Skids Put on Stock Leaders

Register Further Decline as Issues Duplicate Yesterday's Loss

NEW YORK, Aug. 20—(AP)—Stocks rattled down the declevity in today's market and most leaders duplicated their yesterday's losses of 1 to more than 3 points.

Steels, motors, coppers, rubbers and mail orders led the reaction.

Brokers brought out a variety of reasons for the resumption of the slide, although few specific news developments were blamed.

Transfers totaled 799,170 shares against 762,540 Thursday. The Associated Press average of 60 issues was off .8 of a point at 67.5. This compares with a low for the year of 62.6 and a high of 75.3.

Conspicuous shares in the losing column included Sears Roebuck at 94, Montgomery Ward 61, American Smelting 91, Anaconda 57¼, Phelps Dodge 50⅛, U. S. Steel 114¼, Bethlehem 97½, General Motors 56¼.

National Biscuit was a lively contestant of the trend, holding an advance of 1⅜ at 25⅜. Pennsylvania Railroad was up a shade to 36.

Wool Marts Quiet But Undertone Is Firm, Says Report

BOSTON, Aug. 20—(AP)—The commercial bulletin will say tomorrow:

"The wool market continues very quiet. Semi-occasional sales are reported here and there but for small quantities and the surface indications are that the market is weaker. Possibly there has been a slight tendency to let wool go in small lots at barely firm prices but the undertone of the market is exceedingly strong and any effort to move wool in a large way would find prices very firm.

"The foreign markets are exceedingly strong. Bradford reports the price of wool against the buyer. Evidently, prices will rule firm at the opening of the new Australian season August 30, although some think there will be an easier tone develop later as suplies increase.

"The piecegoods market, which is the real key to the situation, is very dull and disappointing.

"Mohair is slow but firm."

The bulletin will publish the following quotations:

Scoured basis: Oregon: Fine and F. M. staple 97198; fine and F. M. clothing 90-92. Mohair: Domestic, good regional bag, Texas spring, 67-70 cents; Texas kid, 90-95; Arizona and New Mexican, 63-65; Oregon, 65-67.

Salem Market Quotations

(The prices below supplied by a local grocer are indicative of the daily market Prices paid to growers by Salem buyers, but are not guaranteed by The Statesman.

FRUITS
(Buying Prices)

Apples, Newtowns	2.15
Winesaps, bu., extra fancy	2.65
Bananas, lb., on talk	.05 to .05½
hands	.06
Cantaloupes, crate	1.00 to 1.10
Grapefruit, Calif., Sunkist, crate	4.25
Dates, fresh, lb.	.14
Grapes, seedling, lug	1.65
Grapes, Malagas	2.25
Lemons, crate	6.50 to 7.75
Oranges, Valencias	3.50 to 5.75
Loganberries, crate	1.25 to 1.50
Peaches, bu.	1.25
Plums, local, crate	.90
Youngberries, crate	2.00
Wild blackberries, crate	1.75

VEGETABLES
(Buying Prices)

Apricots, The Dalles, crate 65 to	.70
Beans, green and wax, lb.	.03
Beets, doz.	.30
Cabbage, lb.	.02
Carrots, local, doz.	.30
Cauliflower, Calif., crate	1.00
Corn, local, doz.	.10 to .15
Cucumbers, local, field grown dozen	.20
Cucumbers, pickle, lb.	.04, .05 .06
Celery, crate	2.25 to 2.85
Utah	3.00
Local hearts, doz.	1.10
Stalk	2.75
Lettuce, local, crate, dry pack	1.50
Onions, green, doz.	.35
Onions, No 1, cwt.	1.25
Radishes, doz.	.35
Peppers, green, local, lb.	.10
Peas, local, lb.	.08
New Potatoes, 50 lb. bag	.90
Parsley,	.40
Potatoes, local, No. 1, cwt.	1.65
No. 2, cwt., bag	1.30 to 1.50
Radishes, doz.	.45
Spinach, local, orange box	1.00
Summer Squash, lb.	.04
Italian Squash, doz.	.40
Danish squash, local, lb.	.45
Tomatoes, Walla Walla	1.60
Turnips, doz.	.65
Watermelons, Calif., retail	.02¼
Red Peppers, lb.	.20
Sweet Potatoes, lb.	.06

