

SERIAL STORY

CHRISTMAS RUSH

BY TOM HORNER

COPYRIGHT, 1940,
NEA SERVICE, INC.

YESTERDAY: Jerry called, agrees to come home for the Connelly's annual New Year's breakfast at which all mistakes, quarrels of past year are officially buried. The doctor, Martha and Mary make a country call. It develops into an obstetrical case. With Martha and Mary assisting. Arriving home, they find the cook in tears. Sheila, in jail.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
CHAPTER IX

Dr. Connelly turned from the telephone to calm Martha's fears. "Sheila's all right. She was arrested for speeding. Police are being particularly vigilant tonight. There's nothing to get excited about. I'll have her home in half an hour."

"What a way to start the New Year," Martha breathed. "In jail?" "She's really not in a cell," the doctor explained. "merely detained at the station. Kathleen is with her." He paused at the door. "Better see what there is in the house for a New Year's party. There'll be no dancing for the twins tonight." He tried to make his voice sound sternly paternal, but Martha knew he was secretly glad for an excuse to have the girls at home.

The door slammed behind him. Martha sank wearily into a chair.

It was after 11 when Hugh returned, ushered two chastened daughters into the house. Weeping had played havoc with Sheila's makeup, police station dust streaked her white formal. She burst into tears again as she rushed into Martha's arms.

"Oh, Mommy, Mommy! It was terrible. I was arrested!" Martha patted her, comfortingly.

At her father's side, Kathleen grinned impishly, the twinkle in her eyes matching that in his. "It was swell, Mom. Imagine Sheila being arrested. Why, some of our best families were there. Louise the Dip, Chopper Tony, Dutch, the burglar. It was swell. I wouldn't have missed it."

"You didn't have to go to jail," Sheila sobbed. "You weren't arrested, and brought up before the judge."

"Even if I had been—"

"Kathleen!" Martha's tone silenced her. "You and your father make some sandwiches and coffee. This is New Year's eve. We'll ring in the new with our own party."

"I was only teasing, Sheila," Kathleen apologized. "Honestly, I was as scared as you were."

Martha waited until the doctor, Mary and Kathleen had disappeared into the kitchen then asked: "What was that, Sheila?"

"How did you get arrested?"

"We were going down the boulevard, Kathleen and I. We left the boys at the house and were coming over to pick up Mary. I guess I was going a little fast—"

"This motorcycle patrolman stopped us, took us down to the station. We had to prove that we hadn't been drinking, and they wouldn't let us go until Dad came down."

"Kathleen called here, then called the boys. They came right down, but they didn't have enough money to pay the fine. When Dad arrived he said we'd have to come home—that we couldn't go to the party."

"Won't you ask Dad to let us go, Mommy? He will if you ask him. It's New Year's. It only comes once a year—and this is a grand party. I know it is."

Martha smiled. "I think it can be arranged, if you'll stay here until after midnight. Your father and I are selfish enough to want you to ourselves when this year begins. But I don't want you to stay at home, and neither does Hugh, unless you really want to."

"Mommy, you know we want to be with you," Sheila's smile banished her tears.

"Now, run up and change your dress, and fix your face. Mary will probably want to dress too, if she's going with you."

They stood before the fireplace, hands tightly clasped, as the clock began the first of 12 strokes ending the year. Over the city, church bells began to ring. Someone fired a gun. Whistles shrieked.

"Should old acquaintance be renewed?" Hugh started the song. "Martha's clear soprano held the last note."

Hugh kissed his wife tenderly. "May 1941 be as happy, my dear, as all the other years we've been together." Her eyes were shining.

"We've so much to be thankful for, Hugh. . . . If—If—"

"If Jerry were here," he finished for her. "This celebration would be perfect. Don't worry about the boys. He'll be all right. Jerry is no fool. He'll do the right thing."

"He should be here, with us."

"Martha, darling, our children are growing up. This is the first New Year's we all haven't been together. And don't worry. Jerry will be here for breakfast. That's the real family New Year's."

"We've been lucky to keep them all together this long. They'll be getting married soon, establishing their own homes. Then there'll be just you and I again—like it was when we started. Remember?"

The telephone rang. Sheila interrupted her proclamation of numerous New Year's resolutions—including "I will not drive too fast"—to answer. "It's probably just a wondering if they've been stood up by a couple of jailbirds. It's for you, Dad."

Laughter subsided as the doctor listened intently, asked terse questions. He was serious as he replaced the instrument. There's been an accident on the highway. I was hoping we'd get through the holidays without any serious mishaps. . . . People will drive

too fast, on slick pavement. . . . Sheila ran to get his coat and hat. Kathleen brought his glasses.

"Call the hospital," Dr. Connelly went on. "Tell them to be ready for anything. One man is dead, another seriously hurt, the highway patrol officer said. He hurried into his coat. 'I'll get home as soon as I can. If you youngsters go out, drive carefully, and look out for the other fellow.'"

"Don't drive too fast yourself, Hugh," Martha called to him, but he was gone.

The accident cast a shadow over their party. There was no room for laughter now. Why some one else's misfortune should affect a doctor's family, Martha could never understand, yet it was true.

