

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sway Us; No Fear Shall Awe" From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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Army Reorganization

FOR the first time since the post-war army organization was made the army is revising its units to meet the modern demand for increased mobility. Details have not been announced yet, but the report is that the size of the division, now 22,070 men (during the world war the size was 27,000) will be reduced to 17,000. The internal make-up of the division may be changed too. The present pattern is called the "four-square" type, with two infantry brigades to a division and two regiments to a brigade. Some European countries have developed a three-unit organization, or "triangular" type, which they regard as more flexible. Under the reorganization contemplated the non-combat units would be detached from the infantry and put directly under division headquarters or attached to the quartermaster.

Great progress has been made in putting the army on wheels. Trucks replace the army mule and wagon. Tanks and motorized units for machine guns and fast-moving artillery have been introduced. The cavalry is being converted from horse units to motorized units. Then the aircraft arm is being rapidly expanded.

Mechanics is revolutionizing warfare. Spain is proving an experimental laboratory for mechanized equipment. Military authorities recently have predicted that a war might begin and end in a few hours; the nation that got the jump, by use of great fleets of bombing planes, to demoralize the defense activities of the enemy might gain a victory in a short space of time. This may be much too optimistic, but the truth is clear that waging war is becoming more and more a matter of operating machinery.

Power equipment will increase the speed of slaughter. But what becomes of the personal glory long the attraction of warfare? No charge of horsemen, little hand-to-hand fighting of footmen, merely the dumping of high explosives on a peaceful city, the advance of small armored fortresses cutting enemy mechanically in windrows, and the pulverizing of the terrain by high artillery—that is the prospect of modern warfare. And its driving force is not so much ambition and glowing patriotism as bitter hatred, inspired by propaganda. The only place where personalized combat seems to remain is in the sky battle between airplanes.

Nations are keeping pace with the latest in scientific knowledge in preparation for war. Are they developing any brains at all for keeping out of war?

Wage Formulas

STEELE made no friends when it attempted to tie wage changes to the cost of living index. That is one factor, but not the sole factor. The state of a company's prosperity is another factor. Sometimes particular industries are depressed even in times of general prosperity; for example, the textile industry was in bad shape even during the prosperous years of the 1920's.

If wages are to move solely on the basis of the cost of living then the workers' standard of living would remain fixed. The history of American industry is one of a rising standard of living for workingmen. There are setbacks in times of depression, but rapid gains in times of prosperity. Decade by decade there has been improvement. Bathrooms, motor cars, radios, mechanical refrigerators are no longer the exclusive possession of the better-to-do classes. Now they are owned, or some of them are at least, by folk with modest incomes. In fact, sometimes the workingman gets a new gadget before his boss does.

Ernest T. Weir, as tough an industrialist as the country has, refuses to subscribe to the U. S. Steel wage formula. His company, National Steel, advanced wages with no conditions. His statement on the question was as follows:

"There are always factors to be considered in changing wages other than the cost of living. I cannot subscribe to the theory of chaining wages to living cost because it carried to its natural conclusion this arrangement would halt future advances in standard of living. In the last forty years we have witnessed a great and general improvement in living standards. Many things have contributed to this, but fundamentally the improvement has been due to a steady and favorable 'spread' between wages and living cost. 'As I see it, any attempt to permanently establish the living cost index as the sole barometer for wage adjustments would tend to retard the continued increase in real buying power which we had and should be the goal of all industry.'

Weir comes closer to the correct answer to the wage question than did the executives of U. S. Steel. The copper companies have a better formula than cost of living; they tie wage changes to fluctuation in price of copper, which gives the employe his stake in the fortunes of the industry. Fixing wages cannot be done by automatic formulas, but the attempt to devise some slide-rule system does indicate a change from the former rule which governed all business relations: "Let him get who has the power, and let him keep who can."