NUTS

Walnuts, lb.	11 to .15½
Filberts, 1936 crop, lb	16 to .19½
Walnut meats, pieces, lb.	.29
Walnut meats, light halves, lb.	.32

HOPS
(Buying Prices)

Clusters, 1936, lb.	.02 to .13
Fuggles	nominal

Grade B raw 4 per cent milk. Salem basic pool price $2.10 per hundred.

Co-op Grade A butterfat price, F.O.B. Salem 35c.
(Milk based on semi-monthly butterfat average.)

Distributor price, $2.34.

A grade butterfat—Delivered, 35c; B grade delivered, 32½c.

A grade print, 35½c; B grade, 34½c.

WOOL AND MOHAIR
(Buying Prices)

Mohair	.50
Medium wool	.33
Coarse wool	.31
Lambs wool	.30

CASCARA BARK

Dry, lb.	.06
Green, lb.	.02

EGGS AND POULTRY
(Buying Price of Andresens)

White extras	.23
Brown extras	.23
Medium extras	.22
Large standards	.21
Medium standards	.20
Pullets	.11
Heavy hens, lb.	.13
Colored mediums, lb.	.12
Medium Leghorns, lb.	.10
Stags, lb	.05
White Leghorns, frys	.15
Old roosters, lb.	.05
Colored springs	.18

MARION CREAMERY Buying Prices

Butterfat, A grade	.35
B grade	.32½
Live poultry, No. 1 stock—	
Colored hens, under 4½ lbs.	.15
Colored hens, over 4½ lbs.	.15
Colored fryers, over 3½ lbs.	.18
Colored fryers, under 3½ lbs.	.16
Leghorn hens, heavy	.09
Leghorn hens, light	.09
Leghorn broilers	.14
Roosters	.08
Rejects	market value
Stags, lb.	.06
No. 2 grades, 2 cents less.	
Eggs—Candied and graded—	
Large extras	.23
Medium extras	.22
Large standards	.21
Medium standards	.18
Undergrades	.17
Pullets	.12

LIVESTOCK
(Buying Prices)

1937 spring lambs, lb.	8.00 to 8.25
Yearlings, lb.	.04 to .04½
Ewes	2.50 to 3.25
Hogs, top, 150-210 lbs.	12.00 to 12.35
130-150 lbs.	11.25 to 11.50
210-230 lbs.	11.75 to 11.85
Sows	8.75
Dairy type cow	4.00 to 5.00
Beef cows	5.00 to 6.00
Bulls	5.50 to 6.25
Heifers	6.00 to 7.00
Top veal	8.00 to 8.50
Dressed veal, lb.	.12
Dressed hogs, lb.	.12

GRAIN AND HAY

Wheat, white, No. 1	.86
Wheat, western red	.86
Barley, brewing, ton	27.50
Feed, barley, ton	25.00
Oats milling, ton	25.00
Feed, ton	22.00
Hay, buying prices—	
Alfalfa, valley	14.00
Oat and vetch, ton	10.00
Clover, top	10.00

Sell Stampede Sets new Lows

Grain at Season's Record Bottom After Wild Selling Spree

CHICAGO, Aug. 20.—(AP)—Stampede selling that started in the corn market and then spread to other commodities tumbled prices wildly downward late today to season low price records.

September corn contracts, in which the flurry began, fell nearly 4 cents, the immediate extreme permissible limit, and September wheat collapsed 3⅛ cents to more than 25 cents under the season's high point reached hardly a month ago. Persistent refusal of importing nations to purchase wheat supplies on any big scale from this country appeared to have left the wheat market practically without support for at least the time being.

