

The Acid Test . . . A Story

There's plenty I'd go through for my girl. I'd sleep on a bed of nails or be the target in a knife throwing act, but the thing that happened last night winds me up for good.

Last fall I asked Dottie, that's my girl's name, to go to the Senior Prom and almost every day I remind her so she can't forget. I feel real lucky because I ask her before George Franklin does. He gets the highest chemistry grades in school and also is a low down pipsqueak.

Sometimes I think Dottie's giving George the green light. But her folks have a lot of moola, and I'm lucky to be going with a girl that's got real class. Dottie's awful pretty too.

That's what I keep telling myself when I want to break off with her. That's what I am thinking last night when I ring her front door bell. Dottie doesn't have just an ordinary door bell like most people. Her's plays the first three notes of the "Star Spangled Banner." Which is what I mean, Dottie's got class.

Well, I first suspect something when Mrs. Van Dine comes to the door. That's Dottie's mother. Isn't Van Dine a classy name? Same at Dottie's.

"Good evening, Mrs. Van Dine," I says real polite. "Where's Dottie?" I casually inquires. But before she can tell me Dottie comes down stairs blowing her nose real hard like she'd been crying. Gee, but she's pretty!

Then I suddenly notice a horrible thing. She's not dressed. That is I mean she's not wearing the kind of long thing girls usually wear to a dance like this. But I soon find out why. She shows me the wad of material which, being quick on the trigger like I am, I guess is a dress. Frankly it's a mess.

She tells me how her kid brother has a flair for water color painting. This is definitely his master piece, I think to myself. I wonder if he calls it "Junk Yard Rhapsody."

"Look Dottie, your kid brother is undoubtedly a great designer," I says trying to look like I'm not telling the greatest lie of my life. "No girl at the prom will have a dress like yours."

Right away I see I'm saying the wrong thing. Dottie turns on the water works. Her mother gives me a look that would freeze the China Sea.

"Gee, Dottie, don't be mad." I try to console her. "I'd be glad to wait here while you and your mother get that blue dress that you've been giving the glad eye in Peckman's window. There's still a half an hour before the dance."

All at once she stops crying. For a minute I think she is going to kiss me. I guess she likes my idea. Then she gets a funny look on her face like she is going to ask me to do something for her. I am in no position to refuse.

She tells me. While Dottie and Mrs. Van Dine go down town, who puts Junior to bed? I do! Already I have a great dislike for the kid. If only the stork had run into a few B-29's, I could be going to the Senior Prom right now.

After Dottie and her mother leave, I decide to go up stairs

and have a look at death's bright angel. Then I remember that I don't even know the kid's name. But the minute I see him I know it must be Francis. Nobody could be that ugly and not be called Francis.

"Hello, little man," I says as I catch hold of his foot and pulls him off the chandalier. "Now we musn't bite. It's bad for your teeth." How can I be so calm! "Chew on somebody else, ya bum, or I'll bust you one right in the kisser."

No, that isn't the way they do in psychology books. "Listen, Junior," I croon sweetly, "if you'll get ready for bed like a real good guy, I'll tell you a story that'll knock your ears off." I seem to have hit the jack pot this time, because the kid excavates his fingernails out of my back and starts to get undressed.

He can't find his pajamas, so I give him a nightshirt from the bureau drawer. Later I find to my embarrassment it belongs to Mrs. Van Dine.

After a few more preliminaries, the kid crawls in bed for a story. I don't think till now what this sensational tale will be about. Not nursery rhymes—he's too old. The Joke Book in my hip pocket? No?, he's too young. I decide to make it up as I go along.

"Once upon a time," I begin. He thinks he's heard this before. I've got to be more original. "Three little pigs live in an old tenement house. One day a wolf, seeing Lana Turner across the street, whistled and blew the house in. Then he ate up all the little pigs. Does he have to pay points? Of course not. This is black market. Anyway, when Dick Tracy heard about this cold-blooded crime, he was hot on the trail of this guy, Wolf."

Junior thinks they should phone the humane society. Suddenly the thunder of hoof beats is heard coming up the trail. Is it Mickey Mouse? No, it's the kid's mother coming home and he's supposed to be asleep, or I can't take Dottie to the dance.

"Now listen, Junior, get back in bed," I yell too loud to be gentlemanly. Then I think of Dottie. Gee but she's pretty. I've got to get this kid to sleep somehow.

How about giving him the old K.O.? No, it might break his jaw. Then I think of sleeping tablets. While I'm looking in the medicine cabinet, Junior is climbing up the bed post. All I can find is the chloroform. It's a great temptation, but I decide that's too much to do even to a brat named Francis.

