prettiest little village in Eastern Michigan. The cellar is divided into vegetable, provision, laundry and furnace room. The house has thirteen rooms and five closets, hot and cold water, furnace room, water closets, and in fact every convenience that you could possibly have in the city. Two barns, 2 woodhouses, pig pen, hen house and corn house combined, work shop for odd hours on odd jobs, iron fence around entire lot, cement walks, house fronts west and north on a corner lot of one acre. The house alone cost $6,000 to build, and the money was well expended. Plenty of fruit—an ideal place for city people who would like to settle down in a pleasant little country village and rest. Price (we are ashamed to say it), is only $4,000, half cash, balance on long time and easy terms. If you live in the big wicked city and would like to see a place that would suit you, we will take you to see this place and be glad to get acquainted with you whether you buy or not.

103

Eighty acre farm in White Lake township, W. ½ S. E. ¼, Sec. 32; 70 acres cleared, 10 acres timber and huckleberry swamp. (Don't laugh! this swamp netted the owner over $150.00 last summer). Three acres of orchard, house of 7 rooms, good neighborhood; 4½ miles from Milford, 3 miles from Commerce, proposed electric road comes within a mile of the house. Price $2,000. Say, what do you want, anyhow?

104

House and barn and south half of four lots, corner of Fremont and Pierce streets, Birmingham; comfortable little home for small family, 52 feet front on Pierce street and 160 on Fremont. Price $1,200; terms easy. Will trade for other property.

106

House and two lots on Stanley avenue, Birmingham. 156x130; well, cistern, cellar, fruit; house worth $1,000 and that's all we ask for the place Wouldnt that take you to the fair?

107

One of the finest residences in the village of Birmingham, 200 feet front on Brown and 200 on Daines street; 2 story house with furnace, 8 large rooms, well cistern, cellar, plenty of fruit; one block from electric cars for Detroit. Price $3,500.

108

About 15 acres of vacant property in the village of Birmingham, suitable for platting; 500 feet on west side of Woodward avenue, along the line of the electric railway; will plat into 65 lots 50x120 each, and a thousand dollars cash will buy it with the balance of the purchase price on long time at low rate of interest. Honest, we are almost ready to take it ourselves. There is money in it for anyone who has time to devote to the selling of it, and who could take monthly payments, etc.

109

Lot 52½x150 in Randall subdivision, with nice little one story cottage, on Greenwood avenue. Price $750.

112

Nice little farm of nineteen acres in the township of Troy, 1½ miles from the electric railway, good for chicken raising, plenty of timber for fire wood. Log house and small frame barn and other buildings. Price $1,400.

114

Fine farm in the township of Southfield; 80 acres, of which 75 are cleared, and the balance in good maple timber. Two acres of orchard, 5 buildings worth $3,000, and this exceptionally fine place can be bought for $5,000. Nuf ced!

116

Farm in Southfield. Really you will begin to think we have the whole town of Southfield for sale. Well, we have a lot of it, and there is no better farming land in the world. Only they have been asking too much for it. Now they are just getting down to reason and some are very cheap. Fr'instance, 61 acres at $60 per acre; 4 buildings, nice spring of ever-flowing water, all good plow land, except 1½ acres of scattering timber. No marsh land on the place There!

118

Seven acres just outside the city limits of Pontiac, on Elizabeth Lake Road, less than one-half mile from electric cars. Buildings new, house 9 rooms, bath room, well and cistern, or will sell the buildings and one or more acres of land. Will sell the whole business for $2,200 with cash enough to insure, and will take the balance on the installment plan, if necessary.

119

Two lots house, barn and chicken house, corner of Greenwood and Harmon in Birmingham, Mich., and it is one of the most comfortable and pleasing homes in the village. Buildings are nearly all new, good cellar, well, sewer was constructed along the east line of the property last summer and is all paid for. Buildings are insured for $1,000 and the place will cost you only a trifle more than that. You really could not build the buildings and sidewalks for what is asked for it. Ask the man at the Exchange Bank.