At the close, corn was 1⅛-3⅝ cents under yesterday's finish, and wheat 2 cents to 2¾ down.

Before the corn market flurry took place, wheat and other grains showed an upward trend at times, wheat rising temporarily about a cent.

Rye and oats gave way with wheat. Privisions reflected downturns both of hog values and of grains. September, October and December lard collapsed 50 cents, the extreme limit for any single day.

Stocks & Bonds

(Compiled by Associated Press)

August 20
STOCK AVERAGES
Compiled by The Associated Press

	30 Indust.	15 Rails	15 Util.	60 Stocks
Today	95.9	37.4	41.8	67.5
Prev. day	97.1	37.8	42.2	68.3
Month ago	96.9	40.9	44.2	69.5
Year ago	86.4	37.8	50.9	65.3
1937 high	101.6	49.5	54.0	75.3
1937 low	87.9	36.1	39.1	62.6
1936 high	99.3	43.5	53.7	72.8
1936 low	73.4	30.2	43.4	55.7

BOND AVERAGES

	30 Indust.	15 Rails	15 Util.	60 Stocks
Today	*90.3	103.1	98.0	70.8
Prev. day	90.6	103.1	97.9	71.0
Month ago	92.8	102.9	98.1	73.3
Year ago	93.9	103.3	102.5	69.6
1937 high	99.0	104.4	102.8	74.7
1937 low	90.3	102.2	95.8	70.5
1936 high	98.2	104.4	103.1	73.0
1936 low	86.9	101.8	99.3	67.6

*—New low for 1937.

Quotations at Portland

PRODUCE EXCHANGE

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 20—(AP)—Produce exchange: Butter—Extras 33⅛; standards 31½; prime firsts 31; firsts 28c; butterfat 35½-36c.

Eggs—Large extras 25; large standards 23; medium extras 24; medium standards 19. Small extras 14; small standards 10.

Cheese—Triplets 17; loaf 18.

Portland Grain

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 20—(AP)—

Wheat:	Open	High	Low	Close
Sept.	94⅝	94⅝	94⅝	92½
Dec.	96¾	96¾	94	94-

Cash wheat: Big Bend bluestem, hw, 13 pct 95½; 12 pct 92½; dark hard winter 13 pct 1.06; 12 pct 1.02; 11 pct 94; soft white and western white 91½; hard winter and western red 92½.

Oats, No. 2 white 23.00.

Barley, No. 2 45-lb. BW 27.50.

Corn, Argentine 42.00 ;millrun standard 24.50.

Today's car receipts: Wheat 85; barley 2; flour 5.

Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 20—(AP)—Butter — Prints, A grade, 36c lb. in parchment wrappers; in cartons, 37c; B grade, 35c, in parchment wrappers; 36c in cartons.

Butterfat—(Portland delivery, buying price)—A grade, 35½-36c lb.; country stations: A grade, 34c; B grade, 2 cents less; C grade, 6 cents less.

B grade cream for market—Price paid producer. Butterfat tests 55.2c lb.; milk, 67.7c lb.; surplus, 45-9c. Price paid milk board, 67c. lb.

Eggs—Buying price by wholesalers: Extras, 21c; standard, 19c; medium 19c; medium firsts, 16c; undergrades, 14c doz., firsts, 18c.

Cheese—Oregon triplets, 17c; Oregon loaf, 18c. Brokers will pay ½c below quotations.

Country meats—Selling price to retailers: Country killed hogs, best butcher, under 160 lbs., 16-16½c; vealers, 15-15½c; light and thin, 10-12c; heavy 10-11c; canner cows 8-8½c cutters 9-10c bulls 10-10½; spring lambs, 16c; yearlings (—); ewes, 5-8c.

Live poultry—buying price by wholesalers: Colored hens, 4-5 lbs. 16c lb.; over 5 lbs., 16-17c lb.; Leghorn hens under 3½ lbs., 10-11c lb.; over 3½ lbs., 11-12c lb.; colored springs over 3½ lbs., 20-21c lb.; 2 to 3½ lbs., 18-19c lb.; Leghorn broilers 17c lb.; roosters, 7-8c lb.

