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handkerchief home, and now they carry their bundles out without a murmur. You know the saying 'Every dog has his day,' well, now it's the shop assistant's turn, and the customer is having to take a little of what she used to give so generously before. Some used to ask in a very superior tone for this, that, and the other frock to be sent up on approval. Now they have to try the frocks on in the shop. At first they made a fuss but, as I said, they are getting educated slowly.

"Some of the assistants, I'll admit, are inclined to be short-tempered, but you've no idea what it's like to be treated as absolutely insignificant instead of a human being. And on Friday night we're expected to be just as fresh and bright and smiling as if we weren't ready to drop after being on our feet for 12 hours. . . . And, of course, we have to face all the usual excuses: after we have brought out the entire range of stock in a certain colour, the customer decides that she will bring her suit in to get the exact shade, or she has an appointment and will come back in 20 minutes — and, of course, we never see her again."

## LIBRARIAN

*Scene: The desk in the circulating department.*

*Woman:* I had a travel book out four years ago and I'd like to borrow it again.

*Librarian:* Yes, madam, what was it called?

*Woman:* Well, I can't remember what it was called, but it was about some-one travelling through Europe, I think.

*Librarian:* Can you remember the author?



*Woman:* Well, no, not exactly, but it was by a man.

*Librarian (under her breath):* Madam, we have at least 5000 books on travel in this library, and most of them are by men.

*Woman:* It was a small book with illustrations. . . .

*Librarian (under her breath):* Madam, out of the 4000-odd books on travel written by men, at least 2000 are small, illustrated volumes.

*Woman:* It was a green book, I'm sure. . . .

A NEW serial which recently had its initial presentation from 4ZB is *We were Young*. It deals with the lives of John and Ann Murray, a couple starting out along the path of matrimony. The serial is presented twice weekly—on Mondays at 7.45 p.m., and Thursdays at 6.30.

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