120

Farm formerly belonging to Edward Coates and located on the east shore of Pine Lake, in the townships of Bloomfield and West Bloomfield; one of the loveliest locations in all the lake region of Oakland county; 120 acres with 1½ story frame dwelling and seven rooms, in a very beautiful oak and hickory grove. Farm touches Long Lake in the eastern portion and Pine Lake on the west. The price is less than sixty dollars per acre and the portion bordering on the Pine Lake part is laid out in lots which are well worth five times the whole amount asked for the farm. 3½ miles from the city of Pontiac and at the opposite end of Pine Lake from the steam and electric railway stations at Orchard Lake. Worth investigating and we are here to answer all your questions, either by mail or in a personal interview—which we would greatly prefer.

121

One hundred and three acres just outside of the corporate limits of the city of Pontiac, on the electric railway, 2 acres orchard, 12 acres of oak timber, 9 buildings in poor repair (the buildings don't cost anything at the price we are asking, so you needn't kick about 'em,) beautiful living spring of pure water, excellent soil. Formerly leased by D. M. Ferry & Co., for seed farm. The veriest hint that you would like to investigate and we'll get our bonnet on and be ready to go with you to look it over. Farms of this kind are getting mighty popular just now and when we tell you that it can be bought for ninety dollars per acre, you will understand that you'd better hurry.

122

Farm of 73½ acres at $85.00 per acre. Good gravelly loam, well fenced and drained. 7 acres of excellent orchard, 8 acres timber, 5 buildings valued at $3,500. Terms easy, and long time. One of the best farms in Southfield, about 3 miles from Birmingham. Take you to see it any time. It's worth looking over.

123

Nice little 40-acre farm near Big Beaver, (S. ½ of N. ½ of S. E. ¼ Sec. 22, Troy.) Barn 32x40 and 2-story house with 11 rooms. An acre of good orchard and 5 acres of timber; a little over a mile from the Rochester Electric Railway. Less than $50 per acre will buy it, and the terms are so easy that any man who means business can pay for it.

124

Here it is and well worth the money. It's the justly celebrated Watkins Stock farm just west of the village, adjoining the corporation line, and there is 320 acres of it and not a foot of waste land on the premises. We will frankly say without fear of contradiction that that there is no finer farm in the state of Michigan. What's that? Too big! Well, that's as you may look and what you want. Say! Tell you what we'll do; we'll just sell you either side of the road with the buildings, which are properly distributed, and there you are, with a farm of 128 acres or 200 acres, just as you wish, and it's way down below $100 per acre that we are asking for it, too. 8 acres of timber and 10 buildings, engines, windmills. But there! What's the use! You must come and let us take you to see it. Only ten minutes drive from our office.

126

Vacant lots 16, 17, 18 of Willison's Sub-division, Royal Oak village, 30x110 each. Price, $100 each. Terms easy, with small payment down.

127

House and lot on Fremont street in Birmingham, Mich [illegible] feet. House nearly new, 8 rooms and closets, well and cistern. Price, $1,100.

128

Five-room cottage, Hood's Addition, Birmingham, on Stanley street. Comfortable little home, good well, cistern, fruit, garden, etc. Price, $700.

129

One of the finest residences on Saginaw street, Birmingham; 12 or 15 rooms, closets, furnace, bath, hot and cold water; every convenience which you would have or expect to have in the city; without exception the finest location in our village; brick house, 2 stories, practically new, cost $6,000 to build it; lot about 125 feet; front on Saginaw street, and about 200 feet deep. And the price is so low that we wouldn't feel justified in mentioning it in this public manner. Really, if you want the best house and lot in our town at a cost far less than it cost to put it in its present condition, you surely would do yourself an injury if you don't call on us and let us take you to see it. That's right!

130

Modest little cottage on Stanley street, 103 feet front, 60 feet deep, comfortable little house and plenty of fruit and other conveniences. One of the cheapest places on our list and well worth the money. You will buy it, and there are things we could tell you that explains the reasons that it is offered for 25 per cent less than it is worth.

131

New 2-story house, 8 rooms, bath, cellar, fruit; desirable location on Randall's Addition, Birmingham. Price, $2,150.