Cantaloupes — Turlock, jumbo, 45s, $1-1.25; standards, 45s, $1.00; jumbo 36s, $1.25; Yakima standards, 75c-$1; crate: California nominal; The Dalles 90c-$1.25.

Potatoes—Deschutes, $1.75; Klamath No. 1, $2.00; new crop Yakima Gems, $1.25-1.30; local, $1.50 cental; new crop Yakima White Rose, $1.25 cental; local, $1.15-1.25 orange box.

Onions—New crop, California red, 85c-$1; 50 lb. bag Walla Walla, 90c per 50 lb. bag; Yakima 10's, 20c.

Wool—1937 nominal; Willamette valley, medium 35c lb.; coarse and braids, 33c lb.; eastern Oregon, 28-29c lb.; crossbred, 32-33c lb.; medium, 31-33c lb.

Hay—Selling price to retailers: Alfalfa No. 1, $18 ton; oats and vetch, $13; clover (—) ton; timothy, eastern Oregon, $20-50 ton; do valley, $16.16.50 ton, Portland.

Hops—Nominal, 1936, 12c lb.

Cascara bark—Buying price, 1937 peel, 5c lb.

Domestic flour—Selling price, city delivery, 1 to 25 bbl. lots: Family patents, 49s, $6.75-7.15; bakers' hard wheat, $5.55-7.55; bakers' bluestem, $5.40-5.85; blended hard wheat, $5.60-6.90; graham, $5.95; whole wheat, $6.35 barrel; soft wheat flours, $5.30-5.40.

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 20—(AP)—(USDA)—Hogs: 100, including 45 direct, market steady on limited supply, few choice lightweight driveins 12.25, car load lots 12.50, 230-290 lb. saleable 11.25-11.75, weights below 160 lb. 11.25-11.75, packing sows 9.00, feeder pigs 11.25.

Cattle: 50, including 5 direct, calves 125, including 90 direct, market steady nominal common grade steers salable 6.00-8.00 medium-good 8.50-10.00, few cutters 5.00, common-medium heifers 5.50 8.25, cutters 4.75, low cutter and cutter cows 4.00-4.75 common-medium 5.00-5.50 good beef cows 6.25 and above; bulls 5.50-6.25, good choice veal 9.00-10.00, common calves 4.50.

Sheep: 250, including 124 direct, scatteredsales lambs and ewes steady, few thin offerings unsold, medium 82 lb. 8.50 good 9.00-9.25 yearlings nominal 5.00-6.50, medium-good ewes 2.50-3.75.

Wool in Boston

BOSTON, Aug. 20—(AP)—(USDA)—The wool market was slow today but quotations were unchanged and mostly firm.

An occasional sale closed on good French combing lengths, fine territory wools at prices ranging 95-97 cents, scoured basis, small quantities being available at 95 cents. Scattered sales of limited volume were made on medium grade combing Ohio fleeces at 43-44 cents in the grease for three-eighths blood and 42-43 cents for quarter blood.

Washington Prune Men Change Price

WALLA WALLA, Aug. 20.—Prune growers of this district have decided to accept revised price schedule in line with apparent market and crop conditions, it was stated yesterday by officials of the Milton-Freewater Prune Growers Cooperative.

Growers originally set a cash price of $37.50, and intended to stick to contracts entered in at that figure, but decided today that developing conditions showed this to be too high.

Parents of Daughter

HUBBARD — A baby girl weighing eight pounds was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Andrews of Hubbard at the Woodburn hospital Thursday morning.

Gardeners' and Ranchers' Mart

PORTLAND Aug. 20—(AP)—Demand and movement on the Gardeners' and Ranchers' market was slow and dull today with the most important changes being firmer cantaloupes and weaker tomatoes.