Conservative Students Organize

IN the days before the election a group of students at the University of Oregon not in sympathy with the radicalism fomented by a small number of campus militants, met and formed what they call the Oregon Liberty association to present the viewpoint of more conservative students. They got tired of having the university branded as "red" because of the agitation of few students with a bad bellyache and a missionary complex. Clinton Vincent, graduate of Salem high, is one of the leaders of the Liberty association, along with Bob Prescott of Eugene.

There is a field for such an organization. The trouble with the conservatives is that they have been too silent in expressing their views. Of course there are many students in a university whose major concern is with frat social life, athletics, or even with their studies. But there is a very large group with a keen interest in public affairs who are by no means convinced that the boys with gas on their stomachs have the right answers. This group proposes to help mold campus opinion itself, and to reflect to the people of the state their views on campus questions in particular and on other questions which youth is now concerned over.

Academic freedom should extend to both groups, the conservatives and the radicals. The latter are necessary to prod lethargic people into activity. The former are needed to put brakes on revolution. The prime need for the conservative faction is to be intelligent and not just worshippers of the status quo; and to be honest in the material they gather and the use they make of it. Above all they should preserve their own independence and not become a stalking horse for off-campus pressure groups, patrioteers, or politicians.

Eugene is going to move its present postoffice to a lot adjoining its present location, and use it for a pioneer museum. A new post-office will be erected on the present site. Salem has a good building which we suppose will be available on the same terms \$1.90, plus removing it from the ground. Any bidders?

The democrats are going to have a victory banquet. That's appropriate for Thanksgiving week. Still there will doubtless be much controversy when it comes to serving the pie.

There is one comfort when the university and state college have their ball game. An Oregon team will win.

The weather bureau makes a guess that this will be an ear-muff winter. More of a fur coat winter, even in sunny Arizona.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Adams family in pioneer Oregon like Massachusetts Adams in pioneer American life:

(Concluding from Sunday.) Still quoting from the book: "Mr. Adams (Sebastian C.), our subject, the youngest son, moved to Clatsop, Ill., in 1837 and received his education in Knox college."

"He began teaching... In 1850 he came overland to California, losing everything he had on the journey and suffering with starvation, so that on reaching his destination he was reduced to a skeleton and actually lost consciousness; he could have suffered no more, consciously, had he actually died."

"He remained 40 days in California, to recuperate, then sailed on the bark Ann Smith for Portland, arriving Sept. 30, 1850."

"He went to his brother, W. L. Adams, in Yamhill county, and took a section of land under the donation law... Mr. Adams lived four years on his land and taught school in a small rush shanty."

"Later he removed to McMinnville, and became the founder of the town and the college, building the first house in the place."

"He obtained the land for the college and erected the building, and in 1856 took charge of the school, teaching two years."

"Among his pupils were a number of young men who have since become eminent in the state and county, as chief justices, governors of states and members of congress."

The sketch goes on to say that Adams was in 1822 elected clerk of Yamhill county, and thrice re-elected. He was elected to the state senate. At the close of his four year term, for health and rest, he spent the winter in San Jose, Cal., and in 1829 settled in Salem and erected a residence here.

"For 25 years he was an efficient and highly acceptable Christian minister, connected with the Christian church of Salem, largely built up by his preaching and ministrations... In later years his liberal spirit has led him into nationalistic and entirely out of the Christian theological traces, but of course not away from its morals and refinement."

"During his teaching experience he became impressed with the need of an improvement in the method of teaching history, which led to his becoming the author of a valuable work known as 'Adams' Illustrated Map of History.'"

"He went to Cincinnati in 1871, and, after the publication of the map, spent six years traveling and selling it... it proved a great success; was exhibited at the Centennial (Philadelphia) and while there Mr. Adams met prominent people from all parts of the world... He has now retired from active business... and resides in a beautiful home... just built, fronting the courthouse grounds in Salem. (Some Salem old-timers remember the Adams map-timers.)"

"Feb. 6, 1851, is the date of Mr. Adams' marriage to Miss Martha E. McBride, daughter of Dr. James McBride... There were four children of whom two are living."