All this time he is hanging upside down by his toes. "Look out,

Youth Center Is Popular

Juvenile delinquency? Not in Boone. The citizens have taken care of that by providing a youth center, Jive Inn, for the young people of the town. The Jive Inn is not a profit making business, but is run very economically. The bills are paid by the adult board who obtained their funds from a drive to which merchants and other townspeople contributed. The "dry dock" also obtains funds from donations, the candy machine, and the bar. Mrs. Handchin has replaced Mrs. Sturtz, who was the first supervisor. The work at the "dock" is done entirely by the students. As each one signs up for a semester ticket, he also signs up to work on a certain day. The junior high students take care of the recreation center during the day, and the senior high oldsters are in charge (under Mrs. Handchin's supervision, of course) during the evening. The "kids" are responsible for running the bar, cleaning up, and putting the games away. In case you walk by on a Saturday morning, you will no doubt see a group of industrious (?) boys out in front washing the big front window and sweeping the sidewalk.

Let's take an imaginary trip through the Jive Inn. We had better not go after a basket-ball or football game because we might get mangled in the crowd. After a game everyone makes a dash for the "dock." On such nights there is more dancing than usual. It isn't that our Boone High Romeos are less bashful on those nights, but out of town Casanovas who visit our Inn seem to have passed that awkward age and do not think it strange to dance with a girl. This seems to influence the Boone boys a bit, and sometimes they get up enough courage to walk shyly up to one of our pretty maids and say, "Hey,

kid." But I see it's too late. Diving off the end of the bed, he conks his beezor on his electric train.

Right away when I see what a fortunate thing this is, I toss him in bed and turn out the light. Like clock work Dottie's front door bell starts playing the "Star Spangled Banner," and I take off down the steps.

"Good evening, Mrs. Van Dine," I says like everything is hunky dorey. "Junior's sleeping like a little lamb." Suddenly I stops. "Where's Dottie. Where is Dottie?"

"With who?" I don't believe it at first. He's a pipsqueak. "Yes, Mrs. Van Dine, very bright. Gets the highest chemistry grades in school." George Franklin—a low down pipsqueak.

—Mary Ann Herman.

babe! May I borrow your frame for this struggle?"

Since we've decided not to go on the night of the game, maybe we'd better go right now. As we gaily trip (and I do mean trip, if a certain couple of boys are there) through the door, a girl asks to see our tickets. When we get in, we notice that the room is all decorated in green and white. No wonder. Last night was the St. Patrick's Day dance and Lloyd Wells and his orchestra played for it. We ought to have those more often.

Well, for heaven's sake. What is Louie Patterson doing? Oh, I see. He's up on the ladder fixing the front light. Thank goodness he got it fixed and got down safely! It's a little dark up here in front. I guess I'd better turn on another light. Well, it won't work. That's Louie for you. He's our boy. I see Peg and Ray are coming up to the studio couch at this end. Could it be because of that broken light?

See those two girls dancing together? They are Patty Berglund and Betty Weber, a couple of junior high kids, but we sort of like to have them around. Whenever the dancing drags, we can depend on them to show us the latest jitterbug steps. There are a few of our steadies dancing too — George and Andy, Marge and Rabbit, and even Hully and Sharon.

I see Min, Son, Jackye, and Ferg are making a bridge foursome. I just never will get over the way these boys dropped poker, I mean gin rummy, to play bridge.

That boy over there playing ping pong with our sailor boy, Don Maffitt, is Irvin Lanning. They tell me he is a foreigner, but no one will tell me why.

Skimony and Bill Littrell are draped over the bar on the pretense of buying potato chips and cokes, but they aren't fooling me. I know they are just trying to, shall we say, "make time" (?) with Virg Parker and Wanda Butler.

Time is flitting, and the cleaning up has started; so we'd better be on our way. Let's stop by the "dock" another time, shall we? If you want any more information about Jive Inn, just drop in, and we'll "tell ya what we're gonna do."

EPITAPHS

With Apologies to Edgar Lee Masters

THE ELEVATOR GIRL

I ran the elevator
In the Elmhurst department store,
From eight to five each day,
Packed with raving human sardines
In a tin box.
"What your step."
"Back in the car, please."
"The rest room? Around the corner
To the left."
How I longed to see
The open country again!
Then one day the elevator coils
Were cut. By whom
I do not know.
"To be free at last!" I thought.
But no, only a new employer.
I still run an elevator
Where? Between heaven and hell.
—M. A. Herman.