California cantaloupe supplies were nearly exhausted and as arrivals from Wapato were light, choice stocks hit $1.00 a crate. Local tomato growers demanded $1.00 during the early part of the day but were forced down to 75c a box.

Grapes continue weak.

There was a light demand on the peach market.

Asparagus — Oregon, 30 lb. crates. $2.10-2.35.

Avocados—Summer, $3.25-3.50; green, $3.50 flat.

Apricots—Oregon; faced, 55-65c. Washington—suitcases, 65-75c.

Beans—Local, 8c lb.; Kentucky Wonders, 3-3½c.

Beets—Per sack, Oregon, $1.85.

Broccoli—Crate, $2.25 2.35.

Brussels Sprouts — California, one-fourth drums, $2.75.

Berries — Raspberries, $2.75-$3; currants, $2.10-2.25; loganberries, 2.00 2.25, blackcaps, $2.35-2.50; youngberries, $2.25-2.50; blackberries $1.50-1.70; Boysenberries $2.00-2.50; huckleberried 12-14c. Strawberries, $2.50-2.75.

Bananas—Per bunch, 5½c.

Cabbage—One hundred-pound crates. $1.10-1.30.

Cantaloupes—California, Delano valley jumbo, 45s, $2.75-2.90; 36s, $1.00-1.25.

Carrots—Oregon, 4c per lb.; Calif., bunched, 30-35c doz.

Cauliflower—$1.35-150.

Celery—Labish local $1.25-1.50.

Cherries—Bings, Lamberts, 10-12c; pie 5 6c lb.

Corn—70c-$1.00 for 5 doz.

Cucumbers—Oregon, Washington hot house, 20-35c dozen.

Citrus fruits — Oranges, Valencias, $3.65-5.00; lemons California, $7.00 7.25; grapefruit, $4.00-4.50; lemonettes, $4.00-4.50.

Dill—6-7c lb.

Eggplant—Oregon flats, 65-70c.

Figs—California, $1.00 flat; Washington, 75-85c.

Garlic—New, 9-10c lb.; Oregon, 7 8c.

Grapes—Thompson seedless $1.25-1.35, red malagas, $1.40-1.60; black seedless, $1.75-1.85.

Lettuce—Oregon, dry, 3-4 doz., 85c $1.00.

Mushrooms—One pound cartons, 40 45c.

Nectarines—Lug, 90c-$1.00.

Onions—Fifty-pound sacks, U. S. No 1, 75-85c; commercials, 70-80c.

Pears—Calif., Bartlets, $1.75-1.85.

Parsley—Per doz. bunches 25-30c.

Parsnips—Per lug, $5 40c.

Peaches—Nominal.

Hales early, 77½-90c; Elbertas 60-80c; lugs, 90c-$1.10.

Peas—Oregon, 7-7½c lb.; Washington, 5-5½c per pound.

Peppers—California Bells 12-15c; Oregon, boxes 50-60 for 10 lbs.

Watermelons—Cwt. $2-2.25.

Plums—California, Santa Rosa 4 basket crates, 90c-$1; Washington Blues, 75c-$1.

Prunes, $2-2.25; Washington russets, $2.60-2.85; local, $2-2.25; White Rose, U. S. No. 1, $1.50 1.65.

Potatoes — White Rose U. S. No. 1, $1.15-1.25.

Rhubarb—Thirty-pound boxes, 50-65c.

Rutabagas—$1.15-1.25 crate.

Radishes — Per dozen bunches, 35c-40c.

Spinach—Local, 20-pound crates, 90c-$1.00.

Sweet Potatoes—California, 8-12c lb.; lugs, No. 1, $1.75-1.90.

Turnips—Doz. bunches; 60-75c.

Tomatoes—Oregon hothouse, 10-16c lb. per pound: Mexico $3.50 $5.

Squash—Zuchinni, 35-40c.

Turnips—Oregon hothouse 70-75c.

Tomatoes—Lugs, 15c-$1.25; boxed, $1-$1.15.

Watermelons—Cwt., $1.50-1.75.