"The daughter Emma is now the wife of Major Williams of Salem, and the son Loring K. is a practicing lawyer at Hillsboro."

Major Williams was George Williams, who lost a leg in the Civil war, and was a Salem capitalist and banker.

Loring K. is now practicing law in Portland long a leader in that profession.

S. C. Adams' first wife died in 1822. He married again, in 1824, and his second wife died in 1828, and he married a third time, in 1829.

He died in Salem on January 5, 1898, leaving his property by will to his third wife, whose maiden name had been Sarah A. Baker, and to his son Loring and his daughter Mrs. Williams.

His property included a half interest in the store building in the store building occupied by Gilbert & Patterson, next north of the corner building northwest Court and Commercial streets.

Patterson was afterward governor of Oregon and Gilbert postmaster and superintendent of the penitentiary.

The residence in Salem that S. C. Adams erected when he first came to Adams at the northeast corner of Liberty and Chickamauga streets—where the Christian Science church stands now.

The home "fronting the court house grounds in Salem" where S. C. Adams lived last and died is the Joe A. Baker house, 545 Court—the Baker apartments.

The reader has gathered enough from the foregoing to show that the part of the Adams clan in early Oregon was connected with a large number of the prominent families in this state; by marriage and birth.

There is another branch in Oregon of the same great and numerous clan. All the men and women that are blood relatives of Clark Rogers, Oregon and Marion county pioneer, are members, like the children of D. W. Eyre of Salem, add many others; like Bert Macy, Salem attorney, and all his blood relatives.

The members of the Clark Rogers clan are also related to the family of General George Rogers Clark, and of General William Clark of the Lewis and Clark exploring party.

Interpreting the News

By MARK SULLIVAN

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—President Roosevelt, just before he left for South America, appointed a commission, headed by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, to study farm tenancy with a view to reducing it. The main purpose, as stated in the president's letter to Mr. Wallace, is to facilitate ownership of farms by persons who are now tenants. At the same time the commission is to consider something about tenants who remain tenants. He spoke of "developing a land tenure system which will bring an increased measure of security and well-being to the great group of present and prospective farm tenants." What this means has not been explained. Whether anything will be done about this point cannot be known. It is quite certain, however, that something is going to be done about the status of tenants who persons now tenants to become owners of farms.

President Roosevelt's commission is directed to report not later than February 1st. This suggests an intention to get legislation in the coming session of congress. The certain something will be done. Speaker Bankhead says the legislation is "imperative."

The recent history of the movement toward reducing farm tenancy began during the campaign. Both presidential candidates issued statements calling for reduction of farm tenancy, for increase of farm ownership. The statements of the two candidates came so close together in time as to make the impression of a hurried competition between them. Each sought to beat the other to this issue. Since Mr. Roosevelt was elected, he got the opportunity for action.

About the desirability of action, assuming the action is soundly planned, there can be no doubt. The number of farmers who do not own the land they plow, is greater than is realized except by the few having special familiarity with the subject. The average man thinks it is only an occasional farm here and there that is operated on a landlord-and-tenant basis. The fact is, a close to half the farms in the country are operated by tenants. The proportion, according to the 1930 census, was 42.4 per cent. Experts think it is now markedly higher. In the richest and most progressive farm states, tenancy is close to 50 per cent. In Iowa it is 47.3 per cent; in Nebraska, 47.1; in Illinois 43.1. All these figures are as of 1930; the figures are higher now.

That there should be fewer tenants, and that farmers are a practically universal conviction. To few proposed reforms will there be so little opposition. Certainly conservatives should give wholehearted support to this reform. Few truisms of social organization are so widely accepted as that which says that the farmer who owns his land—especially the one who has no mortgage—is a foundation stone of capitalist society. The application of this truth to present-day conditions is the subject of the last July by the exceptionally enlightened Des Moines, Iowa, Register, which printed an impressive series of editorials about the desirability of reducing farm tenancy. "A better brake on too rapid a development of the capitalist court... is the preservation of a relatively individualist farm-owning population of actual farmers."