Kathleen yawned, broke the silence. "If those fellows don't call soon, I'm going to bed."

"Maybe they won't call. They may just drop by for us," Sheila suggested.

The telephone at Martha's elbow jangled again. She lifted the receiver.

"Yes. . . . Dr. Connelly is not in. . . . He's on his way there now. . . . Yes, my son and daughters are in school there. . . . Just a minute, I'll ask the girls, they may know. . . . Will you repeat that number, please. . . . Thank you."

She covered the transmitter with her hand. "It's the highway patrol again. They're trying to identify the driver of one of the cars in the accident. It has a university license—V-40. I think he said—"

Kathleen gasped. "V-40? Are you sure?"

"After he talked to Hugh, the officer discovered this license, and he remembered that you and Jerry are in the university. He thought you might know to whom the car belongs."

Kathleen's face was ashen beneath her rouge. "Let me talk to him, Mother."

Her hand trembled as she picked up the phone. "This is Kathleen Connelly. What was that number again. . . . What kind of car is it? Yes, I know the owner. That car belongs to Valerie Parks!"

(To be continued)

Farm Income To
Rise Despite Cut
In Export TradeBy CLAUDE R. WICKARD
Secretary of Agriculture

Despite some very prominent unfavorable factors, farmers, generally speaking, can look forward to a somewhat better year in 1941 than they had in 1940. Exports will be down, production costs and living expenses will be up, but these developments may be more than offset by better average prices for most farm products and a resulting larger total cash income from markets. This assumption is predicated on a farm production in 1941 approximating that of 1940.

Export demand for United States farm products is likely to be smaller in 1941 than it was this year. Continental European markets, virtually closed now, are not likely to reopen as long as the present war continues.

Higher Wages Likely
Another aspect of the farm outlook in 1941 is a probable rise in expenditures for farm family living. With fewer workers available for farm employment than in 1940 because of the higher level of industrial activity and the increase in the military forces of the country, farm wages in 1941 probably will be higher than they were this year. Prices of farm machinery, automobiles, and building materials also may average slightly higher in 1941 because of the larger requirements for steel and lumber products in the defense program. Fertilizer costs may be slightly higher.

Clothing costs for the farm family may rise. Prices of shoes, always important in farm family budgets, may be higher. Ready-made garments, especially those of wool, probably will cost more than in 1940 or be of lower quality.

Prices Apt to Rise
Brightening the outlook for many farmers in 1941, however, will be better average prices for most farm products and the consequent larger income from markets. The rise in prices of farm products is likely to be most pronounced for commodities which are normally consumed almost entirely in the United States. This applies especially to some fruits and vegetables, and most livestock and livestock products. Prices of most commodities largely dependent on world markets, or which are now supported by government loan programs, may not be greatly different from those received this year, although any prediction in this field is clouded with uncertainty.

Both production and prices of dairy products are expected to average higher in 1941 than they did this year. A prospective decline in hog production will be offset in part by an increased sale of other meat animals, and the favorable effect of rising consumer incomes on the prices of meat animals is expected to continue through 1941.

The trend of farm income will be similar to that of farm prices, provided farm production is about the same as in 1940 and the income of export crops is protected by loans, increased income from poultry products is indicated by prospects for more nearly normal supplies in 1941 and for improved consumer incomes. Improvement in the income from crops is most likely in the returns from vegetables

and from fruits consumed largely in domestic markets.

Health Aims Cited
One likely trend in 1941 in the various government farm programs will be toward a further strengthening of the nation's health defenses. Along with increased consumer purchasing power will come a concerted administrative effort to improve the nutrition of American families, particularly the low-income groups in both rural and urban areas. The Food Stamp Plan, which seeks to increase consumption of surplus foods among low-income families, will be continued. The school lunch program will be continued, and by the spring of

Patriotic Chapeaux Catch the Eye at Oregon State College



Airplane parts, flags, gun assemblies—all form unusual bonnet ornaments for these Oregon State College Co-eds at Corvallis, Ore.

ARROW DARTS AT HITLER
The MOUSTACHE GAME
PRIZES! FREE MOVIE PASSES

High spot of the Coney Island midway at the Star-Spangled Ball in New York was a dart-throwing game, with Hitler as the target and moustache-bearing darts. Here's screen star Rosalind Russell about to test her skill.

Character Role
In Real Drama

How about it, girls? Recognize that smiling face? Yes, ma'am, it's none other than movie star Richard Greene. That tank is a stage set, either. The young English actor returned to Britain at war's start and is now serving in the Royal Armored Corps.

Power Plant On
Wheels Will Go
Right to PatronBy HOWARD W. BLAKESLEE
(Associated Press Science Editor)

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—An electric power substation on wheels that can travel 50 miles an hour and feed out enough electricity for a city of 10,000, is ready for 1941's storm damage to electric lines.

The plant is built on a trailer, and is no larger than a medium-size truck. It offers a new step in quick restoration of electricity when power lines go out and for bombed communities in war. It has special possibilities.