Jack Frost Nips Some State Crops

PORTLAND, Aug. 20.—(AP)—Potatoes and fruit in central and eastern Oregon suffered damage last week from frost, the U. S. department of agriculture said today in its weekly crop weather report.

Hail damaged grain in the northeastern section. Late grains may have suffered from the frost but the wheat harvest went ahead with 50 per cent of the crop already cut.

There is a heavy hay crop in the eastern stock raising sections.

Reports by counties included:

Marion county—Salem: hops are doing nicely. Flax about all in. Nuts are coming on very good with no new infestations of blight. Some mildew in onions. Corn looking extra good.

Linn county—Scio: corn making splendid growth. Trace of frost in Jordan area last week. No damage. Sheep in fine conditions and dairy cows holding up well considering dry pastures.

Benton county—Corvallis: vetches, and particularly hairy vetch, are yielding considerably better than anticipated.

Turkey Industry Meeting Tuesday to Talk Affairs

CORVALLIS, Aug. 20—(AP)—The turkey industry of Oregon will meet at Oregon State college August 24 for general discussion of problems and talks by specialists.

Off-campus speakers will include M. W. Manly of Portland, Herbert Beyers of Salt Lake City, general manager of the Northwestern Turkey Growers' association, and G. M. Aupperle of Jefferson.

"The Captive Bride"

By Barrett Willoughby

CHAPTER XXXIV

Denny hurried down the road toward the river level, and made her way to the farthest cabin, where she saw Stebbins' huskies tethered on the bank. In answer to her knock the door was opened by the trapper's wife.

"I'm Mrs. Bourne," Denny introduced herself. "Might I come in and speak with Mr. Stebbins?"

"What for your wanting him?" The native eyed her with sudden hostility.

Denny drew herself up a little haughtily. "I have business with him. I wish to employ him."

"Uh! You pay?"

"Certainly I shall pay! Now please let me in." She sent an apprehensive glance up the slope toward River House, fearing that Bourne and the Commander might be in sight.

The woman stepped aside. "You go in. I fetch Stebbins."

When he arrived he greeted Denny guardedly.

"I heard you are going down to Wrangell, Mr. Stebbins," Denny began. "I'd like to take passage with you."

"Since when does Rev Bourne's wife come to me with the offer of a job?" he asked, with an oblique glance of appraisal.

"My request is clear enough, I'm sure. Do you, or don't you wish to earn a good fee by taking me down to the coast?"

"I'm no fool, missus." He shuffled his feet uneasily. "I know there's a catch in this somewhere. Rev Bourne would never throw a job like this my way."

Denny shrank from taking the man further into her confidence, but she had no choice in the matter. "It is I, not Captain Bourne, who engage you," she responded coldly. "And it is I who will pay you when the trip is over. Captain Bourne—knows nothing about this; and—and I do not wish him to know. Nor any one else; you understand."

"Oh, ho!" The man's pale eyes narrowed in a look of cunning comprehension. "Well, that's a horse of another color." After a moment's calculation, he went on. "Sure, I'll take you down. Five hundred dollars for the trip, and no questions asked."

"Good. I wish to start at once."

"No, lady. Can't do that. You see, I came to town to do a little celebrating. If you want to go with me, you'll have to wait until after Christmas."

Denny hesitated. Her instincts warned her against having anything to do with the man. She wasn't afraid of him—her class consciousness prevented that—but he affected her unpleasantly. Then she reminded herself that he was her only hope of escape. He would have his wife with him on the trip, and he owned the finest team of dogs she had seen in the country. What more could she ask? "All right," she decided "I'll see you the day after Christmas and fix the exact date of departure. And remember, I'm paying for your silence as well as for your services."

"Don't worry about that, Mrs. Bourne. I never blab, even when I'm drunk. You leave everything to me. How are you fixed for warm clothes? Got a sleeping bag?"

"No. You may buy what I need and I'll pay you later."