Something is going to be done. But there will be debate about methods. Fundamental in any plan will be purchase by the government of large tracts from present owners and resale to persons now tenants, or to others wishing to become farm-owners. But at some point those who conduct the operation will encounter a difficulty, large as that of the present. It is the preservation of the old human nature. We can say it is desirable to turn a tenant into a farm-owner—but nature may not have designed him to be a farm-owner. Many a landlord who would be glad to sell his farm, sell it at reasonable price and on easy payments, finds it difficult to find buyers who have the qualities which would enable them to manage the farm successfully enough to pay the cost of it.

The existence of this impediment seems to have dawned on Professor Tugwell. He, while still under-secretary of agriculture, gave out about two weeks ago a concrete plan for promoting farm ownership, based on the principle that the feature essential in any plan, an appropriation by the government. (An appropriation by the government seems the first step in every altruism.) Dr. Tugwell's plan was for 50 million dollars a year for ten years, the money to be devoted to purchase of land in large quantities from existing owners and sale of this land in small farms to persons now tenants.

From this point on Professor Tugwell's plan was reasonable and sound. The farms would first be leased, not sold, for a "trial period" of five years. During that time the government agency in charge of the operation would be required to determine whether the tenant was "able and willing" to undertake purchase of the farm, and to conduct the farm after he purchases it. For five years the purchaser would be, so to speak, a "trial farmer."

Then Professor Tugwell's plan had a feature designed to keep the farmer on the land, once it got him there. Purchasers would be given forty years to make their payments to the government. The government, however, would decline to receive the last payment until after the completion of the forty years. The purpose of this, apparently, is to prevent the purchaser from yielding up the land to a creditor to settle his equity. He would

also be forbidden to mortgage the farm. Finally, the purchaser during the forty years would be required to operate the farm in accord with plans prescribed by the government. Presumably he would be required to plant the crops the government tells him to plant, and as much acreage of each as the government prescribes. Presumably he would be required to market his crops in accord with rules laid down by the government. This looks like making the government a large farmer, or at least a large landlord, in competition with private farmers.

Since Professor Tugwell is no longer under-secretary of agriculture, this plan of his has no official standing. Whatever is to be the new government plan will come out of the deliberations of President Roosevelt's recently appointed commission. Thereafter, whatever the plan, it will be debated in congress. If the plan of the new commission is anything like Professor Tugwell's, we shall hear from congress remarkably about making prospective farm-purchasers into tenants of the government rigidly supervised and regimented as no tenant of a private landlord is. Probably some excellent congressional bills will be proposed in "serfs of the government." Yet the difficulties which Professor Tugwell tried to anticipate are real ones. Difficulties inherent in human nature are always real.

Editorial Comment From Other Papers

Geology Follows the Election Returns

Though the celebrated Mr. Dooley once remarked, in one of his more jaundiced moments, that the Supreme Court follows the President's return, it never occurred even to that sage that the processes of geologic time might do likewise. Yet that, or something very like that, appears to be the case. When our commentators have talked lightly about political "earthquakes" and "landslides" they have always supposed themselves to be speaking in pure metaphor. It seems that they were mistaken; they did not realize themselves the miracles wherewith they were dealing. For, Mr. Roosevelt's 26,000,000 votes not only swept the Electoral College and buried Congress under an eruption of Democrats. They have actually raised the Florida water table (or lowered it, or whatever the proper word be), poured the pores in the Ocala limestone, stayed the tides in the Gulf of Mexico and made the famous Florida ship canal—a project which threatened but a month ago to reduce that fair state to a desert—into not only a fact, but an engineering practicality.