IRVIN LANNING

Yes, I was hanged
For murder.
Miss Shaler insisted
My name be InvinG
In the Scroll.
What could I do but
Choke her?
Anyway, on my modest
Headstone is engraved
IRVIN.

Dramer—

ored that an important announcement will be made when the curtain has come down, and we wouldn't want to miss it. But before we go, we might see if we could persuade the cast to tell us the announcement in advance. "Come on, kids, tell us what's in the air; after all, we are graduating this year, too."

But what person would give away a secret? LuVern Babbitt, you might know. "The grand finale will be at the Youll residence immediately following the performance; and only the cast will be admitted."

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Boone High's Music Department Shows Progress

Three New Instructors Join Faculty

Under the leadership of Mr. R. N. Cook, Mr. Konrad Scholl, and Miss Florence Anderson, the Boone high school music department has completed one of its most outstanding and enjoyable years. All three instructors joined the faculty at the beginning of the school year, and they have willingly given their talents to improving the music standards of this school.

From Tipton comes Mr. Ruel Cook, our band director. Mr. Cook attended Upper Iowa college at Fayette and did his graduate work at the University of Iowa. Mr. Cook has created both a marching band and a symphonic concert band of balanced instrumentation besides the pep band and swing band. His office is on the second floor of the Washington building since that floor has been made over for both band and orchestra practice rooms.

Mr. Konrad Scholl, who previously has taught at Casper, Wyoming, is the new director of the orchestra; he has charge of all string instruments in the high school and grade schools. He received his education at the Ohio University and at the Ft. Hays, Kansas, State college. While attending the university, he was featured as violin soloist for the university orchestra.

After arriving here, he gave a well-planned and executed concert December 4, 1944, in the high school auditorium. The artist displayed excellent technique and ability; he also played for the audience "Prairie Nocturne," a number which he had composed.

Miss Florence Anderson is the third new music teacher, and she instructs all vocal groups in junior and senior high and in the grade schools. Miss Anderson came to Boone high from Eagle Grove where she formerly taught.

Marching Band

During the football season the marching band provided entertainment between the halves; then later in the season it accompanied the team to Ames and performed between the halves of the Boone vs. Ames game. After the football season a symphonic concert band of balanced instrumentation was formed. This concert band played several numbers that were well appreciated by the audience on the Christmas concert that was given by Music and Drama departments December 17, 1944. On March 16, 1945, Mr. Cook presented this band in a very interesting and enjoyable concert. Also during the year various small groups from the band performed for the public.

Orchestra Makes Debut

The orchestra made its debut November 15, 1944, playing for the Junior college play. Providing music for these various plays and religious character assemblies are two of the main functions of the orchestra. During the Christmas concert the orchestra also played special numbers besides accompanying the group singing. April 10, 1945, the orchestra presented their spring concert in two assemblies at the high school; later in May the string ensemble took part at the Simpson college festival for strings at the Indianola commencement.

Vocal Program

Under the direction of Miss Anderson quite an extensive vocal program was carried out this past year. The various vocal groups formed were: the Boys' and Girls' Glee Clubs, Boys' Quartet, Girls' Quartet, trios, the Mixed Chorus, and also junior high groups. Composing the major part of the Christmas program, all the high school and junior high choruses were presented in this program. March 18, 1945, a pre-Easter vocal concert was given by these groups which was appreciated greatly by over 800 residents of the community. Revived for the first time since several years, the Tri-City Festival was held this year at Boone with Ames and Fort Dodge as guests. The vocal concert was under the direction of Noble Cain; the instrumental program under the direction of Professor Pensis.

Celebrities

Presented by the Music Department this year, was Sven Lekberg, pianist, assisted by Mildred Lekberg, vocalist. Mr. Lekberg displayed excellent technique and played his various pieces with deep understanding. The Iowa State Symphony Orchestra, also sponsored by the Music Department, gave an excellent program February 27, 1945, under the direction of Professor Alvin R. Edgar. Featured violinist of the symphony was Ilza Niemack.

This year there were many young musicians who competed

Students Enjoy Iowa State Musicians

The Iowa State Symphony Orchestra presented an excellent program to the junior and senior high school students Tuesday afternoon, February 27, 1945. The orchestra, consisting of 75 musicians, was under the direction of Professor Alvin R. Edgar, who won both the attention and interest of the audience with his easy manner of conducting the group.

The first number which the orchestra played was the triumphant "Marche Slave" by Tchaikowsky. Professor Edgar then proceeded to introduce the various instruments to the students, asking the first chair of each section to play a few notes, thus demonstrating the quality of tone which each was capable of producing. The students seemed to enjoy immensely this part of the program.