"Suits me. I can get a sleeping bag at the Hudson's Bay store." He slouched along by her side as she moved toward the door and, with unexpected, incongruous courtesy, turned the knob for her.

Before she stepped out, she glanced quickly up the slope; seeing no sign of Bourne anywhere about, she hurried along the creek toward the main road.

As she passed the open door of the church, she paused to look in, and her heart gave a leap of apprehension. The Commander and Bourne, their backs toward her, were inside the vestibule, apparently inspecting the decorating that was in progress.

She hastened on up the road, tormented by doubt. Had he seen her coming from Stebbins' cabin?

When she reached River House, she ran into the kitchen and asked Honey-jo when Bourne and the Commander had left the house.

"Search me!" exclaimed the housekeeper making fork marks around the crust of a thick pumpkin pie. "I've been so busy with my baking I didn't notice."

Denny went slowly upstairs, racked by uncertainty.

When she reached her own quarters she moved about, trying to select the number of articles she could take with her in the single bag allowed for her trip. But her mental turmoil brought on a headache. She finally gave Alderbloom instructions that she was not to be disturbed on any account, and then lay down on the couch in her sitting room. Her last thought before she fell into a deep sleep was that she would have a bona fide excuse for staying home from the Christmas Eve festival at the church.

It was dark when she awakened. The first thing she heard was the voice of Honey-jo coming from Harp's room across the hall. "For Pete's sake, Harp! Stop fussing with those whiskers; and hold still till I get this pillow stuffed in your front!"

"Doggone my wild nature, I can't! They're tickling me!"

"Tickling nothing. Quit scowling now! I declare, you look more like Old Nick than Saint Nick! But I'll pad your skinny frame until it looks jolly, if I have to use a mattress."

"Awh, have a heart, Baby-doll! Padding's all right in its place. I like a woman with a bit of padding on her little bones, like you, Honey-jo, but—"

"Don't be nonsickle. Shut your eyes now, while I rouge your cheeks. . . . Certainly, I have to paint your nose! I ought to know how to fix Santa Claus up, when I've been making up Larry Keith in the part for the past fifteen years. . . . If you don't stop wiggling, I'll slap you, so I will!"

"Oh, gosh! I don't want to play Santa Claus! I—"

"Listen, worm! You ought to feel honored, helping the skipper carry on Larry Keith's ways. . . . There! Thank heaven you're fixed. And just in time. I hear the sleigh bells. Boom's got the dog team loaded with your pack at the kitchen door, all ready for you to drive down to the church. Be sure you don't forget your speech now. . . Come along."

Denny lay, warm and drowsy on her couch, listening. Thumps, admonitions, and recriminations indicated the progress of the pair down the steps. Other sounds, oddly homelike and pleasant, came to her: Bourne in his room, dressing for the evening at the church, humming "A la Claire Fontaine." Alderbloom and Pinecone in the hall, talking and laughing in low, happy tones. The pad of Tongass' feet, as he waited outside his master's door.

In a vague way she was glad that Bourne was keeping up the traditions established by her father. Yet all this fuss over the entertainment of a handful of Indian youngsters appeared somewhat childish to her. Why should every one wear that air of happiness and subdued excitement here where it was impossible to buy a single Christmas present?

Even Rio seemed to have forgotten her grievances and had entered into the spirit of the evening, for Denny heard her now down the hall. "Hello, Van! How come you're not dressed for the party?"

The doctor answered acridly, "I'm sufficiently bored with my own society tonight without seeking an association with even more vacuous minds."

"Oh, come, Van! The Commander's just about hardened his arteries getting his show ready. It wouldn't be sporting to leave him playing only to the gallery. Look at me—I've put on my best evening gown—here's hoping it doesn't bust out at the seams before I get back. Why not doll up a little yourself and we'll give the town a treat? Denny can't come on account of a headache, so San Francisco won't be represented. But Philadelphia and New York in the dress circle will make up in class for what we lack in numbers."