Prior to November 3 the Geologic Survey had looked askance upon the ship canal, foreseeing a salt water seeping through its banks to flood the orange groves and parch the citrus crops of southern Florida. Special boards of Army engineers had expressed their fears for Florida's subsoil, and experts of the PWA had estimated the brine would rise in the farmers' wells as fast as the deficits would up on the project's books. But now the Geologic Survey is said to have looked again, and still another board of Army engineers has resurrected the problem. And behold, they have discovered that geology itself (to say nothing of economics) has been transformed.

The canal is feasible; the subsoil will not be endangered; the tourists' camps will not wither, and the wells will continue to run sweet. What has happened? Obviously there has been some great seismic disturbance within the vitals of the Florida Peninsula, apparently occurring on or about the 24 of November—an earthquake, in short a landslide. Evidently we shall have to consider how we use these terms in the future. We shall find ourselves voting the Rocky Mountains out of existence next, or even raising solid-rock foundations through the ooze underlying the dam sites at "Quoddy." —New York Herald Tribune.

Highway Timber Saved At last a plan has been devised that has worked for the salvation of a strip of beautiful Oregon roadside timber. This, indeed, is an encouragement to those people who have sought in vain to save such highway timber in the past, only to see it fall victim to the woodsman's ax because no agreement could be negotiated that was satisfactory to all concerned.

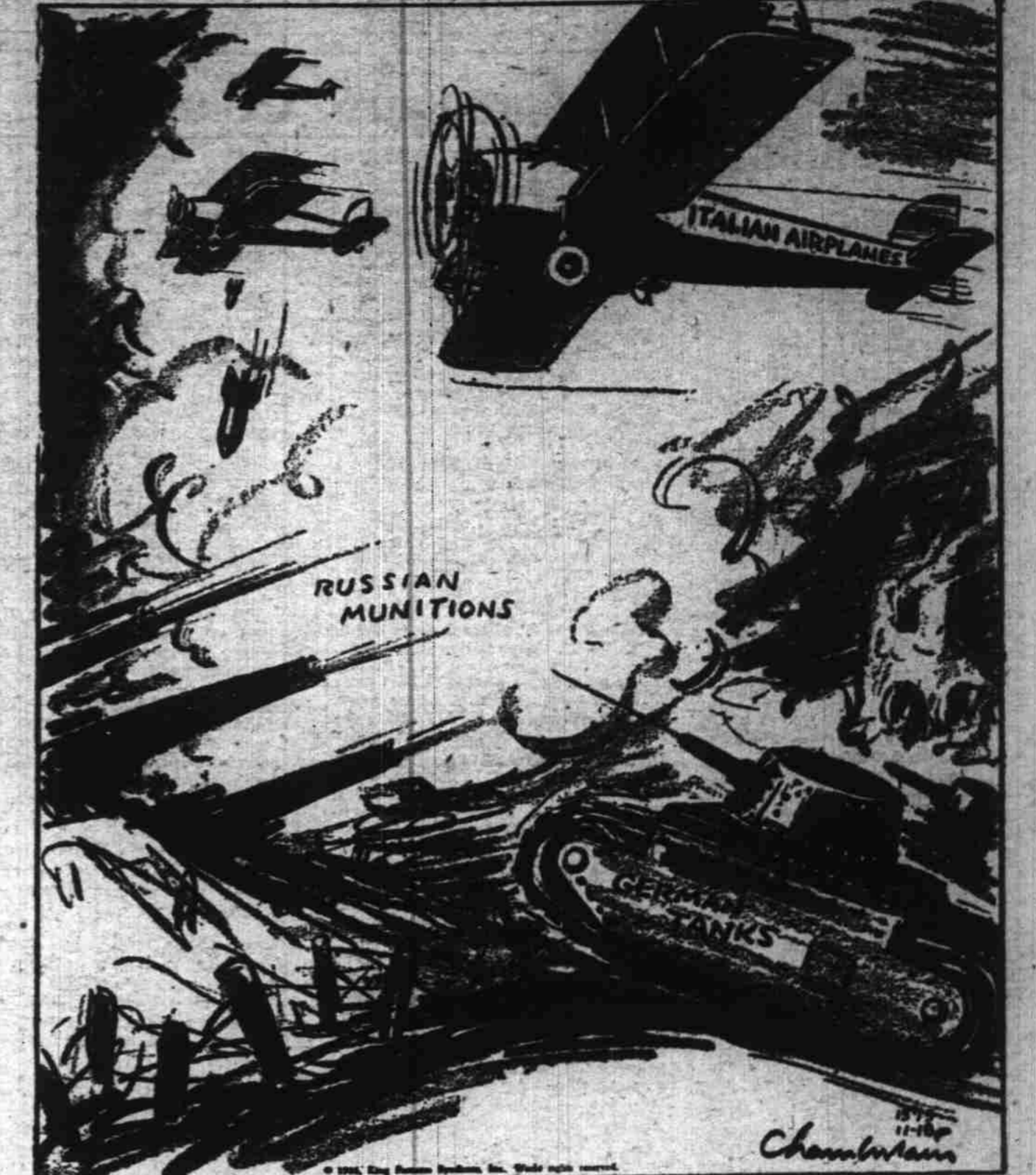
The latest plan was put into effect to save a strip of timber along the Crater lake highway, between Prospect and Union creek, which has belonged to the Rogue River National Forest service takes over the timber, and to pay for it will grant cutting rights on various units of federally-owned timber within its confines.