The General Electric company designed the portable power plant. It has a retractable, trolley-like tower rising from the roof to make the connection with a power line. Inside are transformers and switching systems to distribute the electricity. Two types have been made, one for larger communities and the other for small.

To make sure that children or prowlers do not hurt themselves, the parts which might be touched by outsiders are set behind a heavy steel screen. The rest of the plant is sheathed like an armored truck behind steel plates.

1941 may provide as many as five or six million school children with noon-day lunches. Rehabilitation of distressed low-income farmers, through loans and grants accompanied by farm and home management plans, will continue to be an important part of the national farm program in 1941. Conservation of the soil will be given additional emphasis in nearly all the department of agriculture programs, and conservation of the harvest will be continued under the ever-normal granary plan.

NEW STAMPED GOODS
New 1941 patterns in stamped pillow cases and shirts have just arrived. See them at Carr's store—(Adv.)



A DOUGLAS COUNTY PRODUCT
Mfg. by Douglas County Mills
Buy it from your favorite grocer.

Warmest Day in
December Noted
In Records Here

Weather for the month of December established one new record by being the warmest December day to be listed since the establishment of the weather bureau station here in 1878, according to J. C. McCallister, meteorologist in charge of the local station.

On Dec. 21 the mercury hit a maximum of 70 degrees, the highest ever recorded during December. The lowest temperature was 17 degrees on the 14th.

December had more than average precipitation, the total rainfall being 6.54 inches as compared with a normal of 5.34 inches. The rainfall of the past month, however, has frequently been exceeded in previous Decembers, with records showing as much as 12 or more inches of rainfall for the month in some past years.

The report issued today shows a surplus of rainfall over the normal since Sept. 1, 1940, of 2.23 inches and a surplus of 3.87 inches for the year from Jan. 1, 1940.

Trio Takes Traditional
Plunge Into Willamette

PORTLAND, Jan. 2.—(AP)—Portland's Red Devils shuddered in their annual New Year's day plunge

into the Willamette river yesterday.

Ice didn't coat the river, but it was cold enough that only three members of the life-saving club took the swim. They were Jack Eubanks, Alma Mae Griffin and Alvin E. Sather.

COMPLETE
OPTICAL SERVICE

Dr. D. B. Babar
116 No. Jackson

GET BUSY, BABY!

You've got a busy year ahead. You don't know what's coming, but there is one thing you CAN be sure of.

The folks who buy Co-op will be in better shape for 1942 than those who don't. Because "You own the profits."

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Farm Bureau Co-op. Exch.

ROSEBURG, OREGON

THANKS TO SAFEWAY'S LOW PRICES AND MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

IN A FAMILY OUR SIZE a large part of income goes for food. We must be sure of getting the best for our money. SAFEWAY'S money-back guarantee on everything we buy insures that.

HONEY, U. S. No. 1 5 lbs. 29c
RIPE OLIVES No. 1 tin 10c

SODA CRACKERS New 2-lb. Leader Box **13c**

PORK & BEANS 3 No. 2 1/2 Cans **25c**

CORNER BEEF Anglo Fancy For a welcome change in your meat menu! 12-oz. cans **16c**

Del Monte Cream Corn, 2 No. 2's 19c
Highway Sliced Beets, No. 2 can 9c
Highway Sauerkraut, 2 1/2 3 for 25c
Glenn Aire Grapefruit, No. 2 can 11c
Santa Cruz Asparagus, 2 8-oz. cans 19c
Briargate Green Beans, No. 2 can 11c
Ruby Catsup, 12-oz. bottles, 3 for 25c
Admiral Sardines, No. 1 1/4 key tin 5c
Salmon, Quality Pink 2 cans 25c
Mild Cream Cheese pound 19c
P'nut But'r, Real Roast, 2-lb jar 23c
Sleepy Holly Syrup, 26-oz. tin 29c
Pumpkin, 2 1/2 tin 2 for 15c
Fluffo Shortening 4-lb. pkg. 39c
Tomato Sauce, 8-oz. cans . . . 3 for 10c
Westag Vanilla, 8-oz. bottle . . 19c

\$5,000,000 CASH PRIZES

For naming this Cherub Milk Baby

197 big awards—easy as pie for you to win. Get Entry Blank and full details today at Safeway!

CHERUB MILK 4 Tall Cans **27c**
Case of 4 Dozen \$3.18
Eagle Brand Milk 2 1/2 oz. cans 19c
Heinz Baby Foods, asst. 3 cans 20c

Wesson Oil 39c
MAYDAY Salad Oil Quart can 29c 1/2 gallon 55c

EAT MEAT FOR VITAMINS

Beef Roast 19c
Guaranteed tender steer beef, lb.

Pork Roast 17c
Center cuts, lb.

Pork Steak 17 1/2c
Nice and lean, lb.

Pork Sausage 17 1/2c
Pure and freshly ground, lb.

Bacon 23c
Eastern sugar cure, by the piece, lb.

Picnics 17 1/2c
Sugar cured, light weight, lb.

Bacon Jowls 9c
Fine for seasoning, lb.

Salmon 20c
Fresh Silvers, sliced, lb.

SAFEWAY

PRICES ARE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

January 3rd and January 4th