Apparently Van Cleve disdained an audible answer to this, for Denny heard Rio go alone downstairs.

Presently Bourne's laugh came up from below as he marshaled his household out through the front door. The cheerful, noisy sounds of departure died away and the house grew still; so still that Denny could hear the occasional cracking of frost in the walls. Loneliness, tinged with a sense of grievance, began to invade her. Forgetting her own strict order that she was not to be disturbed, she began to think, forlornly, that no one cared whether she went to the Christmas tree or not. None of these people were in sympathy with her. Least of all, Revelry Bourne, who had been going about all day, like a big male Pollyana, she thought scornfully, making other people happy.

She had been his wife for over two months and she knew no more about him now than she did that night she had met him in the grove by the river. She was actually better acquainted with Van Cleve than she was with her own husband!

The realization was a little startling. Her mind went back over their association during the past weeks. The doctor's helplessness, his silent suffering, had brought out in her an unexpected capacity for personal, sympathetic service.

Who would take care of him when she was gone? The thought saddened her for a moment. Then she got up from the couch and in shaking back her hair, found that her headache had vanished.

"It's Christmas Eve," she reminded herself. "I suppose I should dress up a little." She put on her coral dinner gown. "My wedding dress!" She made a grimace at the girl who looked at her from the mirror. "What a gosh-awful color to be married in!"

As she slipped her feet into her silver slippers, it occurred to her that it might be well, since everyone was out of the house, to go down to the card room and look over a map of the Stikine so that she might have some idea of the route she was to travel when she set forth with Stebbins.

When she was bending over the map on the card-room table she remembered how, as a little girl, she had traced in her school geography that same wavering black line that represented her father's river. The thought seemed to bring Larry Keith very close to her. She got out his dividers and parallel rules, and though she had never before handled such instruments, began to make a miniature map of the route to take with her: one which gave the location of cabins along the way and the distances between them.

As she worked, she marveled that she should so readily understand how to go about this. She thought, with pride, "Perhaps it's the Keith spirit in me that knows these things." The fancy pleased her and gave her confidence that she would prove a good traveler "on the trail."

(To be continued)

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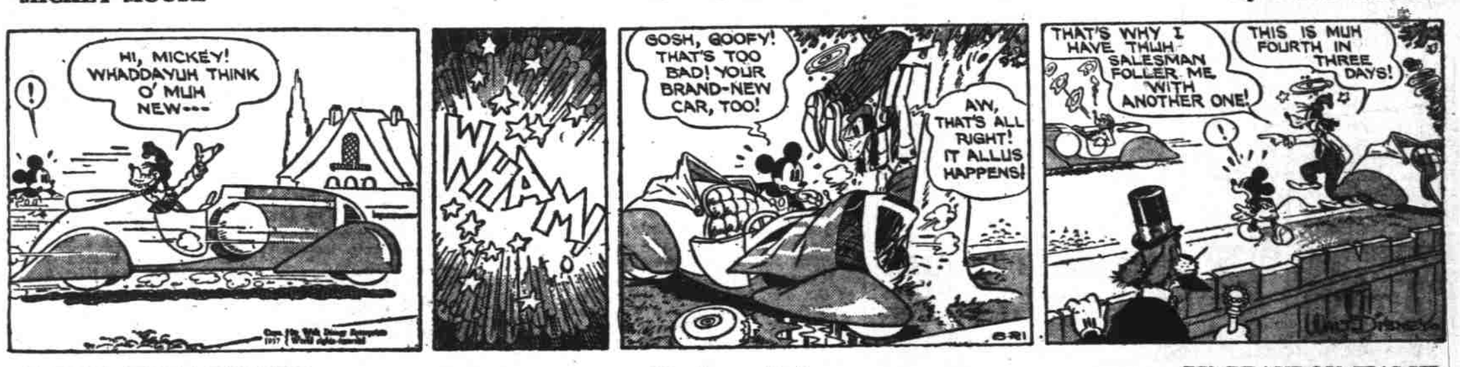

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