# BEEF, IRON, AND WINE

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Beef, Iron, and Wine by Jack Lait

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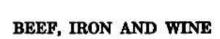
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### **JACK LAIT**

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By Jack Lait



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### CONTENTS

Int	roduction by J. Keeley, Editor of the	PAGE
	Chicago Herald	ix
1.	The Septagon	. 8
2.	"Charlie the Wolf"	
	I. Was "Wanted" by Kelly and Kier-	
	nan so They Found Him Taking	
	the Air	19
5.0.5	II. In Honest Air, Far From His Lair,	
	Finds the Fire Escape All Wrong.	25
	III. In New Haunts Nestles in Feathers;	
	Has Bounties Served on Platters.	32
	IV. Gets by With It Enjoying Bankroll	
	in Peace; "Let 'Im Go," says	
	Kiernan to Kelly	36
	V. Kelly and Kiernan Go Toy Sium-	
	ming; Encounter an Old Friend;	
	Watchdogs and Wolf Meet Over	
	Lambs	41
	VI. Boy Has to Break Law to Get a	
	Look, Says Charlie the Wolf.	

### Contents

		PAGE
	Why Not Some Notice for Good	
	Boys?	46
	VII. On Preparedness for the Higher	
	Life. Deplores Roughneck in	
	Refined Work	52
	VIII. At the Ball Park Meets the Thirsty	
	Dicks. Opens Up About a Game	
	of Long Ago	58
3.	Felice o' the Follies	67
4.	Lars, the Useless, Was a Nuisance, so He	
	Got a Public Office and Threw His Love	
	to the Birds	81
5.		91
6.		
	I. Heard Nature Calling Him and	
	Thought of His Mother Till Work	
	and Fortune Fell His Way	105
	II. Political Philosophy Indorsed by	
	Luke the Dude. Election a Sys-	
	tem or Guessing Game?	112
	III. Sniffs Scented Breezes of Lazy, Lan-	
	guorous Spring. Poet Within	
	Him Answers as Befits	118
ti	IV. On International Crisis: Soldier or	

Contents	vii
Citizen? If All Go Fighting,	PAGE
Who'll Be Voting?	128
7. Jennie, The Imp of the Night, Begs	120
Bread No More—But Mike Will Soon	
Be Big Enough	133
8. Taxi, Mister!	143
9. The Canada Kid	
I. On Bad Boy Problem, Heredity or	
Environment? Tells How Team-	
ster's Boy Went Wrong	159
II. Finds a Queer Oasis in Dry, Rural	
Desert, and Brings Back a Trophy	
to Prove It	164
III. The Kid Looks 90 Days in the Face,	
but Justice Triumphs. Virtue	
Gets Its Just for Dessert	169
IV. Hails Crafty Comrade	174
V. Only One to a Customer	100000
VI. Loses His Jewel and Sorrows Bit-	
terly. Gives Epigrams of Love	
and Life	
10. Second From the End	
11. Heritage of the Suffering Brother. The	
Blushing Yokel Who Always Got the	
Bitter Leavings	218
Protect Total trigo	~

viii	Contents	
12.	One Touch of Art	388
13.	It Wasn't Honest, but It Was Sweet to Save the Dimes; The Secret of the Little	
	Tin Bank	1
14.	Ten Dollars' Worth	9
15.	The Gangster's Elegy 26	3
16.	Pics	7
17.	Annye's Ma	7

- 17

#### INTRODUCTION

In announcing Jack Lait as a new contributor the American Magazine called him "The Human Arabian Nights." A pat, illuminating phrase, for he has One Thousand and One ideas and rarely two alike. Lait is a marvel to those who work with him. His versatility—even mechanically—is wonderful. To those who read his output in the Chicago Herald of 75,000 words each month divided into from 30 to 35 stories, each with a plot, a theme, cameo-cut characters, seductive introductions and crashing climaxes, that versatility must appeal; to those who write it is little short of marvellous.

I do not, however, believe fecundity plus originality, plus power of expression, plus the artful art of suspense are the real elements of Lait's success. I always think of him as the Human X-ray. He is the interpreter of the subcutaneous of life. He seems to divine in all manner of folks the exact emotions which generate there. He surprises, even embarrasses us, often, by his frank, plain exposition of what we have