133

Five acres, no buildings, good light loamy soil, no waste land. Ten beautiful maples on the front, 20 rods from post office, rural free delivery twice daily, store, mill and electric waiting room 20 rods from front, electric railway runs past the property. Price $550.00. Ideal place for a country home built to suit you. On Rochester electric line about 16 miles from city hall, 2 miles from Royal Oak, 4 miles from Birmingham, and if you don't speak right up quick, you'll lose it.

134

Improved farm, 80 acres; 5 acres timber, 5 acres orchard; soil clay loam; good ten room house with large cellar; bay barn, horse barn, tool house, work shop and corn house and all other necessary buildings. Have about $2,000 worth of personal property which will be sold with the farm if desired and the whole thing goes for $5,500 if sold this season. Go with you to look at it if you want us to. The place is located 1½ miles south of Canton, Wayne county, Mich., on the Ann Arbor electric.

Large 10-room frame house on Saginaw street; basement under all, good furnace, bath, a handsome oak mantels with grates, large attic, fine large barn, hen house, flowing well, all kinds of small fruit, nice lawn, with magnificent elms for shade. Will sell buildings and some of the land for $4,500 or the whole place for $6,500. It is right on the car line, and there is about two acres of land and the most sightly and picturesque view of the village. Come and see what it is and you will never be sorry for having made the investigation.

136

Eighty to one hundred acres as you choose. Part of the old Henry Grinnell farm in the n w ¼ of sec 31 in Bloomfield. You know what the Grinnell farm is; well, this is part of it. No buildings, timber or fruit. Excellent grazing land and the better part of it under cultivation. Wait a minute! Price only forty dollars per acre. But you mustn't wait too long for its got to be sold and that price will do it, too!

138

Eighty acres in township of Redford, Wayne county, Mich., about two miles from the Northwestern electric railway. Orchard and small fruit; 3 buildings valued at $1,000. Soil good, light ground suitable for gardening: about 12 miles from Detroit Price $4,500, [illegible] easy. Tell you all about it for the asking.

140

House and lot in the Campbell subdivision on north side of Forest avenue, 10 rooms; furnace; cellar under the whole house; open stairway; hardwood finish in natural woods; all kinds of fruit; a bargain at $2,000. Say, the house is more than that to build it.

144

Farm in Southfield of 130 acres; 10 buildings; rolling, sandy, loamy land with some clay; well drained; 30 acres oak timber; fruit in plenty, (5 acres orchard). Buildings alone are valued at $5,000. Can be bought for a very little over $40 per acre, say, $5,500. Stream of living water; buildings nearly new; stables for 30 head of stock; half a mile from Franklin village. Good neighborhood; R. F. D. daily. Say! What do you want anyhow? Come and let us show it to you.

145

Farm 75 acres 1½ miles east of Harris' corners in Troy township, 2 buildings valued at $2,000. Price $4,000 of which $1,800 must be cash; balance on long time at low rate of interest.

146

Farm, 57¼ acres, good buildings; 8 acres timber, 2 acres orchard; one mile east of the Electric R'y, in Royal Oak township; in w ½ of s w ¼ sec 22; loam and clay soil. If you come with the good hard cash in your hand, you can buy it for $4,200. But if we are properly approached, we might consider half cash, rest on easy terms.

147

Nice little home for someone of small means; 1½ acres in n w ¼ of n e ¼ of sec 34, township of Troy; house 7 rooms; barn in good shape; well at both barn and house, never dry; ¼ mile east of Rochester Electric; fare to Detroit 15c; R. F. D. All cash and no grumbling will buy it at $750. Hurry up!

148

Cosy little farm of 15 acres on the west town line of Bloomfield, 80 rods from Black Walnut Lake, good school within 20 rods; R. F. D.; good cellar; 6 miles from Birmingham; 2 miles from Electric R'y. Fine spring water; 4 acres excellent orchard; soil gravelly loam; 2 buildings valued at $1,000. Can be bought for $1,500, and $1,100 cash will buy it subject to mortgage of $400, which can run.