What is significant about this is that it indicates a more liberal attitude on the part of the forest service. One reason previous schemes have bogged down was that the forest service would not retreat from certain policies which were not acceptable to the private timber owners. It is hoped that a more liberal attitude will work to the advantage of other timber-savvy projects. Oregon must have its remaining highway timber. Any fair and just plan that will accomplish that purpose will be a great contribution to the preservation of the state's natural beauty. —Klamath Falls Herald.

At Clerks' Confab

DALLAS, Nov. 23.—County Clerk Carl Graves and Mrs. Graves left yesterday afternoon for Portland where Mr. Graves plans to attend the meeting of county clerks of Oregon Monday and Tuesday.

Spain's War



"Sweepstakes on Love" by May Christie



"May I congratulate you on your great good fortune, sir? Or am I premature?"

"But even in the midst of her happiness, a perverse demon inside her murmured: 'Does he know those things to Regina?'"

Almost directly after that, they were cut in upon.

At her debut, a girl is not esteemed a success if she makes half the round of the dance-floor without being asked upon—and the otterier the better.

Roger cut in again, however, and again and again.

Diana's heart rose. Such persistence had its meaning.

As she waltzed down a throbbing note, he led her out to the bar.

And the first person they encountered was the comic figure of Alfred Flegenschultz who greeted Diana as if he had known her all her life.

"Here comes the blushing bride! And the young chap who was the first to claim her!" His small, shrewd eyes set in his fat red face popped with the pleasing prospect of "fooling" them. As he was wont to say of himself, he was a born kisser, and a never missed an opportunity.

"May I congratulate you on your great good fortune, sir? Or am I premature?"

Diana blushed furiously, the more especially as Phyllis and Maude and Clarence were right beside them.

It would be a squeeze, but that was fashionable, of course. She hoped that the gate-crashers would stay out, and the drinks hold out, and the sandwiches.

"Gorgeous, darling!" murmured Regina as she kissed Diana on her cheek, with Roger directly behind her, looking extraordinarily handsome.

In no time at all, the bar was doing roaring business, and the party becoming lively.

Diana had her first dance with Roger after a good half-hour of perpetual hand-shaking and congratulations. A lovely color had crept into her cheeks. Her brown eyes glowed. Everything was going along splendidly. Her fears had been groundless.

Her first dance was a waltz. They moved perfectly together.

"I thought you were a little moonflower when I came in, but now you look like a small bluish-rose." Roger whispered to her poetically.

She gave a musical laugh that was pure joy. "Flatterer!"

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