The next number played by the orchestra was "Mignon Overture" by Thomas, taken from the opera of the same name. The music was presented with great artistry and precision, revealing the extraordinary technical ability of the musicians.

Featured Violinist

Featured violinist of the symphony, Ilza Niemack, was then introduced by Professor Edgar, playing the Paganini "Violin Concerto in D Major," accompanied by the orchestra. She played her parts with ease and grace and full mastery, winning a generous applause from the amazed student body. Miss Niemack then took her place as concertmistress, and the symphony played the "Emperor Waltz" by Strauss. Being somewhat acquainted with the Strauss waltzes, the students greatly appreciated this number.

At the close of the waltz it was time for dismissal, but Professor Edgar explained to the

in the state music contest at Storm Lake April 27 and 28. The preliminaries were held at Grand Junction, April 6 and 7.

audience that he had one more number which he believed they would enjoy hearing. The students were more than glad to remain for a few minutes and were richly repaid by listening to the orchestra play a fantasy based on "When Johnny Comes Marching Home."

Dismissal then proceeded with the symphony playing a novelty piece entitled "Perpetual Motion," thus ending a program which was a highlight in our assembly schedule for the year.

The orchestra also presented a concert in the evening, playing the following numbers in addition to the program given at the matinee: Prokofieff's "Classical Symphony in D Major," and "Zorahayda" by the Norwegian composer, Svendsen. Music lovers at both of these concerts truly appreciated the programs of exceptional variety and interest which were presented to them by this outstanding group of musicians.

Public Concert Closes Big Day

Combined Orchestra of 125 Pieces Assembled

Wednesday night, May 9, the Tri-City Festival Concert was presented in the Boone High

school auditorium. Ames, Boone, and Fort Dodge assembled their respective orchestras and choruses for a combined performance.

The chorus, number about 250 voices, was under the direction of the nationally known choral director, Noble Cain.

Because of stage limitations it was necessary to confine the number in the combined orchestras to 125 pieces. Mr. Henri Pensis directed the orchestra. Mr. Pensis has had wide experience both in this country and Europe in directing symphonic orchestras.

The students appreciated the opportunity to work under the expert direction of these men.

Rush College Trio

During the past year the student body of Boone high school has enjoyed, aside from regular pep meetings, a number of entertaining assemblies. The first of these was given by the Negro Girls' Trio from Rush college in Mississippi. The girls, introduced by Mr. Fisher, sang three Negro folk songs, "Ain't Gwine' Study War No Mo'," "Shortnin' Bread," and "Beans." Rev. Claud Cooper presented a brief history of Rush college and what it has done for the Negro children of that section of Mississippi.

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Mr. Scholl In Violin Concert

Mrs. Longworth Is His Accompanist.

Presented by the Boone high school music department, Mr. Konrad Scholl, violinist, gave a well-designed and admirable concert Monday evening, December 4, at 8:15 in the high school auditorium. The artist displayed excellent technique and ability and was called on to repeat two numbers on his program in addition to several encores. Of special interest to the audience was a number, "Prairie Nocturne," which the violinist had composed, and which was greatly enjoyed. His able piano accompanist was Mrs. W. H. Longworth.

Mr. Scholl's program was as follows: Sonata for piano and violin, Opus 13, No. 2, by Grieg; Concerto No. 4 in D minor by Vieuxtemps; Caprice in B-flat major by Paganini; Largo for the G string by Clerambault; "Alt Wien" by Godowsky-Heifetz; "Crepescul" (Twilight) by Mar-senet; "Midnight Bells" by Hue-berger-Kreisler; "Prairie Nocturne" by Konrad Scholl; "Ave Maria" by Schubert-Wilhelmj; "From the Canebake" by Gard-ner.

Theatre Guild Play Is a Success

Jo-Ann Forbes' Performance Outstanding.

A large audience enjoyed the comedy "June Mad," which the Theatre Guild presented Friday, February 2, 1945. The play was under the direction of Miss Hel-en Thomas.

The story of typical young people in a typical mid-west town handled problems of the youth of today in an excellent manner.

Fifteen year-old Penny, played excellently by JoAnn Forbes, thought herself madly in love with a smooth college man, Roger VanVleck (Don Carter). "Chick" Harris (Jim Shaw) and Milly Lou (Beverly Bentley) kept the audience amused with their reactions to teen-age prob-lems.

Phyllis Dunnerman and Don Bergendahl were Penny's under-standing parents. Martha Heaps as Effie and John Morris as El-mer did their share of adding humor to the story.

Bill Enquist as Mervyn Rob-erts took the part of a college uncle who couldn't resist irresist-able Julie (Phyllis Streit).