149

Twenty-five acres half mile from the Electric road, between Birmingham and Pontiac, just south of the newly established Cranbrook Farm, owned by George G. Booth, of Detroit. Since the advent of the wealthier people of Detroit to this immediate neighborhood, values have risen rapidly. Nice little branch of the River Rouge, never dry, runs through the premises; you can almost jump across it. Nice, dry banks, with fine trees. $3,000.

151

Farm of 160 acres in the township of Lamont, in Sanilac county, Mich. Here's a mighty good chance for a young man to work himself into a good farm at very little cost. There are 3 buildings on the place; good enough for anyone with moderate requirements to live in. Basement barn cost $1,000 to build (42x60); good frame house; sheep barn, pig-house, etc. 20 rods to Lamont P. O., store, telephone office. ¼ mile to church; ¾ mile to good school. Marlette 8½ miles; Kingston (on the P., O. & N.) 7½ miles; good roads and nice neighborhood. Price, $25 per acre if sold at once.

152

Farm of 150 acres on Rochester Division of D. U. R. in the township of Troy, Oakland county, two miles south of the little village of Troy Corners. No waste land; about 6 miles of tile drain; good fences and buildings in good shape; two flowing wells; carp pond abundantly stocked. Rural free delivery of mail daily, electric cars for Detroit every hour; fare 15 cents; most productive soil in the township; must be sold to settle estate. Let us show you the premises.

153

Woodland Cottage 1½ miles north of Royal Oak village on Woodward Ave. Furnace, bath, water closet 1½ acres fruit and orchard, 3 buildings, insured for $1,800; 15 acres all together of rich black loamy soil; good drainage, fine neighborhood, joins Vinsetta Farms on the south. Price $4,500. There are other matters to consider. Let us tell you about 'em.

154

Farm of 133 acres, one mile west of Orion village, good, light, loamy soil, buildings in fair order, good house and barn, well watered, having living stream through the north end and nice lake near the south border. Wait a minute and hear the price. Only $50 per acre. Guess that will make you sit up and take notice. Come and look it over with us. Oh, yes! Will trade for good improved Detroit city property.

155

150 acres in town of Troy, known as the old Buttolph farm. Without exception, as fine a location, as good land and the lowest price of any place on our list, when the conveniences are considered. Flowing wells, pond for harvesting ice in the winter. Good house and plenty of barns, living stream of excellent water, no waste land and enough timber for the use of an ordinary family for years to come. On line of Rochester branch D. U. R. 17 miles from Detroit.

156

Farm of 97 acres in Troy township, 6 buildings, 10 acres of light timber, good house and barn, fine flowing well piped to house and barn, furnishes a never failing supply of excellent water for stock and dairy purposes. Farm well fenced with wire and cedar posts. On the Rochester branch of the D. U. R. electric, with cars every hour to and from Detroit. R. F. D. twice daily. Price $75 per acre and no waste land to amount to anything.

157

The celebrated Cooper stock farm, situated one-half mile north of Birmingham on the D. U. R. electric line, and right among the summer homes of some of the most prominent of Detroits weathy citizens. Three hundred and forty-five acres of excellent farming land, with 12 buildings, well adapted to the requirements of a first-class stock farm. Forty acres of timber, and for the matter of fruit there are forty pear trees and five hundred plum trees, and six acres of bearing apple orchards. One of the finest half mile race tracks in the state is situated on the farm. There is an artesian well 250 feet deep supplying an unlimited amount of mineral water which, if properly developed and advertised, would be worth more than the price of the farm From $25 to $50 a month is even now realized from the sale of this water, which is acknowledged by the first medical specialists of the present day to be the best known modern remedy for Diabetes and the various other kidney diseases. A chemical analysis of this water will be furnished on request. The principal dwelling on the place cost over $5,000 and it's worth the money. It has a modern hot air furnace and all the other conveniences which are almost considered necessities now-a-days. A good brick tenant house—in fact twelve good buildings in all.

The problem of the moment is to teach people how to live.—Lord Londonderry.

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The law of self-sacrifice is the surest road to a useful and happy life. —Earl Nelson.

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A very large amount of poverty is due to want of thought in people spending money.—Archdeacon Madden.