The high school orchestra, un-der the direction of Mr. Scholl, furnished music before the play and between acts.

Theatre Guild Performs at Spring Festival

Three One-Act Plays Given for Boone Woman's Club.

The Theatre Guild of Boone high school has been very busy this year. Besides the annual high school play, "June Mad," the drama students presented three one-act plays as part of the Woman's Club Spring Festi-val, in March. The plays were given at the club rooms of the Ericson Library.

A comedy entitled "The Elop-ment," by Howard Reed, was presented with the cast as fol-lows: Mathews, Loren Littrell; Miss Wentworth, Phyllis Duner-man; Eric Hallam, Harry Echter-nach; Madelyn, Delilah Pearson. The scene took place beneath the window of the Wentworth man-sion.

The second play, "A Midnight Fantasy," was written by Kath-line Hunt. The portrait of a

B. H. S. Contestants In State Contest

Boone contestants who entered in the state music contest at Storm Lake, Iowa, April 27 and 28, proved that they were truly fine musicians. The B. H. S. mu-sicians won seven first divisions and six seconds.

Ranking in the superior class were Maxie Erickson in piano solo, and Janis Grimes in mezzo-soprano solo. The groups that rated in the superior class were the girls' trio, Janis Grimes, Mer-na Collis, and Phyllis Dunner-man; the B-flat clarinet quartet, Merna Collis, Patricia Carlson, Dixie Dickey, and Vincent Chorne; the flute quartet, Jac-queline Cook, Dora Munsell, Catherine Myers, and Jeanne Lyons; the miscellaneous string group, Sonia Scholl, Pat Carlson, Ann Chamberlain, Dwight Nel-son, John Schoonover, Ann Schoonover, Mary Ann Herman, and Lorna Hunter; the string quartet, Sonia Scholl, Pat Carl-son, Ann Schoonover and John Schoonover.

The contestants who rated an excellent by the judges were as follows: contralto solo, Merna

collis; baritone solo, Roger Ox-enford; saxophone solo, Don Car-ter; brass sextet, Lois Jones, Pat Doran, Gaylord Borst, Bill En-quist, Loyd Settle and Douglas FitzGerald; the woodwind quin-tet, Dora Munsell, Janis Grimes, Elizabeth Smith, Merna Collis, and Don Carter; the woodwind trio, Jacqueline Cook, Merna Col-lis and Janis Grimes.

Mr. Otto Schacht Entertains

Mr. Otto Schacht, singer, teacher and lecturer, entertained the Boone high students at an assembly February 12.

The student body appreciated Mr. Schacht's informative talk on the value and development of a voice. He stressed clear, correct enunciation and pronun-ciation and demonstrated his rules by singing a number of songs which were enthusiastically received by his audience. Es-pecially good were his renditions of "The Road to Mandalay" and "Invictus." He held the atten-tion of his audience from the first, a fact well-illustrated by the fulfillment of his wish for complete silence after his sing-ing of "The Lord's Prayer" at the close of the program.

Christmas Spirit Conveyed by Concert

Sunday afternoon, December 17, a crowd of more than nine hundred people turned out for the December concert, sponsored by the Music and Dramatic de-partments of the school.

The auditorium was beautifully decorated in the Christmas spirit. A Christmas tree and a large candle rack holding tall red candles stood on each side of the stage. The side lights in the auditorium, filled with blue bulbs and encircled with holly wreaths, cast a vesper glow over the room.

At 4:00 o'clock both choruses, carrying lighted candles, made their entry down the aisles of the auditorium. The students opened the program by singing "Come All Ye Faithful," accom-panied by the senior high orches-tra.

After the completion of this ceremony the orchestra, directed by Mr. Konrad Scholl, played two beautiful numbers. Then followed carols sung by the ninth grade and senior high girls' glee clubs. One of the carols, "Silent Night," arranged by Ellen Lor-enz, was especially beautiful. The senior high mixed chorus also took part in the program. All of the vocal groups were under the direction of Miss Florence An-derson.

A tableau of the Christmas story was enacted with Jim Fitz-gerald as narrator. The scenes

were presented with a feeling of reverence. The costumes and lighting effects added much to the reality of the story. This group was directed by Miss Sybil Lamb and Miss Helen Thomas.

The afternoon was brought to a close by the Boone high con-cert band, under the direction of Mr. R. N. Cook.

Barber: "Was your tie red when you came in?"
Soldier: "Certainly not."
Barber: "Gosh!"

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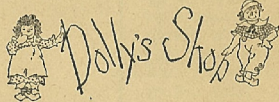
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